

The Carillon August, 2024

First Congregational Church
Your Independent Worship Center
714 Hillcrest Drive - Fremont MI 49412
231-924-4710
congo@fremontfcc.org ~ www.fremontfcc.org



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

July 22, 2024

Present: Lou Deleguardia-Moderator, Pat Krehn – Vice Moderator, John Cooper – Trustees, Dean Morehouse – Men’s Fellowship, Jean Morehouse – Women’s Fellowship, Pastor Luke Schmalz, Carrie De Mull – Clerk, Stacy Church-Deacons

Absent: Jack Butterick-Board of Charitable Giving, Jack Stewart-Technology

I. Meeting called to order at 6:34 pm. Pastor Luke gave the opening prayer.

II. Approval of the June 24, 2024 meeting minutes: Dean Morehouse moved to approve, Pastor Luke seconded, passed.

III. Public comments – none

IV. Board Reports

A. Board of Charitable Giving – Jean Morehouse for Jack Butterick

Barb Veldman will represent FCC by participating in the kickoff for the Crop Walk on August 1, at 4:00 pm. The Board will meet in September to award the remaining \$1500 to local charities.

B. Board of Deacon’s-Stacy Church

The Board of Deacon’s met on the second Sunday in July. They did not have a quorum, but Pastor Luke’s vacation was approved for August 20 – 24. He will be preaching in the pulpit on August 25. Sunday July 28 is changed for picnic Sunday to Christmas in July Sunday. The Music Committee continues to work with Pastor Luke in the Sound Booth. David is filling in for Rachel on the piano. She will be back in September. Dean is still getting special music for the summer months. Tuesday, August 13, at 7:00 pm there will be the 2nd Annual Deb Emerick Concert at the Dogwood Center. There will be 10 acts. A goodwill offering will be taken, and a generous donor has agreed to match the donations up to \$20,000. Nancy Linder has withdrawn her commitment to be a deacon for the rest of her term.

C. Board of Christian Education

Crystal will be taking over the Board of Education as her next project. New materials have been purchased. Looking for volunteers and snack ideas.

D. Women's Fellowship-Jean Morehouse

The Guatemala fundraiser and the Crop Walk Dinner have been tabled for discussion in August or September. The handrail is still not up. Had a cake for Sally before she left on June 9. Ann Warner has moved, but she didn't want a celebration. Would be nice for people to send cards and notes. Jane will paint the front of the Welcome Table. August 15 will be the 2nd annual gathering of the Women's Fellowship on Martin Lake at Carrie DeMull's. There will be a luncheon on August 10th after Bill Sherman's funeral.

E. Men's Fellowship-Dean Morehouse

No report.

F. Board of Trustees – John Cooper

The Board is hiring Jim DeSteger to paint the stairway to the basement on other touch up areas. 2 new fans will be installed in the windows in the sanctuary soon. The AV room in the basement is finally cleaned out. June financial summary: June is 50% of the year. Income is at 45% of budget and expenses are at 45% of budget. We have taken less money from investments than was budgeted.

G. Technology Board – Jack Stewart

No report, but Lou did ask the Council to see if more volunteers from the congregation could be found to run the sound booth on Sunday mornings.

V. Pastor's Report-Pastor Luke

The Free Library has been set up in front of the church. The article about the Free Library was in the Times Indicator. Christmas in July also appeared in the Times Indicator. The Hope Initiative was wrapped up this week. Will do another run in the fall. Labor Day service in the park went well. Sundae Sunday was well attended. Pastor Luke will be doing a graveside service for long ago members, the Shannahan's. It will be for their grandson. Family Night Bible Study will be on John Chapter 6 through August. August 11, we will celebrate the Church's Anniversary. Our attendance in June averaged 40 people. August 1, Rooms for Refuge will have a meeting. Pastor Luke will go. Will be having a congregational Town Hall meeting in September and the Annual Meeting on October 20, 2024.

VI. Acceptance of reports – John Cooper moved and Pat Krehn seconded to approve – passed.

VII. Old Business-Next Meeting agenda item. Discussion of bylaws and committee member reductions. We need to make committees smaller because of having a hard time getting people to help.

