

# Steepleviews

First Congregational Church of Frankfort  
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## May 2015 Anniversaries & Birthdays

- 01 Kerry Buzzell  
Jackson Deloria  
Tyler Grant  
Kristin Jackson  
Dylan Prance-Jewell
- 02 Michael Grant  
Julie Hirschfeld
- 03 Mary Bateman  
Mariah Manning  
Candace Nostrandt
- 06 Mary Dykstra
- 07 Liam Condon  
Bob King
- 08 Jacob Grant  
Gail Nugent
- 09 Alma House  
Chia Yang
- 10 Bill McMillan  
Michael Mendoza
- 13 Marijke Church
- 14 Tegan Chicky
- 19 Tommy Mendoza  
Jill Smeltzer
- 20 Jared & Jordin Kelly
- 21 Becky & Matt Addis
- 27 Donna Phillips  
Faith & Jack Dulaney
- 28 Andy & Marti Mollema
- 29 Julie Morris  
Sean Morris
- 30 Kathy Conrad
- 31 Gretchen Eichberger-  
Kudlack  
Bill & Jeanne McMillan

## Catch These Coming Events!

- May 5 Eat out for BACN
- May 10 Happy Mother's Day
- May 15 Erma McKinnon's  
Celebration of Life
- May 20 The Ladies' Lunch @ Fusion
- May 22 The Gathering @ the  
Parsonage
- May 24 Benzie Co. Baccalaureate,  
Memorial Weekend &  
Pentecost Sunday
- May 31 Sunday School Teacher  
Appreciation Day

## The "Gathering"

will be at the Parsonage

on May 22, @  
6:30 p.m. with a  
"Taco Night"  
theme. Please

see the sign-up  
sheet in the dining room for items  
needed for the "Gathering". Please  
bring your own beverage.



# Pastor's Page

I keep thinking I'll take my old cell phones in to get money back for them. Except that the longer I forget the less they are worth. And then I came across this idea, and thought I'd share it with any others that might be wanting to find more drawer space with the relocation of an old phone.

A guy named Topher White has figured out a way to use old phones to record rainforest sounds, not just the animals and other critters, but the sounds of illegal chainsaws, i.e., illegal logging. Interestingly, there is good connectivity in the rainforest!

According to Interpol, 90% of the logging that takes place in the rainforest is illegal. Crazy enough, many of those cutting down trees don't realize it's illegal. So if a cell phone picks up a chainsaw sound, a ranger can track it down, go out and halt the logging with a little discussion: real-time intervention.

Cell phones are thrown away by the hundreds of millions every year. Most of them find their way into the ground, but why not let them find their way up a tree to help the environment?

So if you'd like to forage for your old cell phones and raise them back to life, you can bring them to the church office and we will send them on to Rainforest Connection. (They will erase them and retrofit them for jungle life.) What a honor we have to care for the gift God has given us in this earth!

To hear Topher and his invention, you can go to [http://www.ted.com/talks/topher\\_white\\_what\\_can\\_save\\_the\\_rainforest\\_your\\_used\\_cell\\_phone#t-195141](http://www.ted.com/talks/topher_white_what_can_save_the_rainforest_your_used_cell_phone#t-195141)

**Benzie County Baccalaureate**  
will be on Sunday, May 24th,  
1:00 p.m. at  
St. Andrew's  
Presbyterian Church.  
Come and wish the  
graduating seniors  
from Benzie Central  
and Frankfort High Schools  
all the best for their future endeavors!



*The American Academy  
Elects its 2015 Class of Members*

## **Congratulations Phil Deloria!**

Most of us have heard of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and associate the name with famous people. This year, the new members in the humanities and the arts include: actors Audra McDonald and Christopher Plummer; scholar of medieval philosophy and the philosophy of religion, Marilyn McCord Adams; writer and translator Robert Bly; Kang-i Chang, a scholar of Chinese poetry; singer-songwriter Judy Collins; Philip J. Deloria, a historian who specializes in Native American, Western American, and environmental history; and many others. Wait, that's "our" Phil! How wonderful! Congratulations!



