

# Steepleviews

FEBRUARY 2024

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF FRANKFORT, MI

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

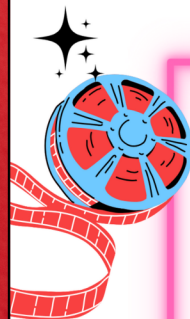
1	Oliver Simmons
3	David Koenig
4	Ryan Strom
6	Evin Elias Jenna Schweyer
7	Norma Bruinsma
8	Asher Locicero
9	Jeffrey Frostic Kelly Ottinger
10	Lori Dougherty Leslie McElduff
12	Owen Chownyck
13	Paul Adam Robinson
14	Molly Frostic
15	Amy King
16	Lacey Deloria
17	Cheryl Acklin Sharon Grajcar
18	Judy Grant
19	Lily Welch
20	Molly Harrison Isabelle Osborn Kati Prance
25	Grayson Kearns Freddie Kolehmainen Cooper Rath
27	Phil Deloria Kris Dykstra Bill and Molly Frostic Michael and Sharon Grajcar
29	Marilee Strom

## Coming Events

Feb	Black History Month
Feb 10	Free "Grease" Sing-a-Long at the Garden Theater
Feb 11	Sunday Lenten Lunch
Feb 14	Valentine's Day
Feb 18	Sunday Lenten Lunch
Feb 19	President's Day
Feb 25	Sunday Lenten Lunch

GO AHEAD AND BREAK OUT YOUR POODLE SKIRTS AND LEATHER JACKETS!  
THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH PRESENTS

## SING-A-LONG Movie



**FREE  
ENTRY**

**FEB 10 2024 | 2 P.M.**

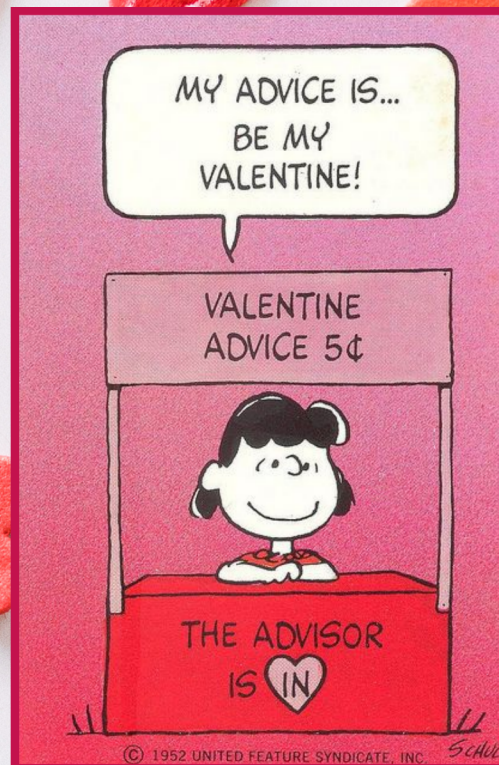
FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT [GARDENTHEATER.ORG](http://GARDENTHEATER.ORG)



# PASTOR'S NOTE

In case you didn't know, if you don't have a fireplace, and have a Netflix account, you can search for Fireplace 4K: Crackling Birchwood from Fireplace for Your Home, and you will have one to warm up your heart.

According to our By-Laws, we are supposed to have a Sunday School Superintendent. We've not actively had someone fill that role as it could and should be. It wouldn't be a huge amount of work, other than maybe 5-6 hours in late summer setting up the schedule. If you would be interested in this position, please let Pastor Dinah know.



## How they met



Betty Webb: I had a blind date with Les a month into my freshman year. When I came back to the dorm, I told my roommates he would make someone a really good husband someday. Sixty three years later he has lived up to my prediction.



Mike and Julie Morris had a musical start to their relationship: they met during high school productions of A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum and Bye Bye Birdie (Mike was Conrad!) and their first date was seeing My Fair Lady at the Old Town Playhouse in Traverse City.



We were 24 (Marijke) and 27 (Will Church) years old. We were scheduled to get married by the Justice of the peace in Hilo, Hi. Will wore a traditional white Hawaiian wedding shirt and a maile lei around his neck. I had purchased a white blouse and long white skirt of the sales rack at JC Pennys. Will gave me a traditional pikake lei when he picked me up in the morning and off we went, on our way to get married. As we drove along the ocean on this beautiful sunny day we could not resist the temptation to stop by our favorite beach and take a quick dip in the ocean. Off came all the wedding clothes as we quickly changed in the car and we proceeded to take a swim. It was so worth it. After our swim we walked through the farmers market, bare footed and with damp hair. Will bought me a big bouquet of fresh cut lilies for my wedding bouquet. We got married shortly there after on the sidewalk right down town with ocean in the back ground. It was a beautiful and glorious day when I married my best friend.



