

Steepleviews

MAY 2024

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF FRANKFORT, MI

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

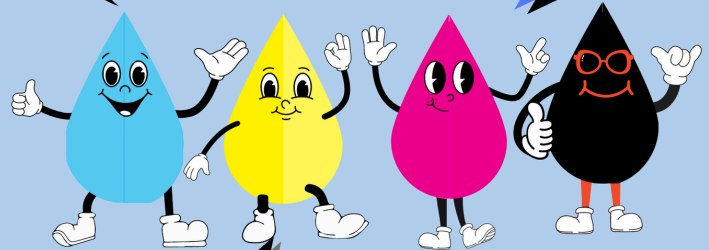
1	Tyler Grant Kerry Buzzell Jackson Deloria Richard Henry Dylan Prance-Jewel
2	Michael Grant Julie Hirschfeld Amber Holmgren Nicole Holmgren
3	Mary Bateman Katie Gokey Mariah Manning Beth McNamara Candace Nostrandt
4	Diane Tracy
5	Janet Pearce Betty Webb
6	Mary Dykstra Leo Hughes Serenity Schulz
7	Liam Condon Bob King
8	Morgan Gokey Jacob Grant Gail Nugent
9	Alma House John Henry
13	Marijke Church
16	Peter Penfold Justus Young
17	Jetta Kelly
19	Dawn Schulz Molly and Scott Harrison
20	Jared and Jordin Kelly
21	Becky and Matt Addis
22	Michael Elwell Les Webb
23	Marilee and Wayne Strom
24	Emily Lepke Randy and Katherine Johnson
26	Mason Harris
27	Donna Phillips Faith and Jack Dulaney
28	Rita and Sean Morris
29	Randy Johnson Julie Morris Sean Morris
30	Gus Gigous

COMING EVENTS

May	National Bike Month Mental Health Month Asian Pacific American Heritage Month
5	Cinco De Mayo (Coffee Fellowship: No margaritas but other good snacky snacks!)
12	Mother's Day
19	Pentecost (Feel free to wear red!)
24	The Gathering at Nancy Riecker's Home
27	Memorial Day (Honoring US Armed Forces Service)

First
Congregational
Church of
Frankfort

Wants
Your
Empty
Ink
Cartridges!



Help us help
the earth one
cartridge
at a time

You can drop
them off at
431 Forest Ave
or City Hall

Feel free to
spread the word!

Pastor's Note

The 1776 version of A New Dictionary of the Terms Ancient and Modern of the Canting Crew included the Scottish proverb: It is ill making a silk purse of a sow's lug, or a touting [= tooting] horn of a tod's [= fox's] tail. Much of the Covid epidemic would fall under that category, but not all of it.

It taught us how quickly some folks can think on their feet. And it taught us that one of the most precious aspects of life is communication and relationships. And it taught us, at FCCF, that our church reach is much greater than the surrounds of Frankfort.

That happened when we went to live-streaming our worship services, and with so much coming at us at once, the thing that worked hung on for a long time, regardless of how good it was - or not. When the process of live-streaming began, it mainly fell between Facebook Live and YouTube. (Either one would have worked, but truthfully, YouTube seemed so much bigger and scarier!) But it wasn't as user friendly from the viewers side of things.

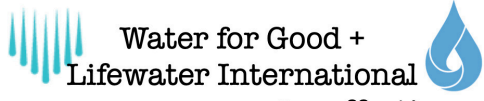
About a month or so ago, it became unfriendly from the technical side of things. For whatever reason, Facebook wasn't allowing us to do our thing. We still haven't figured out the reason, but it became a good motive for looking into YouTube as a host for our live-streamed events.

With great thanks to Leo Hughes, the switch happened almost overnight. There are still a few hiccups, but it seems far easier for people to watch a YouTube video than one on Facebook. Thus we have entered another realm of ministry to God's people.

How often do we shy away from things because they are new? Or "We've never done it that way before!" Or "We've always done it this way before!" (Those last two have been called the Seven Deadly Sins of the Church!) Change? Change? My grandmother gave the church that lightbulb!