## The Ladies' Lunch In May

This month's ladies' lunch will be on Wed., May 20, at noon @ The Fusion in Frankfort. There will be a sign up sheet in the dining room for all who would like to attend. Please sign up by Sunday, May 18. **Just a reminder, we will not be having any ladies' lunches during June, July or August.**

## RED CROSS HEROES!



Donna Phillips is once again spearheading the First

Congregational Church's Northwest Michigan American Red Cross "HEROES" CAMPAIGN. For the past five years our church family has been involved in raising funds close to \$3,000.00 to support local Disaster, Health, Safety & Service to Armed Forces Programs. There are several ways to participate: 1. Have fun and fill out the daily "bank" of the day sheet. 2. Solicit friends to be "Heroes" 3. Write a check or donate cash. Remember, whatever way you choose, we are all "HEROES" when we contribute to this communitywide effort. Please fill out the "Heroes" Envelope and return to Donna Phillips by June 1, 2015. Thank you to all who have donated in the past!!

## May is Sunday School Appreciation Month.

On Sunday, May 17, 2014 come and celebrate the goodness that happens behind the scenes with our young people.

## Our New Members: Welcome!

John & Rosemary Abbett met at Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore where John was the Assistant Superintendent and Rosemary was the Budget Assistant. Rosie is a native Michigander from Owosso and John hails from California. They were married in our sanctuary on July 1, 1992 at a surprise (for the choir) wedding after choir practice. They are very, very happy to be returning to FCCF.

Dana and Rob Burch have enjoyed a relationship with Frankfort over the last 15 years. During most of this time they were second home visitors. In 2011 Frankfort became their year around residence. Between them they have 4 married daughters and 2 grandchildren.

Ruth Forrest was born in Midland, Michigan but spent most of her childhood in the Netherlands, where her dad was setting up a Dow Chemical plant. After graduating from the University of Michigan, Ruth moved to Benzie County to teach in the Head Start program. She recently retired after 34 years of teaching K, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grades. Ruth spends as much time as possible with her three grown children and two grandchildren. She is also involved with Benzie Community Chorus and the Oliver Art Center and she likes to cross-country ski.

### Tamara Stokes and Carmyn Brodbent:

Tamara grew up in Florida, but is originally from the Troy area. Her father was a professional piano player so the family traveled a great deal. Tamara came to Traverse City area at 19, became a nurse assistant, met her former husband and had two beautiful daughters: Skylar (15) and Carmyn (10). Tamara likes to ski, hike, kayak, camp, scrapbook, do anything crafty, and says she is a big health nut. She became a devoted Christian four years ago, currently works at Crystal Mountain in housekeeping, cleans houses, does some care giving and is attending classes at Baker College to be a Therapeutic Message Therapist.

# Council Notes

**There were 13 Council members at the April 08, 2015 Council meeting.**

Treasurer's Report: Chris Porter

Income for March: \$ 5,795.61

Expenses for March: \$ 8,751.34

Investments: Denis Crosby

Our Investment Fund enjoyed a net dollar growth since 12/31/14 of \$19,347.00 This represents a 2.91% increase; these numbers represent pure dollar growth and not a percentage return on our investment. Current balances total: \$682,225.00

Memorials: John McElduff

In March, there was a \$25.00 donation to the Memorials account and no donation to the CIF account. There were two withdrawals in the first quarter: \$55.92 for plates for the Memorial Plaque and \$626.47 for a video projector.

Missions: Leslie McElduff

Mission income for March was \$352.26; Missions has met its monthly income since changes were made in February concerning our financial commitment to each of our designated recipients.

Nominating: Larry Neuhardt

Bob King has been appointed to fill Signe Ruddy's Council position.

Outreach: Dinah Haag for Judy Grant

1) The church helped sponsor the St. Croix HS Choir and Jazz Band performance; 2) Al's Academy (King of Hoarders) was a success with approximately 18 attendees; 3) 35 letters were sent to those families that Pastor Dinah performed wedding and/or funerals inviting them to the Easter service; 4) still working on updating the pictorial directory; 5) simplified the YB ad by bringing down the cost to \$20.00 per month; 6) we are now saving \$156.00 a year by taking out a YP special ad plus saved \$60.00 for reducing the size of the ad in the Track and Field book; 7) Sesquicentennial meetings to begin soon.

Personnel: Andy Mollema

1) reviewed the minute from the specially called Council Meeting on March 1 to hire Rosemary Abbett as our organist as well as approve the new job description; all was in order and both motions approved.

Property: Dinah Haag for Andrea Frost  
The new insulating triple cell shades for the doorways have been installed.

