

The Lakeshore Congregationalist

SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1860

February 2019

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH OF SAUGATUCK

296 Hoffman St. PO Box 633
Saugatuck, MI 49453



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Office Information

Office Hours: Tues-Thurs 10am-2pm
Email: Office@1stCongregational.Net
Website: 1stCongregational.Net

Our Covenant

We covenant with the Lord and with one another, and do bind ourselves in the presence of God, to walk together in all his ways, according as he is pleased to reveal himself unto us in his blessed word of truth.

Our Goal

The church exists to change lives. That's what we're about. It's simple to say, harder to live. Every single week, we find a way to love God through worship, through one another, through fellowship, and through simple acts of service in the Saugatuck/Douglas area. We don't always get it right, but we have fun



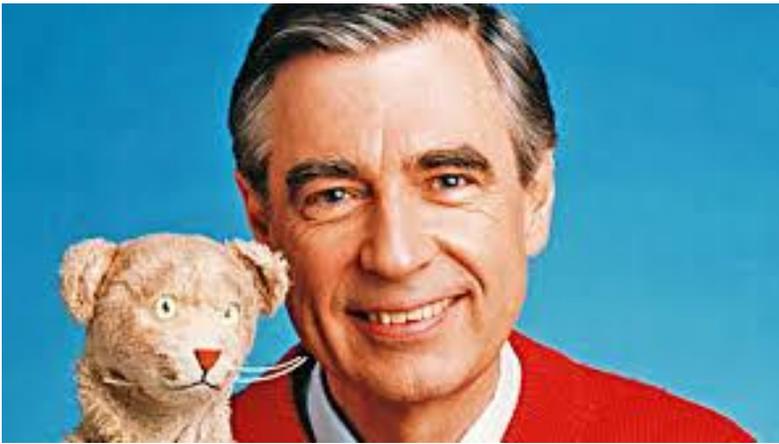
We believe in a world in which we need to share responsibility. It's easy to say, 'It's not my child, not my community, not my world, not my problem.' Then there are those who see the need and respond. I consider those people my heroes."

- Mister Fred Rogers

You may have noticed some new technology in the worship space. We are now recording our sermons for our very own YouTube channel! There is a tripod for our video camera set up on the right side of the sanctuary and some additional sound equipment set up behind the pulpit. For the last two weeks, just since we started our "Won't You Be My Neighbor?" worship series, we have been sharing our messages with our "internet neighbors."

What perfect timing to begin this new media opportunity! Each and every day, for over 30 years (from 1967-2001), Fred Rogers greeted his "television neighbor" on Mister Rogers Neighborhood by inviting them to play, explore, learn and grow alongside him. I like to think that he would be pleased at our new endeavor.

It is my hope that this new project becomes a thriving invitational tool for our community of faith! And it is one that everyone can use! First, check out the channel by searching "First Congregational Church of Saugatuck" on the YouTube site. There you can watch the sermons, comment, "like" and share the videos. I especially encourage you to consider sharing on your own social media platforms like Facebook. Also, I don't know about you (perhaps this is the Millennial in me...), it is unlikely that I would ever visit/worship with a new church community without first checking them out online.



So now we have even more research substance to offer people who may be “church shopping.” If you know of someone looking for a faith community to connect with, I encourage you to refer them to the website or our Facebook page, where they will find not only our sermon videos, but also information about our ministry partnerships, history, community values and upcoming events.

We are right in the middle of our “Won’t You Be My Neighbor?” Worship series, and we have weeks ahead of us exploring topics like forgiveness, authenticity, neighborliness and, of course, Mister Rogers’ favorite topic: worth. I pray that you are uplifted, encouraged and challenged by Mister Rogers’ many poignant lessons!

I’ll see you in the neighborhood! Bring your cardigan!

*“It’s a beautiful day in the neighborhood,
a beautiful day for a neighbor.
Would you be mine?
Could you be mine?...”*

All Together in Christ,
Pastor Sarah



GROOVE! Dance Class
Fridays @ 10am
Instructor: Heather Winia
Cost: \$7/session
EveryBODY welcome!