VIII. New Business-Rooms of Refuge: September 16-23, November 18-25. Would like a motion to continue to be involved with the above organization on the dates listed. Dean Morehouse, moved and Luke, seconded. Approved-Passed.

IX. Meeting adjourned at 7:21 pm..

Next Meeting is August 26, 2024 at 6:30 P.M. in the Library

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie DeMull

Book Circle:

Book Circle will be Tuesday, August 6 at the Fremont Public Library at 1:00 p.m. All are welcome!



Women's Fellowship:

The 2nd Annual Women's Fellowship Get Together will be Thursday, August 15 at the home of Carrie & Tony DeMull. 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Please bring a dish to pass. The beverage and main course will be provided.



Family Night:

Women's Fellowship will be presenting a "California Travelogue" on Wednesday, August 28, 6:00 p.m. during our Family Night time. Rachel Poches and Pat Krehn will be showing a 30 minute video of their trip to California in September, 2023. Come see places we visited on our itinerary from San Francisco to San Diego all along the coast. Alcatraz Prison, Muir Woods, Carmel by the Sea, Joshua Tree National Park, Hearst Castle and a tour of the Midway are all part of the trip.



We will start with a potluck so please bring a dish to pass. Questions? Contact Pat Krehn.



August



August Dates to Note:

Sunday, August 4 - Deacons Meeting - 11:30 a.m.
Monday, August 5 - Women's Fellowship Board Meeting - 10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, August 6 - Book Circle - 1:00 pm.
Thursday, August 8 - Church Anniversary - 149 Years
Saturday, August 10 - Funeral Service for Bill Sherman - 11:00 a.m.
Monday, August 12 - Technology Board - 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, August 13 - The Deb Emerick Summer Music Celebration - 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, August 14 - Family Night - 6:00 p.m.
Thursday, August 14 - Women's Fellowship at Carrie DeMull's 11:00 a.m.
Monday, August 19 - Trustee Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
Monday, August 26 - Executive Council - 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, August 28 - Family Night w/ Rachel & Pat - 6:00 p.m.

Worship Sunday Mornings at 10:00 a.m.

Christmas Crafters - Thursdays 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Woodshop - (when two or three are gathered) - M/W/F - 10:00 a.m. - ?

The Deb Emerick Summer Music Celebration

Join us on Tuesday, August 13 at 7:00 p.m. at the Dogwood Center for the Performing Arts for our 3rd Music Celebration. We have the favorites returning plus a few new artists performing. Our free will offering this year will be for the Newaygo County Compassion Home. This year we are very blessed to have every dollar matched up to \$20,000. What a wonderful opportunity to give to the Newaygo County Compassion Home. NCCH provides a free service 24/7 for those in Hospice care. All donations should be forwarded to The Newaygo County Compassion Home. If your donation is by check, please write "Deb Emerick Concert" in the memo line. Venmo and Paypal are accepted

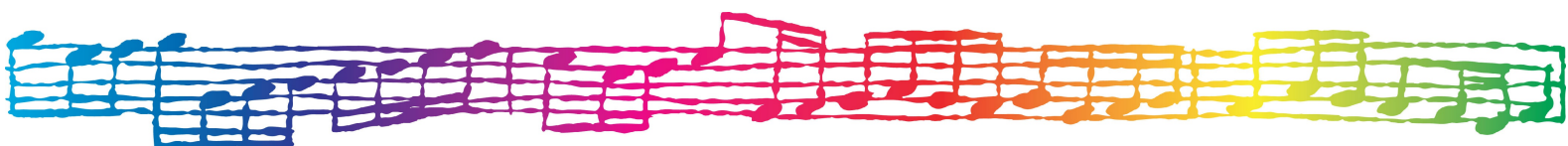
<http://www.newaygocountycampanionhome.org/donate-ncch/>

Donations open August 1 and run through August 20.