My Side(Peggy Burns): We met in high school. I always admired Phil who was a band nerd, student council rep. and happy go lucky guy. He was dating one of my friends, but she went away for the summer and he ended up playing the guitar at night under my second story bedroom window. It is pretty hard not to fall in love when you are hearing love songs under your window.

His Side (Phil Deloria): We first met at a Younglife meeting in Peggy's basement. I used to go to these, mostly just to play guitar. She asked if I would teach her lessons... but she was a little reluctant to cut her fingernails! Still, I took it as an indication, maybe? Our first date was a kind of exchange. We were with a group of friends at the Wheatridge Carnation Festival (our town, Wheat Ridge, had stopped growing wheat, it seems, but become a center for greenhouse-grown carnations) and she was looking for someone to go with her to try out the Catholic church in Evergreen. I volunteered to go with her, but then suggested that she accompany me to the Rocky Mountain Bluegrass Festival afterward, thus craftily securing a full day in her glorious company! Never looked back!







### Welcome to the family, Mason and Marco!

Mason Richard Harris and Marco Jude Morris were baptized during the service on 1/21/2024.

Mason's mother, Morgan Cole, is a graduate of Benzie Central High School and owns her own dog grooming business. They currently live with Morgan's mother, Jeanne Hafer and husband Tom. Mason and Tom are tight!

Not only is Sean Marco's dad, but he is also a graduate of Benzie Central and a hospitalist in Cambridge, MA. Marco's mother (and Sean's wife), Rita Elias, is a child neurology resident at Boston Children's Hospital. New "Auntie M" is enamored with Marco!

February is  
First Congregational Church's

## COUNCIL APPRECIATION MONTH



OLIVER  
ART  
CENTER  
PRESENTS

## FORM + FUNCTION

JANUARY 19 - FEBRUARY 16, 2024

An exploration of  
sculptural forms  
and functional fiber

An exhibition inspired by the design principles of Form and Function. Form will be represented by a sculpture exhibit in the Beck and Borwell Galleries, and Function will be represented by a functional fiber show in the North and South Exhibit Halls and Fisher Room.

Opening reception  
January 19, 2024  
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Let Pastor Dinah pick up the tab to wet your whistle through the end of March!

## COFFEE'S ON DINAH!



Tuesdays  
1:15 Online (Zoom) &  
2:00 p.m. In person

Perks  
429 Main St, Frankfort

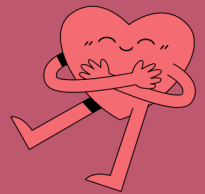
### THE GARDEN THEATER PRESENTS: FREE FAMILY MOVIE SATURDAY



SINGING AND  
DANCING PRESHOW  
FOLLOWED BY:  
**HAPPY FEET**  
SATURDAY  
FEBRUARY 17TH  
@4:00PM  
ENTRANCE IS  
FREE!  
ATTENDEES ARE ENCOURAGED  
TO BRING  
NON-PERISHABLE, FOOD  
DONATION TO  
FHS FOOD PANTRY.  
QUICK MEALS & SNACKS  
PREFERRED



SPONSORED BY:  
FRANKFORT UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH



"To love  
at all is  
to be  
vulnerable."

C.S. Lewis

**BENZONIA ACADEMY LECTURE**

**THURSDAY FEB. 8 | 4 P.M.**

AT THE  
**MILLS COMMUNITY HOUSE**  
891 Michigan Ave. | Benzonia, MI 49616

Or watch virtually via Zoom!

**JOIN US FOR**

**BRAVING THE THREE THAT WERE LOST**

**PRESENTED BY TIM FOSTER**

LOCAL MARITIME HISTORY ENTHUSIAST

**BENZIE AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

OPEN  
WED • FRI • SAT  
11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

6941 Traverse Ave.  
Benzonia, Michigan

VISIT US ONLINE AT


[/benzieareahistoricalsociety](https://benzieareahistoricalsociety.org)

[/benziehistorical](https://benziehistorical.org)

[/benziehistorical](https://benziehistorical.org)


[www.benziehistorical.org](http://www.benziehistorical.org)





MILLS COMMUNITY HOUSE  
est. 1909

..... NanoWriMo Prep 101 .....