**Grace of Douglas
Worship Service**

Every Second Sunday

Next Worship:

February 10th @ 2pm

Everyone is welcome to lend their singing voice and friendship.



All the ladies of the church are invited to get together for Bible study and conversation

First Tuesday of the Month

Next gathering:

February 5th @ 10am



Check out the church’s new
YouTube Channel

Visit YouTube.com and search:

First Congregational Church of Saugatuck

There you will find videos of our Sunday sermons!



**Interested in learning
how to play Bridge?**

Betty White will be hosting a class on
**Saturday, February 16th
@ 2pm**

200 Lucy St. Saugatuck



Trivia Night & Taco Bar!

February 12th @ 6pm

Come and offer your brain power and fill up on tacos!

**Introducing Our New
Christian Education Director!
By Linda Escott, Christian Education Captain**



Karen Holstine has been married to her husband, Daniel, for 37 years. Together they have raised three children and now have eight grandchildren. Karen comes to us with diverse life experiences: a background in Human Resources; a school bus driver for Holland Public Schools; and she drives for our own Interurban. With her husband, Karen has ministered for 17 years as Evangelists. In this role, they have participated in revivals where Daniel has preached and, together, they've provided special music. (Both sing; Karen also plays the piano.) In her life experiences, Karen has collaborated in a community based Vacation Bible School program.

Karen brings many gifts and has a strong passion for working with children. She loves the openness children display, their innocence of faith, their eagerness to learn. She has a heartfelt desire to teach the Word of God and to help the children develop their close, personal relationship with God!

If you haven't already, I hope you will take a moment to extend a hand of fellowship to Karen and welcome her into our church family!



Upcoming Meetings

- 2/8 Pastoral Relations Meeting @ 11:30am
- 2/13 Board of Ministry Orientation Meeting,
Wednesday @ 7pm

Fellowship Hosts

- 2/3 Linda Kinnaman, Justine Kolev
- 2/10 Tim & Sarah Terlouw
- 2/17 Linda Escott, Joanne Schippa
- 2/24 The Camarota & Van Raalte Families

Scripture Readers

- 2/3 Kathy Plapp
- 2/10 Cathy Brockington
- 2/17 Linda Escott
- 2/24 David Edwards

Welcome Team

- 2/3 Cathy Brockington
- 2/10 The Gentry Family
- 2/17 The Rusiecki Family
- 2/24 Kristyn Boyce

Children's Story-Time Leader

- 2/3 *available*
- 2/10 Betty White
- 2/17 Pat Gentry
- 2/24 *available*

DONATION LETTERS ARE ON THEIR WAY!

Due to the foul weather the last week in January, this office (ie: Doris) is a little behind on getting your 2018 donation receipts to you. You should be receiving your letter by the 12th. Please call if you don't or would like a copy emailed to you.

Reminder for tax season: Charitable giving for tax purposes in 2019 will be changing! Contact your accountant or CPA to discuss maximizing your giving for 2018!

A word from our Congregational Way Captain Cathy Brockington

A Christian Ministry in the National Parks A New Mission for NA Churches to Support

Linda Miller, Missions Administrator for the National Association of Congregation Christian Churches announced recently that the Mission and Outreach Ministry Council voted in November to add a new "Recommended Mission"-- A Christian Ministry in the National Parks (ACMNP) This mission was recommended to the Council by the Warden Community Church, WA.

This mission, based in Colorado, provides a positive God-honoring impact on the National/State Park communities that include park visitors, concessionaire employees, and park employees. The mission teams lead worship services and provide opportunities to cultivate a sense of community with coworkers. They also provide leadership training. They have a presence in 40 - 45 national parks with 275 mission team workers. The web page address is ACMNP.com, if you'd like to read more about this ministry.

Saugatuck Congregational Church members may recognize this organization because Laird and Virginia Stuart were active in the early days, spending seasons in the Grand Tetons National Park. Later Laird was on the board for this mission.



We have been talking about it... we have been dreaming about it... we have been praying about it... but now is the time! 2019 is the year for us to put a new roof on our beloved church building. Our current roof was re-shingled almost 30 years ago and we are just starting to see leaks. So, now is the time to get on top of the issue and give our building some much needed attention and care.

