

Steepleviews

First Congregational Church of Frankfort
431 Forest Ave.
Frankfort, MI 49635 (231) 352-7909

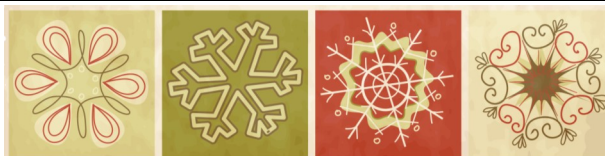
Website: www.fccfrankfort.org
Rev. Dinah Haag: haagdinah@gmail.com
Church office: secretary431@gmail.com

January 2016 Anniversaries & Birthdays

- | | |
|----|---|
| 01 | Jessie Grant
Pat Hessler
Amy & Mark Steigerwald |
| 02 | Dick & Joanne Brown |
| 10 | Naomi Kolehmainen |
| 14 | Melissa Koenig |
| 15 | Carsen Nostrandt |
| 16 | Amy Steigerwald |
| 18 | Brian Nostrandt
Evelyn Osborn |
| 19 | Chris Porter |
| 21 | Levi Hubbard
John King
Sterling Porter |
| 22 | Bill Bruinsma
Jan Condon
Betty Milliron |
| 23 | Nancy Swensson |
| 24 | Ron Phillips
Suzanne Reising
Kay VanOrder |
| 25 | Kimberly Gilbert |
| 26 | Andrea Frost
Pat Katz
Julie Robinson
Our Church Family |
| 28 | Hugh Hessler |

Catch These Coming Events!

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| January 01 | HAPPY NEW YEAR! |
| January 09 | Celebration of Life – Alan Vigland |
| January 24 | Annual Meeting & Potluck |
| January 26 | Our Church's Anniversary |
| January 27 | Al's Academy with Phil Deloria |



Our Annual Meeting & Potluck Lunch

Sunday, January 24
Will follow the
Worship Service.
Copies of the
Annual Report
will be available
January 21 at the
sanctuary doors,
and proxy ballots
are available at the
end of the Report.

Pastor's Page

I don't know if new year resolutions do much actual good or not. With the turn of the year, there is no shortage of ideas — particularly if you watch any television at all — and there are no specific Bible verses about new years resolutions. But, there are some verses that might work well for that very thing. Tape one to the bathroom mirror or to the dashboard of the car where you will see it most every day. Turn it into a prayer as you read it. Do it as an experiment and see what that one passage and God can do in one year.

Colossians 3:14-15

And above all these virtues, put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Luke 6:31

And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

Luke 6:27-28

"But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you,

Psalms 23:1

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Lamentations 3:22-23

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your

Thank you to

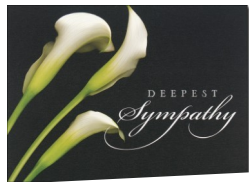
- All the birthday and holiday greetings, cards and gifts! I am humbled by the generosity of members and friends of this church family! Pastor Dinah
- Matt Addis for draining the watering systems. It was rainy, yucky day, so the thanks is all the greater.
- All who purchased poinsettias this year. As usual, they added the perfect touch to our celebrations.
- Dale Herscher, Jean Neuhardt and John Ruckrich for bringing us a delightful reader's theater December 20. So much fun, and you played your parts perfectly!
- Myra and Albe Elias for hosting the Christmas Caroling Party. It was so much fun!
- Bill Hirschfeld for the very interesting and thoughtful Genesis Bible Study. We can't wait until your next study!
- All who helped to decorate cookies for the Silver Tea. It is always a good night for a good cause.
- For those who decorated the sanctuary and those who decorated the Dining Room. You all always do a lovely job.
- All who covered for me while I was out of town over Thanksgiving. It was a joy to celebrate a holiday with my family! Pastor Dinah
- Bob and Sue King for hosting The Gathering in October. Your hospitality is greatly appreciated.
- Andrea Frost and Mary Osborn for hosting the Wild Rose Concert in October. It was a lovely afternoon.
- All who helped with the Halloween Open House. 1,225 people came through our doors that night.

Congratulations to

- Luke Reed being named to the Academic All-State Honorable Mention football team!!!
- Jake Reed for being one of 10 students from Benzie Central to attend the area Honor Band.
- (Young) Paul Robinson and his mother, Sara, for taking first place in two categories at the First Lego League regional tournament. Paul was a member of the team and Sara was a coach. Way to go!
- Olivia Addis on her graduation from



Northern Michigan University. Now for that first job....



Our Deepest Sympathies to

The family of Lois Anderson, Diane Macy, Mary Jane Murray, Dolly Nicolis and Alan Vigland. Your families and friends are in our thoughts and prayers.

I would like to thank all those who remembered John and me with birthday & Christmas prayers, wishes, cards, & gifts. They are all greatly appreciated. It's so good to have such a wonderful extended family as all of



you. Have a blessed New Year. Love to all, Rosie Abbett

Al's Academy Returns

Wednesday, January 27

Beginning at 5:30 p.m. with a light supper, followed by a program by our own Dr. Phil Deloria. The program will be

The Weird Stuff You Don't Know about Indian History

If the title doesn't grab you, Phil's expertise and savvy will surely draw you into a discussion that few people will get to experience. So bring the neighbors and join us for what will be a great evening!