### National Novel Writing Month

Often shortened to NaNoWriMo, is a U.S.-based nonprofit organization that promotes creative writing around the world.

NaNoWriMo is a 501(c)3 organization and all materials used during this workshop are available for free on their website: <https://nanowrimo.org>

#### Week 1: Develop a Story Idea You're Passionate About

February 6, 2024

#### Week 2: Create Unique Characters

February 13, 2024

#### Week 3: Construct a Detailed Plot or Outline

February 20, 2024

#### Week 4: Build a Strong World for Your Characters

February 27, 2024

All workshops are from 10 AM to noon on the Upper Level

891 Michigan Ave, Benzonia MI 

[www.millscommhouse.org](http://www.millscommhouse.org) 

In mid-January, Frankfort High School Wrestlers celebrated Parent and Senior Night during the Conference Meet. Between matches, Frankfort High School Athletic Director Joe Hollenbeck and spectators honored Coach Jim Buzzell. Jim began as a physical education and social studies teacher, and in 1960 started coaching for Frankfort Elberta Area Schools. He continued coaching until his retirement in 1990. Coach Buzzell started the wrestling program and coached the team for many years. Coach Buzzell's brother, Bob, started the wrestling program at Manistee High School around the same time, allowing them to enjoy competing against each other for many years. Many wrestlers qualified for regional and state-level competitions during his tenure as the coach. He coached two state champions, Lance Smith in 1976 and Bob Cole in 1979. In addition to wrestling, Coach Buzzell was the varsity football coach for many years. To add to these accolades, Coach Buzzell started a Golf Program in 1974 and somehow in his tenure, he also started a tennis program.

Following his retirement for FHS Schools in 1990, Coach Buzzell continued his involvement with Panther sports as a radio announcer for Frankfort football and basketball games on WBNZ. Coach Buzzell and his wife, Luanne, had five children (all of whom attended Frankfort Elberta Area Schools).

(When Luanne was once asked about her favorite thing to cook, she said that she didn't really cook, as she was more of a short order cook. With all their kids in sports, plus Jim's activities at the school, one can easily understand her response!)



### Dine Out for BACN

BENZIE AREA CHRISTIAN NEIGHBORS



303 Main St., Frankfort

Sunday, February 11  
12pm to 5pm

10% of proceeds will be donated to BACN



Thank you to the team at stormcloud for being such great partners!



## WINTERFEST

2ND SATURDAY IN FEBRUARY

2/10/2024 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
in downtown Beulah

FROZEN FISH TOSS, HAY RIDES, OUTHOUSE RACE,  
CHILI COOKOFF, AND MORE!



# COUNCIL MINUTES

FCCF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES January 10, 2023

Council Chair Linda Schweyer called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm, followed by the Opening Prayer.

The Minutes from the December 13, 2023 meeting were reviewed. With no corrections or additions noted, the Minutes were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Scott Harrison

- |                               |              |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Offerings for December     | \$12,022.30  |
| 2. Income for December        | \$14,671.97  |
| 3. December Budgeted Expenses | \$14,301.62  |
| 4. End of December net income | \$-13,790.42 |

- |                             |                  |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Year-to-date revenue:    | \$173,080.33     |
| 2. Year-to-date expenses:   | \$118,428.66     |
| 3. Year-to-date net income: | \$-11,960.00* ** |

\*Loon Roofing & Construction, the company refurbishing our steeple, needed some of the remaining payment for completed work. Because of timing issues and bank balances, the amount of \$10,000.00 had not been transferred from Baird to the general checking account when the December Financial Report was printed. The check was written in December; the December net income should be \$-3,790.42 and the year end net income should be \$-1,960.00.

In order to simplify our bookkeeping, four accounts were closed in December, as stated in November's Minutes: the Memorial Fund, the Cash Reserve Fund, Medical Savings, and Women's Fellowship Savings. The first three accounts were transferred to the General Fund Checking, with Women's Fellowship being transferred to the Women's Fellowship Checking account.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

No Reports: Memorials, Missions, Personnel, Religious Education

Constitution and By-Laws: Betty Webb – see Unfinished Business

Finance: refer to the Treasurer's Report

Investment: Chris Porter – as of December 31, 2023:

- |                                 |              |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Restricted Account Balance   | \$660,008.11 |
| 2. Unrestricted Account Balance | \$50,884.96  |

A request for the \$10,000.00 transfer from Baird to the General Checking Account will be made immediately (to cover the remainder paid to Loon Roofing & Construction).