In the Under This Roof Campaign it is our goal to raise \$30,000 within the congregation, while pulling another \$30,000 from the church's savings to meet these needs (this is not coming from the restricted endowment fund). In the fall of 2018, our Trustees met with several roofing companies and the project has been estimated to be about \$50,000-\$55,000- this is a full shingle removal and replacement. Planning for a \$60,000 investment into our building leaves us a little room for additional building projects.

To start off this Under This Roof Campaign we are issuing a "kick-off" matching challenge. We have a couple families in the church that have come together to challenge the congregation to raise \$5,000 in February and March, and they will match your contribution dollar-for-dollars up to that \$5,000 mark! So here is your opportunity to double your gift's impact!

So far we have raised \$620. Please consider contributing to the Under This Roof Campaign!

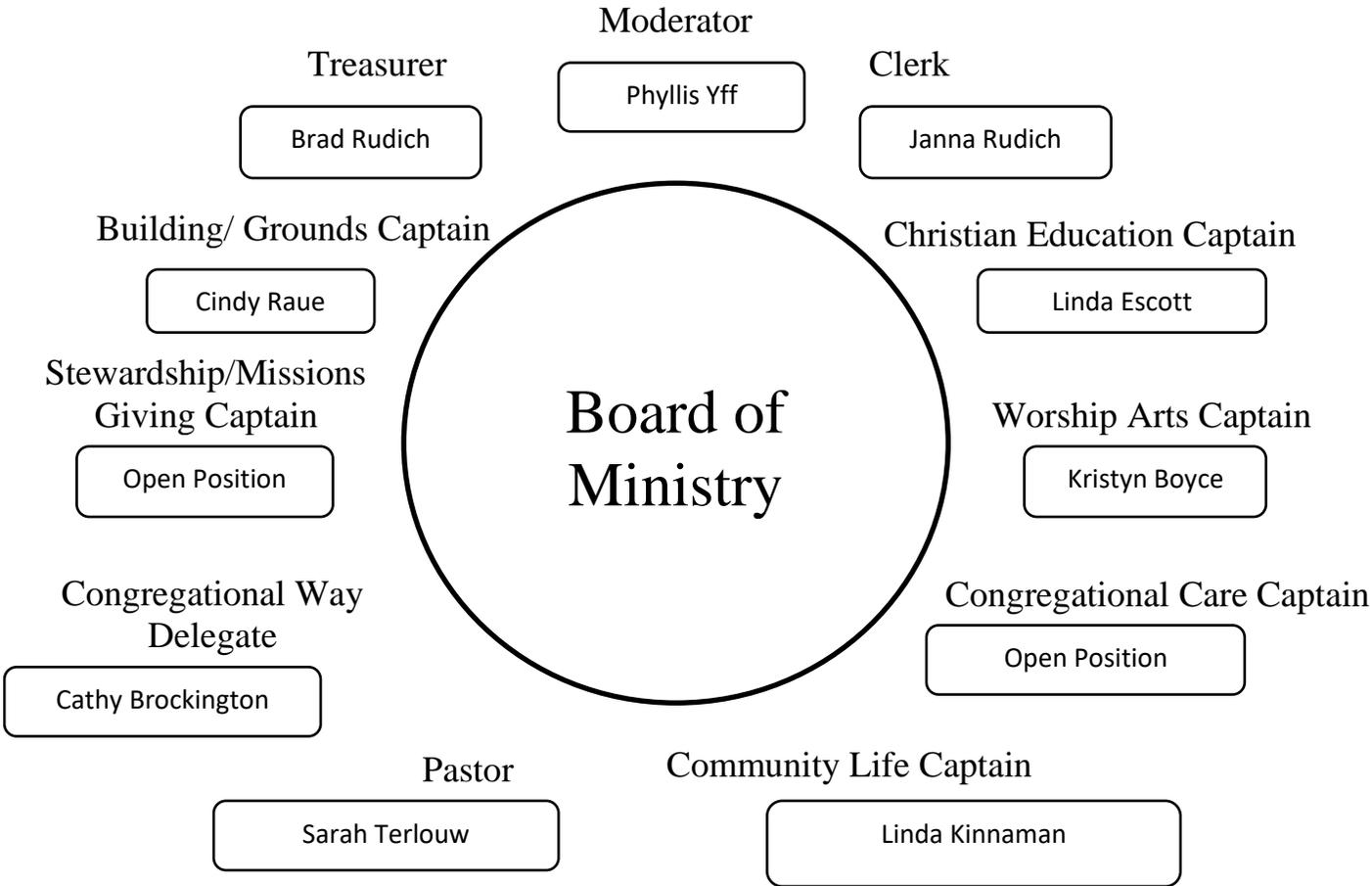


Pastoral Care

Pastor Sarah makes pastoral calls at home and hospitals by need and request. Feel free to contact her if you or someone you know would

appreciate a visit: 989-640-1487 or rev.sarahgladstone@gmail.com. Please be aware that hospitals and care facilities will not contact clergy if someone is being admitted. Our Shepherds are also happy to help coordinate meal deliveries.

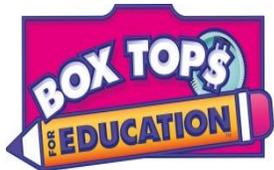
Introducing Your Newly
Elected Leadership



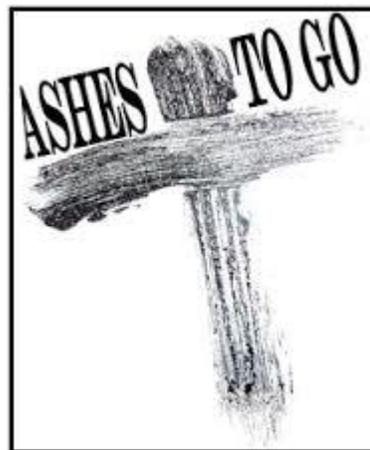
**A word from our
Christian Education Captain, Linda Escott**

LIDS, LIDS, LIDS