I would never wish a plague on anyone, ever. But that most recent one has moved us as citizens of the earth, not always in ways we wished. Through it, and as always, God never leaves us, never forsakes us, and loves us more than we have words to describe. And that's downright astounding! I hope you have a great month of greening up! Pastor Dinah

Missions Moment



Water for Good + Lifewater International announce a merger effective January 1, 2024

Founded in 1977, Lifewater is a faith-based organization serving hard-to-reach places in Ethiopia, Uganda, Tanzania, and Cambodia. Using the "Vision of a Healthy Village" approach, they focus on sustainable access to safe water, hygiene, and latrines. Their 149 employees are headquartered in Bentonville, Arkansas, and Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

In 2004, Water for Good was founded by a missionary who saw the great need for clean water in the Central African Republic (CAR). The mission? Providing reliable water services in one of the poorest countries in the world. Water for Good is headquartered in Indianapolis, Ind., with 180 staff working remotely in the United States, Europe and the Central African Republic.

These two companies are excited to use their combined expertise to impact these countries with sustainable, safe water and improved sanitation and hygiene training. Their headquarters will be in Bentonville, Ark., and Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, with staff working remotely all over the globe. They will be using the name Water for Good, because Lifewater is often mistaken for LIFEWTR (bottled water) and Life Straws. When you do a Google search, LIFEWTR is often the first result. As an organization, Water for Good has stronger name recognition in the WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) sector, including with foundations.

In 2023, 124 new water points were created, 3,628 hand pumps received maintenance and 5,167,900 jerry cans of water were collected from tapstands, rather than walking up to 30 miles for muddy stream water!



MAY IS

First Congregational Church's Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Month

Thank you for teaching and sharing
with children about the love of Christ!



Saint Ann Of Frankfort
CATHOLIC CHURCH

PRELUDE TO THE Passionate Piano

MAY 5, 2024 AT 3:00 PM
AT SAINT ANN OF FRANKFORT
508 CRYSTAL AVE, FRANKFORT, MI 49635

SOLOIST: DR. HYEMIN KIM

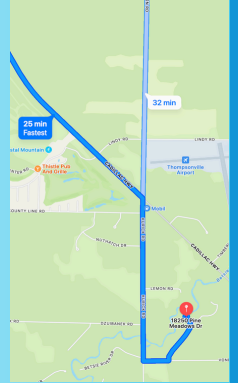
FREEWILL DONATION
RECEPTION TO FOLLOW



Friday, May 24, 6:00 P.M.
There Will Be

A Gathering

at Nancy Rieker's Home
18250 Pine Meadows Dr.
Thompsonville
(231) 392-9478



- MI15 past Crystal Mountain
- right onto S. Weldon Rd. for a mile
- left onto Vondra Rd.
- 900 feet - left on Pine Meadows Dr.
- After 1/3 mile
- 4th house on the left
- Bring your own beverage
- and a dish to share.
- Non-alcoholic drinks
- and service will be provided.



BENZONIA ACADEMY LECTURE JOIN US FOR **LUMBER ERA GHOST TOWNS OF BENZIE**
THURSDAY MAY 9 | 7 P.M.
GONE BUT NOT QUITE FORGOTTEN
 AT THE MILLS COMMUNITY HOUSE
 891 Michigan Ave. | Benzonia, MI 49616
 PRESENTED BY **JERRY HEIMAN** LOCAL HISTORIAN
 VISIT US ONLINE AT: /BenzieAreaHistoricalSociety, /benziehistorical, /benziehistorical, www.benziehistorical.org

FRANKFORT & ELBERTA
Restaurant WEEK 2024
MAY 6-12 \$15, \$25 & \$35 SPECIALS ALL WEEK LONG
 FOR RESTAURANTS, MENUS, OR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:
FrankfortElbertaRestaurantWeek.com

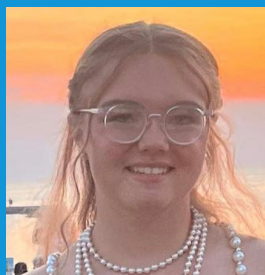
Dine Out for BACN
 BENZIE AREA CHRISTIAN NEIGHBORS
 A CARING COMMUNITY OF NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS
 SINCE 1917 **WATERVALE INN**
 "We are looking forward to hosting a BACN dinner on Thursday, 30 May at 6:30 pm. The cost will be \$50 per person, with wine being an additional \$10 per glass. This pricing includes tax and gratuity. As a reminder, we don't accept credit cards, so guests should plan to pay by cash or check payable to Watervale Inn. We will begin taking reservations on May 1, and can be contacted via email at frontdesk@watervaleinn.com or by phone at 231.352.9083."