All are welcome to attend the Celebration of Life for Alan Vigland Saturday, January 9, 2016, 11:00 a.m. at Benzonian Congregational Church 901 Barber Street.

Council Notes

**There were 16 Council members
at the December 9, 2015
Council meeting**

Treasurer's Report: John McElduff

Offerings for November: **\$ 6,909.94**
Expenses for November: **\$ 8,087.23**
Total Current balance \$67,721.81

Investment: Denis Crosby

1) Fund is at approximately \$650,000.00, down \$18,000.00 from years end; 2) The Committee will meet prior to year's end to discuss pending disbursements with recommendations next month; 3) No change is expected in our investment policy.

Missions: Bob King

All of our Mission commitments continue to be funded 100%

Nominating: Larry Neuhardt

1) Myra Elias has accepted the open position on Council; and 2) Several names were submitted for consideration for the bookkeeping position (See Personnel Report)

Outreach: Judy Grant

1) Two memorial services plus the Silver Tea were held the first week in December with a large number in attendance for all three; and 2) The Caroling at Paul Oliver, The Maples and The Pines followed by a gathering at Myra Elias' home will be held on December 17 beginning at 6:00 pm.

Personnel: Andy Mollema

1) Katherine Johnson's (our secretary) job review was held the first week in December and all is going well; 2) Approval to hire Brooke Trentham as the church's bookkeeper. 3) The Pastor's compensation package was discussed and set for the coming year.

Property: Andrea Frost

The rebuilding of the front entrance to the Church and the front porch to the Parsonage is progressing; 2) The Committee accepted the bid from Huron Electric to install lighting in the Red Room (\$2,990.00). The Committee also chose Will

Church as the builder for remodeling the Red Room, downstairs bathrooms, and fixing the Sanctuary balcony floor. 3) Discussion regarding the rest rooms remodeling and making them wheelchair accessible and unisex. The Committee will work on putting these ideas on paper.

Women's Fellowship: Mary Reed

Proceeds from the Silver Tea were as follows: \$417.00 from the bake sale; \$368.05 from the knife sale; \$495.50 from the Tea Donation Bowl; \$35.00 donation from Julie Grant for her jewelry sale giving us a total of \$1,315.55.

Worship: Ann Osborn No Report

Historian: Al Bryant No Report

Pastor's Report: Dinah Haag

In addition to the usual events and notes, Dolly Nichols' Celebration of Life Service will be held on Tuesday, December 15 at 1:00 pm.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: None

Constitution & By-Laws, Finance & Stewardship, Memorials, Religious Education, Worship, Historian, Unfinished Report, New Business: No reports

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
April	\$ 9,035.62	+\$1,687.42
May	\$ 9,215.00	+\$1,755.53
June	\$10,798.58	+\$2,803.01
July	\$ 7,932.00	- \$2,552.35
August	\$ 9,207.00	+\$1,810.60
September	\$11,253.00	+\$3,777.46
October	\$ 7,298.06	- \$3,168.95
November	\$ 6,909.94	- \$1,117.29

HOLIDAY TRADITIONS!



Holiday Traditions provide enjoyment, and strangely enough, a source of comfort to many people. Our Annual Silver Tea was an overall success thanks to many of our

church family members who devoted many hours of preparation and labor. Homemade cookies, hors d'oeuvres, and of course tea and coffee were also served by our volunteers and were enjoyed by all. This traditional event brought friends & families together from many of the surrounding areas to start off the Christmas season. There are not enough words to, once again, thank everyone who came together and made this such a memorable and lovely "Silver Tea."



Thank you to

all who contributed to the Council on Aging Christmas Gift Project. The gifts have been picked up and are being packaged for delivery. Thank you for making a difference.

And thank you to all who helped with the memorials luncheon for Mary Jane Murray and Diane Macy. Your contributions of time, food and energy allowed these families to help find closure.

January is our Financial Worker's Appreciation Month

From the Financial Secretaries to the Investment people, to the Treasurers, these are the people who work behind the scenes to keep our finances and accounts in order.

Not everyone has the ability to serve us in such ways, so thank you



The Old Farmer's
ALMANAC.COM
"Useful, with a pleasant degree of humor"

- When Christmas Eve is clear, our Lord will give us an abundance of wine & corn.
- A green Christmas makes a fat churchyard.
- The wind at the end of Midnight Mass will be the dominant wind in the coming year.
- A windy Christmas is a sign of a good year to come.
- If it snows on Christmas night, there will be a good crop of hops next year.
- A bright Christmas foretells that hens will lay well.
- A dark Christmas foretells that cows will give much milk.
- If the sun shines through an apple tree on Christmas, there will be an abundant crop of apples in the coming year.