Newaygo County Compassion Home

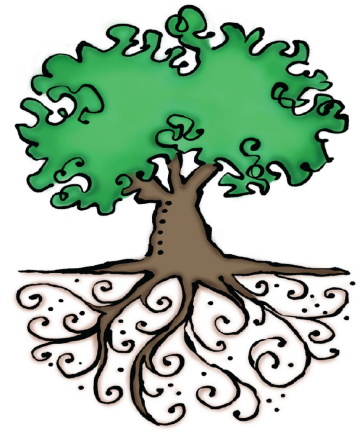
20 S. Stewart Ave - Fremont MI

231-335-3625



Deeply Rooted - Future Focused

Early in my tenure as pastor, Dean and I brainstormed and came up with the phrase "Deeply Rooted - Future Focused." I loved it at the time and began integrating it into our church culture. Unfortunately, I'm not very good at branding and failed to continue to emphasize it. However, I still love this phrase and how it helps communicate the vision of First Congregational Church. It is not our mission statement—that would be "Go and Make Disciples" or more broadly, Matthew 28:18-20. But "Deeply Rooted - Future Focused" is how we carry out that mission.



Deeply Rooted ~ Future Focused

This phrase communicates our rootedness in our community, in our church family, and in the history of the church. But it also reminds us that we are not only looking backward and not trapped in the past. We look to the future by preparing our church to continue ministering to Fremont for another 150 years. We speak to our community as it is and aren't afraid of the new. We seek to bring the best of the old and the new together as we make disciples. We are built and building for the long haul.

We continue to celebrate the best of our Congregational forebears, maintaining the organization of the church that places the power in the hands of the members as they are led by God. We continue to be united in our diversity, celebrating all that the various backgrounds of our members bring to the church. We believe that as long as you are seeking to worship Jesus and be His disciple, you can be a member of our church. We believe that the Fremont community needs First Congregational Church. Fremont needs a church rooted in the community that is welcoming and accepts the joy of coming alongside all the different kinds of people in our community. This all started on August 9th, 1875, when six people joined together to found First Congregational Church of Fremont with the goal "to maintain the worship of Almighty God in accordance with the faith and orders thereof." Mr. and Mrs. Addison, Mr. Wicks, Rev. and Mrs. Dangremond, and Mr. Finlayson believed it was their duty to ensure that the Gospel of Jesus Christ was preached in Fremont. Those early years were difficult for the new church. There were constant challenges with money, keeping ministers, and direction. But what kept them going, even in the face of hardship, was their sense of mission. They knew their town needed the good news. So they worked hard, sacrificed, and founded a church that has made a difference in its community for 149 years.

This is my attempt to cast a vision for our church as we celebrate another year of the work God has given to us. To be in Fremont and make disciples. To worship God in unity despite our differences. To bring together our community to grow in knowledge, to worship, and to share the good news of Jesus.

August Birthdays

- 4 Jack Butterick
- 7 Pat Krehn
- 8 Jeff Stewart
- 14 Jack Stewart
- 16 Crystal Schmalz
- 29 Elise Pfeiffer
- 31 Heidi Redding



August Anniversaries

- 2 Luke & Karla Pfeiffer
- 4 Pastor Luke & Crystal Schmalz
- 11 Jeff & Susan Stewart
- 21 Dean & Jean Morehouse
- 22 Jack & Fran Stewart
- 24 Tony & Carrie DeMull
- 31 Mike & Jane Stroschin



Our Church Family:

Continue to remember our church family who are away from us:

Sally DeShetler The Inn at CoalRidge, 1300 CoalRidge Pkwy #401, Wadsworth, OH 44281

Siria Pinnick c/o Chris Holstrom, 13495 Carpenter Way, Nunica, MI 49448

Yvonne Lee 6500 Freetown Road, Apt 216, Columbia MD 21044

Pete & Nancy Lindner 121, Haw Ridge Road, Pittsboro NC 27323-2501

Heidi Redding 520 Abbey Mill Drive, SE Ada Mi 49301

Ann Werner c/o Barbara Ross, 41360 Fox Run #120, Novi MI 48377

This is Ann's Sister's address. Ann is in rehab at this time so please use this address.