Women's Fellowship: Mary Reed

The checking account balance is \$2,995.62, and the CD balance is \$3,090.13

Worship: Ann Osborn

1) the Committee discussed, assigned tasks and set up for the special Easter service which went smoothly and was well received; 2) Kate Edwards will be speaking at the April 12 (Holy Humor Sunday) service.

Historian: Al Bryant

Digitalization of records & memberships continues for our 2017 Sesquicentennial.

By-Laws, Finance & Stewardship, Religious Education:

no reports

Pastor's Report:

Report was submitted to those present.

New & Unfinished Business:

None

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Osborn, Church Council Clerk

Over (+)/Under (-): The Bottom Line		
	Received	Over/Under
January	\$ 5,279.00	- \$3,469.35
February	\$13,512.00	+\$6,422.07
March	\$ 5,795.61	- \$2,955.73
Total	\$24,586.61	- \$ 3.01





## Please Remember in Prayer

Gabriel Adler  
Don Beckwith  
Donna Blough  
Robin Brunette  
Mark Conrad  
Colleen Cruff  
Luke Forest  
Katy Gunning  
Tyler Grant  
Alvin Gross  
Tom Hallquist  
Shar Hammond  
Joanne Herban  
David Kinney  
Marvelee Kneisel  
Diane Macy  
Larry Miller  
Tom Moore  
Laura Nespor  
Dolly Nicolis  
Cheryl Noll  
Stan Pettingill  
Nancy Setterbo  
Jim Shane  
Mike Skierski  
Kris Smeltzer

### Our Prayers are extended to the family of:

Jean Blough  
Lisa Colbert  
Michael Culling  
Terry Herban  
Betty Lundy  
Tom Moore  
Herb Redhead  
John Scripps  
Helen Trudgeon  
Lee VanderKarr

### Those serving in the Military:

Matt Conrad  
Ryan Kingsinger  
Clark Robinson



## The Celebration of Life for Erma McKinnon

Will be held on Friday, May, 15, here at the church, at 11:00 a.m. A luncheon will follow, after which will be the internment. All are welcome to join us in celebrating this true matriarchal pillar of our modern church family.



## Short Term Mission Opportunity

We would like to add a dozen more people to our short term mission team to Mission Mazahua, Mexico June 18-25, 2015. The cost is \$395 plus airfare to Mexico City or Toluca, Mexico. It is a beautiful place serving the disabled, marginal, poor and elderly of the Mazahua indigenous communities in the Municipality of San Felipe del Progreso in the State of Mexico. People willing to do the dishes are as important as those with more sophisticated skills (though they are also most welcome). Please contact Rev. Jack Brown for more specifics at [pilgrim\\_pastor@hotmail.com](mailto:pilgrim_pastor@hotmail.com). Or Linda Miller, Missions Administrator [Lmiller@naccc.org](mailto:Lmiller@naccc.org) (800) 262-1620 ext. 1618.

## Balance/Auditory/Vision eXercises

Mary Ann Short is still offering beginner and more advanced classes here in the Red Room called BalA VisX. It's an acronym for Balance/ Auditory/ Vision eXercises, which can also be understood as movement oriented brain body integration. They are simple exercises to help balance, focus, hearing, memory, vision, energy level and concentration and are applicable to 3 year olds to 90+ year-olds. The technique has been used in schools, rehabilitation centers, in the U.S. and all over the world. There are informational sheets on a table in the Dining Room and classes are held on Mondays at 1:00 p.m. And they are FREE!

## A Multitude of Gratitude goes to

- Myra Elias, Leslie McElduff and Jean Neuhardt for providing such a delish dinner on Maundy Thursday. And to Paul Osborn who added great cookies!
- All who helped with cleaning up after Sunday Soup Lunches and Maundy Thursday Supper. It's so incredibly cool to see how people jus pitch in and do that which needs to be done.
- Al Bryant for the great Academies over the winter. They were not just informative, but fun! And thank you for those who helped with the meals. Many hands.....
- Candace Nostrandt and all those who take care of the church recycling. Your efforts are greatly appreciated!
- Andrea Frost for installing new thermal screens at the church doors. They look terrific and should be of even greater economic value next year.
- All who contributed to the beauty of the Easter Sunday Resurrection Worship service. From the flowers to the music to the planning of the service, it was truly a great day in the life of our church family.
- To Marti Mollema for the great Holy Humor Sunday altar arrangement using shoes!
- Ron Phillips for making the cross that was used at the Community Good Friday service. It was very meaningful to have it as part of the service.
- Maggie Baker and Marti Mollema for changing the church dining room decor to spring. What a joyful space!
- The Worship Committee for facilitating such a great Easter Sunday service. It was a great, gettin' up mornin'!