Nominating: Linda Schweyer – All open Council positions have been filled. The slate will be presented at the Congregational Meeting. Motion to approve is under New Business.

Pastor's Report: Dinah Haag – Report submitted.

Outreach: Pastor Dinah announced two upcoming events: Al's Academy and Dinner on January 25; and a free sing-along movie ("Grease") sponsored by our church at the Garden Theater on February 10.

Property: Myra Elias – no meeting, but there are three future items for the Committee to address: 1) replacing the wallpaper in the main entrance to the church; 2) repairing the cracked corner of the sidewalk by the side entrance as well as the "dip" near the alley; and 3) possible removal of the leaning tree on 5th St.

Women's Fellowship: Mary Reed – In December, Women's Fellowship gave \$50.00 to our college students.

Worship: Ann Osborn – no report, although it was announced there will be no Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, or Good Friday Services this year due to low attendance.

Unfinished Business:

1. Steeple update: Loon Roofing will be here on January 11 to put louvers on three sides of the steeple, as one was broken, and the west side needs cosmetic repair because of a hole. Work continues on this project.
2. Memorial Committee By-Law Amendment – following discussion, the Council approved a proposal for the Congregation, at the Annual Meeting, to deactivate the Memorial Committee. The task of notifying families would be taken over by the Assistant Financial Secretary, and the task of seeing to the plaques and mounting on Memorial Boards has yet to be determined.
3. There are no insurance updates at this time.

New Business:

- Budget: The motion was made by Scott Harrison that Council approve the 2024 Proposed Budget of \$151,578.72; Chris Porter seconded. Motion approved. The Budget will now go to the members for an approval vote at the Annual Meeting on January 28.
- Nominations to Council: The motion was made by Judy Welch that Council accept the nominations for the new Council members; Myra Elias seconded. Motion approved. An approval vote will go to members at the Annual Meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Osborn for Kris Richards, FCCF Church Council Clerk



# Thank you ...

- Leo and Susie Hughes for hosting last year's Christmas Caroling Party! (Trying to juggle so many balls in the air, we simply forgot to acknowledge your graciousness.) And thank you to all who caroled. It made a lot of people really happy.
- Jeanne and Tom Hafer for the great potato soup and cake for Mason's baptism. It was delish!
- Dawn & Serenity Schulz for bringing all the nativity costumes and Christmas decor for sorting. It's a long job, but definitely worth the effort.
- Al Bryant for all your programs that enlightened and entertained. All good things must come to an end, and we are sad this is true of Al's Academies, too. You are truly appreciated!

## All the Time in the World

In the Bhagavad Gita, the question is asked: "Of all the world's wonders, what is the most wonderful?" The answer is simple and direct: "That no person, though they see others dying all around themselves, believes that they themselves will die." Death is something we expect to postpone until we have received our fair share of what life has to offer us. If we believe we will live as long as we wish, we can afford to waste time; we can spend precious days, months, even years engaged in mindless activity and fruitless relationships.

We can wait until we arrange our career, our friends and our possessions just the way we like. We can work for decades on our psychology, our spirituality and our finances until we are perfectly content with our lives. Then - finally ready to begin our lives in earnest - we gather up the fruits of our labor and are rewarded with a happy and fulfilling life, free to enjoy for many years the harvest of all our good work.

If we buy this illusion that we will live forever, we can waste all the time in the world before we are ready to live. But this notion of "all the time in the world" is a seductive lie.

-Wayne Muller

## Prayer Concerns

Susie Anderson  
Al Bryant  
Doug Erdman  
Margaret Forman  
Jim Gallogly  
Missi Gilbert  
Cookie Godsey  
Marshel Holmgren  
Alma House  
Ray Jarocki  
John Keillor  
Becky Reed Kelly  
Roger Klabunde  
Gussie Lamerson  
Jim McDaniel  
Beth McNamara  
Victoria Mekas  
Marti Mollema  
Ron Phillips  
Roger Schultz  
Carissa Smith  
Cathie Stall  
Lee Streeter  
Mark Wood  
Peter Young

### Military

Tyler Kinney  
Ryan Ruddy

### Hospice

Don Limer

### The Families of

Ryan Clement  
Willy Lee  
Gene Luxford  
Gary & Gladys Parks  
Ed Pearce  
Irene Rath  
Fred Scarbrough  
Muriel Williams