For a year or so, our Sunday School program has been collecting lids (of various sizes) and other items for future projects. We truly appreciate your support and all the "gifts" you've donated for these projects. At this time we wanted to let you know that ***we have enough items for our current needs.*** We thank you for your help and promise to let you know of any future needs as they arise...Like:



There is now a collection box for Box Tops For Education clippings in our donation area by the handicap entrance.



Stop by Ashes to Go on

March 6th from 11am-1pm

Pastor Sarah will be out-and-about around town (look by the post office and the drug store).

Look Ahead to March

- "Ashes To Go" will be held on Wednesday March 6th, out and about around town
- Our Wednesday evening Lenten soup suppers will begin Wednesday, March 13th.
- Michigan PF Spring Retreat is March 8-10 – early registration due by February 17. Contact the office for registration info.



Barb Baker 02/11

Kathy Plapp 02/16

Janna Rudich 02/20

Marilyn Tyler 02/20

Bryan Shields 02/24

Greg Van Portfleet 02/24

Joanne Schippa 02/25

Jeff VanderMolen 02/27

Wedding Anniversary...

Mark & Linda Kinnamon 2/10

Check out our
new church
logo!!!



February 2019

First Congregational Church Activity Calendar
Sunday Worship Services – 10:00am (Nursery Provided)
 Communion 1st Sunday of the month
Sunday School – 10:15am
Fellowship after Worship – 11:00am
Office Hours: Tues, Wed, Thurs – 10:00-2:00

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday 1	Saturday 2
					Groove 10	
3 Communion Worship	4	5 WFC 10am	6	7	8 Groove 10 Pastoral Relations Meeting 11:30	9
10 Grace of Douglas @ 2pm	11 District 3AA 7 pm	12 Trivia Night 6pm	13 Board Orientation 7 pm	14 	15 Groove 10	16 Bridge @ the White's house! 2pm
17	18	19 CubScouts 6:30	20	21	22 Groove 10	23
24	25	26	27	28	01 Groove 10	02