Congrats!

Ezra Church and Serenity Schulz are on the next leg of their life's journeys!

Ezra attended Benzie Central High School, and Serenity attended Frankfort High School.

All are invited to Serenity's graduation on Sunday, June 2, 1:00 p.m. at Frankfort High School.



Will be providing **FREE** Vision Screenings and a pair of glasses, if needed, at Benzonja Congregational Church on July 29, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Email klindell@fatherfred.org or phone 231-947-2055 for reservations.

AND, they will provide (toddlers to teens) new shoes, socks and school supplies that same day - until supplies last.



Luke Reed was recognized by the Michigan Center for Interprofessional Education (C-IPE) in its quest for outstanding contributions to advancing interprofessional education and practice. Luke and eight other professors, students, and a lecturer created a class that "provides Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) and Doctors of Physical Therapy (D.P.T) students the opportunity to practice interprofessional collaborative care while assisting community members who have had a stroke to walk farther and faster." That's a whole lot of cool!



Mahalabelle (Bella) Gigous on graduating from Southern New Hampshire University with a Major in English and a double minor in Communication and Business Communication. (She earned several special honors too. And carried a straight A Average the whole way. She worked hard!)



Bill and Shar Hammond

welcomed a new grandbaby into the family on April 3rd! Wilder Brooks Hammond was born to Beau and Maggie.



COUNCIL MINUTES

FCCF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES April 10, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 pm followed by the opening prayer.

The minutes from the March 13, 2024 meeting were reviewed. With one correction noted of error in typing under the Worship Committee report, the minutes will be corrected. With noted correction, the rest are approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Scott Harrison

1. Offerings for the month of March: \$13,022.00
2. Total income for March: \$15,942.07
3. Budgeted expenses for March: \$14,525.01
4. **Net income** for the end of March: \$1,417.06

Scott noted that we are in a good financial position at this time. The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

Committee Reports

No Reports: Constitution & By-Laws, Nominating, Personnel, Religious Education, Finance: refer to Treasurer's Report.

Investment: Leo Hughes—Leo will meet with Ed Schindler to discuss the Baird accounts. During that meeting, Leo will also schedule a meeting with Ed to meet with the Council and Investment Committees.

Missions: Myra Elias -No report. A meeting is scheduled for April 24th and a full report will be given to the council at the May Council meeting.

Outreach: Kelly Ottinger – The committee is scheduled to meet April 11th and a full report will be given to the council at the May Council meeting.

Women's Fellowship: Myra Elias – There will be a meeting on Saturday, April 20th at 9:00am for all women of the church. There was one funeral and dinner held for the family of Mary Reed.

Pastor's Report: Dinah Haag – Report submitted

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: None

Property: Tom Hafer – The mulch has been placed around the church building and parsonage, thanks to all who helped make that happen. The fire alarm alert system has been updated. The alarms now have a sensor that if an alarm goes off, the alert pods will send a text alert to Dinah first. If she's not available the alert will continue to the next person until someone receives the alert message and calls 911. The list of contacts in order: Dinah Haag, Myra Elias, Tom Hafer, Dennis Richards. The alert can not contact 911 directly. Church Mutual has approved us for another alert pod for the church basement and an entire kit for the parsonage, with an extra pod for the upstairs. Still checking in on the final cost. The pods are \$50.00 and the kits are \$150.00. The committee is investigating whether approval from Church Mutual means free of charge. The tree stump on 5th Street has been removed and the Property Committee is researching how to refresh the area between the sidewalk and street. Tom met with Josh Mills to get his approval on possible ideas. Josh seemed to be very positive with what Tom presented. Many projects are being worked on. Check with any Property Committee member if you are interested in things that have been completed or ongoing projects.

