

**\*Hymn - "Living for Jesus" - Blue Hymnal #344 vs 1**

*Please remain seated - the Noisy Offering will be taken during the singing of this hymn*

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Special Music - "Open My Eyes That I May See" -**

**Stacey Church, Martha, Kallenbach, Jack Brooks**

**\*Benediction**

**Pastor Luke Schmalz**

Pastor: Do not live by bread alone, but by the will of God. May God give the angels charge over you; may their hands bear you up and keep you from falling. Amen.

**\*The Peace of Christ**

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

**\*Sending**

**Pastor Luke Schmaltz**

**\*Postlude: David VandenBelt**

All members of the First Congregational Church of Fremont, Michigan are called to come together following worship on Sunday, March 30, 2025 for a special meeting to discuss the value and option of selling land south of the church. We will also deal with any other business which may properly come before the meeting. Carrie DeMull, Clerk



*Deeply Rooted ~ Future Focused*

Pastor Luke Schmalz 920-428-0030

Office Hours - Monday/Wednesday/Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Please call the church office to meet with the Pastor

Keyboard/Organist Rachel Poches, David VandenBelt, Lorene Witte

Secretary Lorene Witte 924-4710

CCLI 1401200 (cell) 231-282-0515

Website: [www.fremontfcc.org](http://www.fremontfcc.org) email: [congo@fremontfcc.org](mailto:congo@fremontfcc.org)

Church: 231-924-4710714 Hillcrest Drive - Fremont Mi 49412

Offering plates are located in the narthex. Today's service will be available at our website - [www.fremontfcc.org](http://www.fremontfcc.org) and also on Facebook and YouTube.

# The First Congregational Church

Your Independent Worship Center

Celebrating 150 years ~ August 1875 - August 2025



**March 30, 2025**

*The Order of Worship*  
*\*please stand, if you are able*

**Prelude:** David VandenBelt

**Call to a Special Meeting** - Carrie DeMull, Clerk

**Announcements**

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship** (Psalm 32)

**Pastor:** Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

**All: Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the guilt of my sin.**

**Pastor:** Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them. You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance. I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you. Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord. Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

**All: Praise the Lord!**

**Opening Prayer**

**Opening Hymn** - "Grace Greater Than Our Sin" - **Blue Hymnal #344**  
vs 1 & 4

**Prayer of Confession**

**All: Most merciful God whose Son, Jesus Christ, was tempted in every way, yet was without sin, we confess before you our own sinfulness; we have hungered after that which does not satisfy; we have compromised with evil; we have doubted your power to protect us. Forgive**

**our lack of faith; have mercy on our weakness. Restore in us such trust and love that we may walk in your ways and delight in doing your will. Amen.**

**Prayer**

**Pastor:** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Assurance of Pardon**

**Pastor:** Hear the good news! Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

**All: In Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!**

**\*Response** - Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

**JeLy Bell!** All kids are invited to go the the JeLy Room for JeLy Church! (JeLy ~ Jesus Loves You)

**Scripture**

Joshua 5:9-12, Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Reader: The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Jack Butterick**

**Message:**

*"They Kept the Passover"*

**Pastor Luke Schmalz**

**\*The Apostles' Creed** (words projected)

**Special Music** - "Here I Am Lord"

**Stacey Church, Martha Kallenbach, Jack Brooks**

**Moments of Praise & Prayer Requests**

**Prayers of the Congregation**

**The Lord's Prayer** (words projected)

**\*Doxology** (As the offering is brought forward)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

*continued on back page*

**Altar Rep:** Barbara Blass-Frisbey

**Greeting us today:** Susan Stewart

Next Sunday: Jack & Mary Butterick

**Song Leader:** Stacey Church

**Liturgist:** Jack Butterick

**Tech Booth** - Thank you volunteers! Garrett, Robin, Lou, Kendra

**Prayer Requests ~**

Sally DeShetler - slowly doing better but will be at the following location for a while yet - Apostolic Christian Village Room 312, 10680 Steiner Road Rittman, OH 44270 - she loves receiving cards from her friends!

Kelly Parks - back to work - but dealing with a few issues  
The family of Siria Pinnick

**This Weeks Calendar**

**Sunday, March 30 - Fourth Sunday of Lent / Noisy Offering**

10:00 a.m. Worship  
11:15 a.m. Fellowship Hour - Fellowship Hall  
Special Congregational Meeting & Brunch

**Monday, March 31**

9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Fellowship Hall  
10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open - when two or three are gathered

**Tuesday, April 1 - Church Office Closed**

1:00 p.m. Book Circle - Fremont Public Library

**Wednesday, April 2**

9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Fellowship Hall  
10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open - when two or three are gathered  
12:00 noon Men's Fellowship Lunch - Fellowship Hall  
1:30 p.m. Library in Use

**Thursday, April 3 - Church Office Closed**

10:00 a.m. Christmas Crafters - Fellowship Hall

**Friday, April 4**

9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Library  
10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open - when two or three are gathered

**Saturday, April 5**

8:00 a.m. Men's Lenten Breakfast - Church of the Living Christ

**Sunday, April 6 - Fifth Sunday of Lent**

10:00 a.m. Worship  
11:15 a.m. Fellowship Hour - Fellowship Hall

**Our Church News**

**Like a loving father welcoming** a prodigal child home and inviting the other to join the feast, God welcomes us all. Let us celebrate such amazing grace. Welcome to Worship!

**Thank you Stacey Church, Martha Kallenbach and Jack Brooks** for sharing your gift of music with us this morning..

**Following worship TODAY** is our Special Congregational Meeting. Women's Fellowship will be providing a brunch.

**Noisy Offering is TODAY.** This is the last of our quarter offering for the Community Closet. Last month's offering was \$122.85. *(This was not taken last Sunday as printed - this collection will always be the last Sunday of the month.)*

**Thank you to the** Altar Committee and especially to Jim Rynberg for the incredible Lenten Altar display.

**Book Circle meets** on Tuesday, April 1 at 1:00 p.m. at the Fremont Public Library. We will be discussing the book "James."

**Men's Fellowship Luncheon** will be held on Wednesday, April 2 at 12:00 noon in Fellowship Hall.

**Launching Soon** ..... Small Groups - A sign up sheet is located by the church office. Sign up for the time period that fits you best. (Morning, Afternoon, Evening or Anytime).

**Men's Lenten Community Breakfast** Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup> - April 19. They will be held at the Church of the Living Christ at 8:00 a.m. All Men are encouraged to attend.

**Siria Fedora Marie Mary Delores Pieri Pinnick** passed away peacefully on Sunday, March 23. Her daughter Cristine said they are planning a service possibly in May with burial in the Memorial Garden. Please keep the Pinnick family in your thoughts and prayers.