### Assisted Living

Charlie Seipelt  
John Young

### Senior Living

#### At Home

Marilyn Reed

### Cadillac

Don Bondarenko

### The Maples

Sandy Gill  
Dave Siuda  
Lee Streeter  
Dori Turner

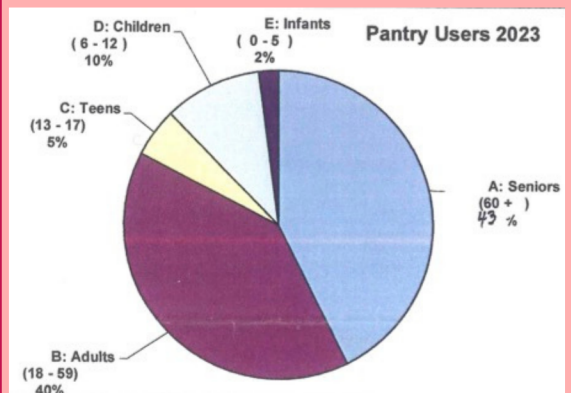
### The Homesteader

Mary & Roy Pearce  
Bea Stone

### The Pines

Nora Bungard

## Mission Corner: Benzie Food Partners, 2023



Avg. # of Households / Families Served	per month	80
Avg. # of Single Heads of Households	per month	53
Cumulative Total # of Benzie County Residents Served		2118
Cumulative Total # of Seniors Served		904
Cumulative Total # of Children Served		368
Cumulative # of Pounds Distributed		47393
Avg. # of Pounds per Family per Pantry		49
New Registrations 2023		20



# FEBRUARY

2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 8:00 a.m. MOBBI  9:30 a.m. Yoga Group  Oliver Simmons	2	3   David Koenig
4 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal  10:30 a.m. Worship, <u>Communion,</u> <u>&amp; Council</u> <u>Commissioning</u>  Ryan Strom	5 6:00 p.m. MOBBI	6 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. MOBBI  <b>*1:15 p.m. Online 2:00 p.m. In-Person Coffee's on Dinah Petals &amp; Perks</b>  4:00 p.m. MOBBI  Evin Elias Jenna Schwyer	7 8:30 - 1:00 p.m. MOBBI & 5:30  4:00 p.m. Council Meeting  7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal  Norma Bruinsma	8 8:00 a.m. MOBBI  9:00 a.m. Dining Room In Use  4:00 p.m. <u>Outreach Meeting</u>  Asher Locicero	9   Jeffrey Frostic Kelly Ottinger	10   <b>4:00 p.m. FCCF at 'The Garden Theater 'Grease' Sing-a Long: Free</b>  Lori Dougherty Leslie McElduff
11 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal  10:30 a.m. Worship	12 6:00 p.m. MOBBI  Owen Chownyck	13 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. MOBBI  <b>*1:15 p.m. Online 2:00 p.m. In-Person Coffee's on Dinah</b>  4:00 p.m. MOBBI  4:00 p.m. <u>Property Meeting</u>  Paul Robinson	14 8:30 - 1:00 p.m. MOBBI & 5:30  10:30 a.m. <u>Worship Meeting</u>  4:00 p.m. <u>Council Meeting</u>  7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal  Molly Frostic	15 8:00 a.m. MOBBI  9:30 a.m. Yoga Group  Amy King  <b>HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY</b>	16   Lacey Deloria	17   Cheryl Acklin Sharon Grajcar
18 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal  10:30 a.m. Worship	19 6:00 p.m. MOBBI  Lily Welch	20 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. MOBBI  <b>*1:15 p.m. Online 2:00 p.m. In-Person Coffee's on Dinah</b>  4:00 p.m. MOBBI  Molly Harrison Isabelle Osborn Kati Prance	21 8:30 - 1:00 p.m. MOBBI & 5:30  7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	22 8:00 a.m. MOBBI  9:30 a.m. Yoga Group	23	24
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# Steepleviews

First Congregational Church of Frankfort  
431 Forest Avenue  
Frankfort, MI 49635



When we love, we  
always strive to become  
better than we are.  
When we strive to  
become better than we  
are, everything  
around us becomes  
better too.

PAULO COELHO

February is the border between winter and spring.  
[ TERRI GUILLEMETS ]

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Council Minutes	5	18	Alma House, Ann Osborn Jennifer Osborn, Betty Webb	Robin MacKenzie
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