Worship Committee: Ann Osborn—Palm Sunday was celebrated with two choir anthems. Easter was celebrated with Nancy Reed playing the trumpet during the hymns. Easter flowers were delivered from Pleasanton Nursery, but the daffodils were too far gone, so yellow tulips were used instead. The Committee members will look for another supplier for next year.

The Committee, with Dinah's help, will investigate CCLI vs. CCS licensing laws for music copyright. Many restrictions and rules must be followed regarding the music used, copied, and presented during services.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50pm

Respectfully submitted,
Kris Richards, FCCF Church Council Clerk

THANK YOU!

- Tom Hafer and Dennis Richards for doing some handyman jobs around the church. It is so good to have people that can figure out a solution to those irritations that one can often find on the back burner.
- Women's Fellowship for changing out the dining room tablecloths and straightening up the pantry a bit.

Household Hazardous Waste and Electronics Collections 2024



APPOINTMENTS ARE REQUIRED!

Make an appointment for the collection that is most convenient for you.

Saturday, June 8th | 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
at Frankfort High School

July 13th *TIRES ONLY* | Thompsonville

Saturday, August 24th | 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
at the Honor Road Commission

benzierecycler@benzieco.net | 231-882-0554
facebook: Benzie County Recycling

Acceptable items: base paints, stains, thinners, cleaning solvents, contaminated oil, antifreeze, old gasoline, pesticides, insecticides, chemicals, compact and tube fluorescent bulbs, muriatic acid, household batteries, unwanted and expired medications, sharp needles, mercury, computer equipment and small miscellaneous electronics

Unacceptable items: latex paints*, water based products, automotive batteries, ammunition, propane canisters.

Benzie County residents will be able to have their mattresses and box springs recycled at our collection events for a fee of \$15/unit. There is a limit to mattresses per collection site, so call now to get on the list!

*latex paints can be taken to Nugent Ace Hardware or Honor Building Supply to be recycled for a small fee.

Prayer Concerns

Paul Acklin
Nancy Call
Doug Erdman
Sarah Fought
Jim Gallogly
Cookie Godsey
Eileen Gross
Shawn Gunning
David Hagen
Marshel Holmgren
Alma House
Harold Kennedy
*Sue King
Daniel Kinney
Roger Klabunde
Marilyn Koenig
Victoria Mekas
Robin MacKenzie
Daniel Matthews
Michael Matthews
Dan Nostrandt
Ron Phillips
Katie Robinson
Tim Roling
Dawn Schulz
Jim Stevens
Josh Stoltz
Jason Swein
Carol Webb
Charlie Welch
Tim Welch
Ann Wheeler
Mark Wood
Chris Young
Peter Young

The Families of

Brent Bradley
Al Brown
Denis Cannart
Margaret Forman
Cookie Godsey
Gertrude Gross
Nels Nelson
Beverly Schmitt

Assisted Living

Charlie Seipelt
John Young

Senior Living At Home

Marilyn Reed

Cadillac

Don Bondarenko

The Maples

Dave Siuda
Lee Streeter
Dori Turner

The Homesteader

Mary & Roy Pearce
Bea Stone

The Pines

Nora Bungard

Military

Tyler Kinney
Ryan Ruddy

Hospice

Don Limer
Doreen Miller

HOW TO TAKE ACTION TO END CHILD SEX-TRAFFICKING



If you see something suspicious,
MAKE THE CALL!

To report a tip or connect with anti-
trafficking services contact:

- **National Center for Missing & Exploited Children: 1-800-843-5678**
if you have information about a missing or exploited child, call to report it or visit cybertipline.com
- **National Human Trafficking Hotline available 24/7/365: 1-888-373-7888**
- **In an emergency, dial 911**