## Dine Out For Benzie Area Christian Neighbors

On Tuesday, May 5, 2015, eat dinner at one of these partner restaurants, **Stormcloud Brewing in Frankfort** or **Thistle Pub @ Crystal Mountain in Thompsonville** and 10% of your bill is donated to BACN.

## May is Mental Health Month:

a reminder that mental health is just as important as physical health!






## Sesquicentennial Meeting

It's hard to believe that we will be celebrating our 150th anniversary in just a couple years. To do that well, we will need to plan. Anyone is welcome to join on the planning, the first meeting of which will be Thurs. May 7 at 4:30 in the Pastor's Office. You don't have to be old to be a part of the fun of planning!



# *First Congregational Church of Frankfort*

## May 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 <b>May Day</b> Kerry Buzzell Jackson Deloria Tyler Grant Kristin Jackson Dylan Prance-Jewell	2  Michael Grant Julie Hirschfeld
3 10:30 a.m. Worship & Sunday School  Mary Bateman Mariah Manning Candace Nostrandt	4 1:00 p.m. BalA VisX Group Class  2:00 p.m. BalA VisX Group Class	5 9:00 a.m. Foot Care Clinic  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">Eat Out for BACN: Stormcloud or Thistle Pub</div>	6 4:00 p.m. Worship Mtg.  7:30 p.m. Choir  Mary Dykstra	7 9:30 a.m. Yoga 4:30 p.m. 150th Anniversary Mtg. 5:15 p.m. Outreach Mtg.  Liam Condon Bob King	8   Jacob Grant Gail Nugent	9   Alma House Chia Yang
10 10:30 a.m. Worship & Sunday School  Bill McMillan Michael Mendoza	11 1:00 p.m. BalA VisX Group Class  2:00 p.m. BalA VisX Group Class	12 4:00 p.m. Property Mtg.	13 4:00 p.m. Council Meeting  7:30 p.m. Choir  Marijke Church	14 9:30 a.m. Yoga	15 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">11:00 a.m. Celebration of Life for Erma McKinnon</div>	16   Tegan Chicky
17 10:30 a.m. Worship & Sunday School	18 1:00 p.m. BalA VisX Group Class  2:00 p.m. BalA VisX Group Class	19   Tommy Mendoza Jill Smeltzer	20 7:30 p.m. Choir <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">12:00 p.m. Ladies' Lunch: The Fusion</div> Jared & Jordin Kelly	21 9:30 a.m. Yoga  11:30 a.m. Ministerial Assoc  Becky & Matt Addis	22 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">The "Gathering" @ the Parsonage @ 6:30 p.m. Taco Night Theme</div>	23
24 10:30 a.m. Worship & Sunday School Pentecost Sunday  1:00 p.m. Benzie County Baccalaureate	25 1:00 p.m. BalA VisX Group Class  2:00 p.m. BalA VisX Group Class 	26	27 9:30 a.m. Human Services Coll.  7:30 p.m. Choir  Donna Phillips Faith & Jack Dulaney	28 9:30 a.m. Yoga   Andy & Marti Mollema	29   Julie Morris Sean Morris	30   Kathy Conrad
31 Sunday School Teacher Appreciation  Bill & Jeanne McMillan Gretchen Eichberger- Kudlack						

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<b>Date</b>	<b>Greeters/Ushers</b> <b><u>Head Usher:</u></b> <b>Larry Neuhardt</b>	
3	Jeff & Michelle Frostic, Billie & Ron Wardwell	Greeter and Ushers: Please arrive at church by <b>10:00 a.m.</b> ready to greet and welcome all who come to worship. (Greeters and Ushers are the front line people in welcoming visitors and new church family members!)
10	Michael & Sharon Grajcar, John & Kathy Walthorn	
17	Ann & Paul Osborn, Mac & Marilyn Whisner	
24	Candace Nostrandt, Mary Ann Harness, Chris & Marjorie Porter	
31	Judy Grant, Marti Mollema, Julie & Paul Robinson	