

The First Congregational Church

My choice for the new church name:

Tear Here

Welcome Guest, We are so happy that you are here today. If you would like more information about the First Congregational Church, please fill out the note below and place it in the offering plate.

Your Name(s) _____

Phone number or email _____

Comments/Prayer Request _____

Would you like someone to contact you? Yes No



Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

August 11, 2019

10:00 a.m.

* those who are able, please stand
As you enter the sanctuary, please be mindful of those already
seated who want a quiet place to pray.

The Order of Worship

Prelude

Sylvia Lee

Call to Worship

Welcome

Opening Prayer

***Opening Hymn**

“Jesus Loves Even Me”

Blue Hymnal #495

Invitation to Prayer

Prayer of Confession

***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

Story Bell

Tossed in Space

Mat Emerick

Hymn of Preparation

“Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face;
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace.

Blue Hymnal #340

Scripture Reading

Matthew 13

13 N.T.

Message

Sowing the Seed

Pastor Ray Dekker

***Hymn**

“Living for Jesus” (verses 1,2,3)

Blue Hymnal #605

Prayers of the People and Silent Prayers

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy
kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give
us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we
forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us
from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory
forever. Amen

Offertory

Duet, Sylvia Lee & Karla Johnson

***Doxology**

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.

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Closing**

“Jesus Saves”

We have heard the joyful sound: Jesus saves! Jesus saves!
Spread the tidings all around: Jesus saves! Jesus saves!
Bear the news to every land; Climb the steeps and cross the waves.
Onward! ‘tis our Lord’s command. Jesus saves! Jesus saves!

Blue Hymnal #438

Benediction

***Pastor:** The Peace of Christ be with you. **Congregation:** And also with
you.

***Postlude**

Sylvia Lee

Welcome! "The Joy of the Lord is our strength." We are here to give thanks to God and to be rejuvenated to live out your love in the world.

*Visitors ~ Welcome! There is a Welcome Packet in the pew rack for you. Please fill out the Guest Information insert, place it in the offering plate and take the packet home for review of the other information. We are thankful you are here and hope that your time here is a special blessing to you and your family. Please let us know how we can best serve you.

*Large print Bibles, bulletins, and Children's bulletins are available from the ushers. Quiet bags for children to use while they are in the worship service are available on the table in the narthex.

*Children are an important segment of the living body of Christ, so we welcome them in our worship services and grant to them the blessing of worshiping along side their parents, siblings and family in Christ. Families with young nursery age children are also welcome to use the "Family Room" in the balcony located on the 2nd floor.

*Our sanctuary is equipped with a T-Coil Hearing Loop. Please turn your hearing aid to the T-Coil position to access this feature. Other hearing devices are available at the sound booth upon request.

*The Deacons invite you to join us for a few moments of prayer in the library at 9:40 a.m. each Sunday morning. We want to ask God to prepare our hearts for worship, to guide those leading worship in word and song and invite the Holy Spirit to minister to our church family and visitors. Please come and pray!

Following the worship service you are invited to join us in Fellowship Hall.

Come meet new friends and have some refreshments. We look forward to meeting you.

Serving Us:

Altar Rep:	Fran Stewart
Altar Flowers:	(today) Jack & Fran Stewart(next week)
Greeters:	Ted Caris(today) (next week)
Ushers:	(today) (next week)
Compassion:	All Deacons
Keyboard:	Sylvia Lee
Sound System:	Rick St. Peter
Coffee Hosts:	Georgia Paxton & Pat Krehn(today) Jack & Fran Stewart(next week)

Celebrating this week:

Happy Birthday to ~

Guy Redinger, Jack Stewart (14), Patti Johnson (19), Sandy Dekker, Jackie Harrington (21), Jo Roth (24)

Happy Anniversary to ~

Bill, Jr & Linda Fries (11),

Prayer Requests ~

(The person or family requesting prayer must call the church office or Pastor Ray in order to have the request printed)

Our shut-ins: Frank Blain, Bob Erber, Barb Lindner, Jean Morse, Siria Pinnick, Don Potter, Norma Purvis, Karen Zick

Health Concerns - Jerry & Helen Miller, Shelli Waldo

Ted Clark - recovering from back surgery

Jan Stone - awaiting test results

This Week's Calendar

Sunday, August 11

9:40 a.m. Prayer Time - Library

10:00 a.m. Worship

11:15 a.m. Fellowship Time - Fellowship Hall
SCRIP is available for purchase

Monday, August 12

6:30 p.m. All Boards & Church Members Meeting with
Pastor Steve Vanderwest - Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, August 13 - Church Office Closed

3:00 p.m. Violin Lessons - Fellowship Hall

7:30 p.m. Library Reserved - Jack Butterick

Wednesday, August 14

Thursday, August 15 - Church Office Closed

9:00 a.m. Woodshop Open

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

6:30 p.m. Deacons Meeting - Library

Friday, August 16

Saturday, August 17

9:00 a.m. Woodshop Open

Sunday, August 18

9:40 a.m. Prayer Time - Library

10:00 a.m. Worship with Baptism of Sophia Jane Robeck

11:15 a.m. Fellowship Time - Fellowship Hall
SCRIP is available for purchase

Our Church News

To All Church Members, On Monday night, August 12th at 6:30pm we will be holding an informational meeting in the fellowship hall presented by Rev Vanderwest from the Community Church of Grant, Mi. He will share with us the path their church took after leaving the UCC. I believe this will be very useful information for all of us as we move forward. The EC, Deacons and Trustees will be in attendance but we are inviting all interested members to attend as well. Please put this date on your calendars. Thank You!
Gary Deuling, Moderator

Plans are for worship to be held in Fellowship Hall for the months of August and possibly September. Hopefully the weather will warm up a bit and we will be grateful to worship in the comfort of an air conditioned space.

Next Sunday, August 18 we will administer the Sacrament of Holy Baptism to Sophia Jane Robeck.

If your email is a yahoo or aol account you probably have not been receiving the church emails. They are being returned to me undeliverable. I have no control over this so hopefully your account will be accepting our emails soon.

Book Circle will meet Tuesday, August 20 at the home of Beverly Williams. Jill Sondeen will do the book review.

Cross Pendants - The Memorial Garden committee has a new supply of cross pendants. If you are interest contact Georgia Paxton.

Becky Tuuk went to a meeting and learned of an environmental forum put on by 3R Environmental Education that is taking place Saturday, August 17. One of the panel members will be Chelsea Reynout, Pastor at Newaygo Family of God Church. There will be an impressive group of speakers and panel members there to discuss things we can do to help protect the earth. See the flyer on the bulletin board for additional information.

Announcing “ConGo Enjoy-Meant” Events

We are “ConGo” (Christians on the Go) and **meant** to **go** and **enjoy** good food and fun activities together!

“Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.” Neh. 8:10

“Go and enjoy”:

Friday, August 30, 7:00pm Vaudeville In The Park- Veteran's Memorial Park Stage. This year's show will benefit Empowerment Network. Free will offering taken along with baked goodies sale. Baked goodies needed!

Sunday, September 15, 5:30 pm Guatemalan Taco Night! - Mat and Deb's friends, Frandi and Adrienne Dempsy make some wonderful tacos that they would like to bless us with! With Frandi being a native to Guatemala means that they strive to make their tacos authentic and delicious! Served Guatesmalan rice, pico de gallo, guacamole and more! Let's chow down together!