**Think,
Speak,
Be Positive**

With the year end coming closer, many of us will eventually go into the pondering sort of mood. To make sure that your pondering remains positive, here are some quotations:

☺ "There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle, or the mirror that reflects it." Edith Wharton

☺ "Hate. It has caused a lot of problems in this world but has not solved one yet." Maya Angelou

☺ "If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door." Milton Berle

☺ "Success consists of going from failure to failure without loss of enthusiasm." Winston Churchill

Update to Our Online Church Family Directory

Just a reminder to everyone – Regarding the update to our online church family directory. If there are any corrections with your personal information, we ask that you send those corrections to secretary431@gmail.com. Doing so will help us to update the directory to current status. When changes have been made, we can then send a copy of the corrected directory to everyone via email, or for those who prefer, we can print one. We appreciate your input and thank you for your assistance. **If easier, you could also bring any changes to Katherine in the church office, as this would help her to familiarize names with faces.** We will be emailing a copy of our church directory to everyone in the

Please Remember in Prayer

Roy Acklin
Gordon Banks
Bill Bruinsma
Tyler Grant
Carolyn Hershey
Nancy Knopf
Lori Lalas
Susie Middleton
Alicia Rejman
Alyssa Lone
Sarah Nostrandt
Don Nugent
Vern Reed
Doc Wagner
Chia Yang

Young People

Benjamin Buzzell
Oliver Buzzell
Sam Buzzell
Ezra Church
Lauren Church
Maile Church

Seniors of the Week:

Beverly Matthews
(*The Maples*)
Susie Vigland
(*Orchard House*)
Charlie Holtrey
(*Long Term Care*)
Bea Gray
(*The Pines*)
John Abbett
(*Paul Oliver Living & Rehab*)

Persons of the Week

Dick Brown
Joanne Brown
Bud Carpenter
Rita Gilbert
Carolyn Levis
Ward Van Houten
Kay VanOrder



Dine Out For Benzie Area Christian Neighbors

Restaurants to be included will be announced in the near future, and 10% of your dinner bill will be donated to Benzie Area Christian Neighbors.



First Congregational Church of Frankfort

January 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				Jessie Grant Pat Hessler Amy & Mark Steigerwald	01 <i>Church Offices Closed</i>	02 Dick & Joanne Brown
03 10:30 a.m. Worship & Sunday School	04 10:00 a.m. BalA VisX Group Class	05	06 <i>Epiphany</i> 10:00 a.m. BalA VisX Group Class 4:00 p.m. Worship Comm. 7:30 p.m. Choir	07 9:30 a.m. Yoga 4:30 p.m. Sesquicentennial Mtg. 5:15 p.m. Outreach Mtg.	08	09 11:00 a.m. Alan Vigland Celebration of Life at Benzonia Congregational Church
10 10:30 a.m. Hymn Sing & Worship & Sunday School Naomi Kolehmainen	11 10:00 a.m. BalA VisX Group Class	12 4:00 p.m. Property Mtg.	13 10:00 a.m. BalA VisX Group Class 4:00 p.m. Council Meeting 7:30 p.m. Choir	14 9:30 a.m. Yoga Melissa Koenig	15 Carsen Nostrandt	16 Amy Steigerwald
17 10:30 a.m. Worship & Sunday School & Program	18 <i>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</i> 10:00 a.m. BalA VisX Group Class Brian Nostrandt Evelyn Osborn	19 Chris Porter	20 10:00 a.m. BalA VisX Group Class 7:30 p.m. Choir	21 9:30 a.m. Yoga 11:30 a.m. Ministerial Association Meeting Levi Hubbard John King Sterling Porter	22 Bill Bruinsma Jan Condon Betty Milliron	23 Nancy Swensson
24 10:30 a.m. Worship & Sunday School ANNUAL MEETING & POTLUCK following Ron Phillips Suzanne Reising Kay VanOrder	25 10:00 a.m. BalA VisX Group Class Kimberly Gilbert	26 First Congregational Church's Anniversary Andrea Frost Pat Katz Julie Robinson	27 9:30 a.m. Human Services Collaborative 10:00 a.m. BalA VisX Group Class 5:30 p.m. Al's Academy with Phil Deloria The Weird Stuff You Don't Know about Indian History 7:30 p.m. Choir	28 9:30 a.m. Yoga Hugh Hessler	29	30
31 10:30 a.m. Worship & Sunday School			7			

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Frankfort, MI 49635

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Date	Greeters/Ushers <u>Head Usher:</u> <i>Chris Porter</i>	
6	Marjorie Porter, Mary Reed Ann & Paul Osborn	Greeter and Ushers: Please arrive at church by <u>10:00 a.m.</u> 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	Marti Mollema, Lori Dougherty Leslie McElduff, Larry Neuhardt	
17	Betty & Fred Milliron, Mary Ann Harness, Donna Phillips	
24	Andrea Frost, Lori Dougherty Marti Mollema, Mary Reed	
31	Ann & Paul Osborn Sue King, Bill Hirschfeld	