MAY

2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<p>1 8:30 - 1:00 p.m. MOBBI & 5:30</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>Learn to Ride a Bike Day</p> 	<p>2 8:00 a.m. MOBBI</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Yoga Group</p> <p>Michael Grant Julie Hirschfeld Amber Holmgren Nicole Holmgren</p>	<p>3 Mary Bateman Katie Gokey Mariah Manning Beth McNamara Candace Nostrandt</p> <p>NATIONAL SPACE DAY</p> 	<p>4 Diane Tracy</p> <p><i>Kentucky Derby</i></p> 
<p>5 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Worship</p> <p>Janet Pearce Betty Webb</p> <p>CINCO DE MAYO</p> 	<p>6 6:00 p.m. MOBBI</p> <p>Leo Hughes Mary Dykstra Serenity Schulz</p> <p>National Nurses Day</p> 	<p>7 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. MOBBI</p> <p>4:00 p.m. MOBBI</p> <p>4:00 p.m. <u>Property Meeting</u></p> <p>Liam Condon Bob King</p>	<p>8 8:30 - 1:00 p.m. MOBBI & 5:30</p> <p>10:30 a.m. <u>Worship Meeting</u></p> <p>4:00 p.m. <u>Council Meeting</u></p> <p>7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>Morgan Gokey Jacob Grant Gail Nugent</p>	<p>9 8:00 a.m. MOBBI</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Yoga Group</p> <p>4:00 p.m. <u>Outreach Meeting</u></p> <p>John Henry Alma House</p> <p>LOST SOCK MEMORIAL DAY</p> 	<p>10</p> <p>SHRIMP DAY</p> <p><i>SHRIMP THE BEST</i></p> 	<p>11</p> <p>Miniature Golf Day</p> 
<p>12 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Worship</p> <p>HAPPY Mother's DAY</p> 	<p>13 6:00 p.m. MOBBI</p> <p>Marijke Church</p> <p>National Apple Pie Day</p> 	<p>14 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. MOBBI</p> <p>4:00 p.m. MOBBI</p> <p>Dance Like a Chicken Day</p> 	<p>15 8:30 - 1:00 p.m. MOBBI & 5:30</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>16 8:00 a.m. MOBBI</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Yoga Group</p> <p>Peter Penfold Justus Young</p> <p>National Barbecue Day</p> 	<p>17 Jetta Kelly</p> <p>ENDANGERED SPECIES DAY</p> 	<p>18 WORLD ASTRONOMY DAY</p> 
<p>19 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Worship</p> <p>Dawn Schulz Molly and Scott Harrison</p>	<p>20 6:00 p.m. MOBBI</p> <p>National Rescue Dog Day</p> <p>Jared and Jordin Kelly</p>	<p>21 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. MOBBI</p> <p>4:00 p.m. MOBBI</p> <p>Becky and Matt Addis</p>	<p>22 8:30 - 1:00 p.m. MOBBI & 5:30</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>Michael Elwell Les Webb</p>	<p>23 8:00 a.m. MOBBI</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Yoga Group</p> <p>World Turtle Day</p> <p>Marilee and Wayne Strom</p>	<p>24 6:00 p.m. The Gathering @ Nancy Riecker's Home</p> <p>Emily Lepke Randy and Katherine Johnson</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Worship</p> <p>Mason Harris</p>	<p>27 MEMORIAL DAY</p> <p>Donna Phillips Jack and Faith Dulaney</p>	<p>28 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. MOBBI</p> <p>4:00 p.m. MOBBI</p> <p>Rita and Sean Morris</p>	<p>29 Randy Johnson Julie Morris Sean Morris</p> <p>7</p>	<p>30 Gus Gigous</p> <p>National Creativity Day</p> 	<p>31 Smile Day</p> 	

Steepleviews

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



"Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving."
 [ALBERT EINSTEIN]

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Date	May Greeters & Ushers Head Usher: Bill Hirschfeld	Sunday School Teacher	Camera Controller
5	Dawn Schulz, Ann Osborn, Kris and Dennis Richards	Jim MacKenzie	Michael Webb
12	Julie and Mike Morris, Nancy Riecker, Kelly Ottinger	Linda Schweyer	Leo Hughes
19	Katherine & Randy Johnson, Jim & Robin MacKenzie	Robin MacKenzie	Michael Webb
26	Michael and Sharon Grajcar, Kathy Sheridan, Sue King	Becky Addis	Leo Hughes

Kitchen Patrol and Coffee Prep: Missi Gilbert