

The Lakeshore Congregationalist

July 2018

First Congregational Church – Serving the community since 1860



FCC's Contact Information:

296 Hoffman St., PO Box 633
Saugatuck, MI 49453
269-857-2929

Office Hours: Tues, Wed, Thurs 10-2

Email: office@1stcongregational.net

Website: www.1stcongregational.net

Facebook: 1st Congregational
Saugatuck

Our Covenant

We covenant with the Lord and one with 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 trying.

***But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it.
Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth.***

***He said to her,
"Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering." Mark 5: 32-34***



Mark's gospel presents us with a very fast and furious story of the ministry of Jesus. No sooner has he begun than opposition mounts, and the plots to get rid of him never seem too far removed. Being only 16 chapters long, Mark seems not to mince any words as he tells us about the good news that Jesus brings to the world. He spends no time with dwelling on Jesus' past (through a genealogy, as does Matthew, or stories of events leading up to his birth, as does Luke). Rather, Mark starts right in with Jesus being baptized and beginning his important work.

This July we will encounter two re-MARK-able stories from Mark (some of my very favorite Scripture). First is Mark 5: 21-43, which concerns Jesus being summoned to the home of a synagogue leader. His daughter is very ill, and he begs Jesus to come and 'lay hands on her' that she might be made well and whole again. Jesus heads off but is interrupted by a woman who has been plagued with a hemorrhaging for 12 years. She secretly touches Jesus, just brushing her fingers over his robe, hoping to receive healing without anyone noticing. And, indeed, no one notices... except Jesus himself, who commends her for her faith. After this miracle interrupted, Jesus is told that the little girl has now died, that he is too late, but Jesus insists on seeing

re-MARK-able

Upcoming Meetings

- July 10** – Women’s Fellowship, 10am
July 10 – Trustees – 10:00 am
July 15 – Diaconate, 11:20 am
July 18 – Prudential, 6:00 pm

Fellowship Hosts – Contact:

Janna R. 269-857-5763

- July 1** – Choir
July 8 – Linda Kinnamon & Justine Kolev
July 15 – Lampen Family
July 22 – Char & Thom Houseman
July 29 – Joan & Frank Lamb

Scripture Readers – Contact:

Kristyn B. 616-218-7276

- July 1** – Linda Escott
July 8 – Linda Kinnaman
July 15 – Betty White
July 22 – Cindy Raue
July 29 – Ralph Birkholz

Welcome Team – Contact:

Pat G. 616-355-8720

- July 1** – Linda Escott
July 8 – Linda Kinnaman & Peggy Boyce
July 15 – Kirke & Betty White
July 22 – Kristyn Boyce
July 29 – Michael & Pat Gentry

Nursery Workers – Contact:

Connie R. 616-990-0997

- July 1** – Janna Rudich
July 8 –
July 15 –
July 22 –
July 29 –

her anyway. He makes his way to her bedside, past the long faces of her family, for Jesus sees beyond the veil of death- inviting her back to life again. Jesus notices and sees us. Miracle upon miracle.

The second re-MARK-able reading of July, Mark 6: 1-13, Jesus returns to his hometown and tries to do some good works. However, the people are less than welcoming. “He’s just a local kid,” they seem to say. “What good can he do?” In response to their disbelief in his ministry, Jesus finds he can perform no miracles among them... “Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house.”

Children of God, like Jesus, we can be called to minister in all sorts of different situations- on the fly, in moments of joy and sorrow alike, in places that might not see our value or worth... Sometimes we can do great things, while at other times our ministry is limited by people’s attitudes or even our own. And yet, the call continues and we dare not ignore it. As we head into July, I encourage you to consider a few things:

- When have you sought something quiet, only to be sought out?
- When have you been discounted in your hometown, or amongst friends and family?
- What have you discounted someone else, assuming their work or ministry cannot be valid?

Carry these questions with you into July. May they shape our hearing of God’s re-MARK-able word!

All together in Christ,
 Pastor Sarah





Outdoor Worship Services July 8

The second Sunday of the month is set aside for an outdoor service. If rain (like in June...) the service will be held indoors. Music will be provided by the Van Raalte Family! Bring a blanket or camp chair, and don't forget to invite a friend! *Volunteers are needed to set up & take*

Church Wide Picnic – July 15th!

Our annual picnic will be held the third Sunday in July at the home of Dale and Kathy Plapp, 3034 Harbor Rd.! Bring a yard chair, place setting or a dish to pass. Drinks, hot dogs and all condiments will be provided.



Summer Mission Project
Forgotten Man Ministries:

Mission statement:

To follow in Christ's footsteps by bringing the healing powers of the Great Physician to those incarcerated in Michigan's county jails"

July kicks off our summer mission. For the 4th of July parade, our children will be distributing waster to advertise the fundraising dinner in **August**. This will be the official start of our commercial kitchen!

The chaplain of the Allegan County Jail, Rev. Sarah Farkas, has helped up\ s put together a list of "in-kind" donations that are most requested at the FMM office. We will be collecting eye glasses, paperback books, adult coloring books and coloring materials. The "donation center" is located by the handicap door. Thank you to those who have already brought in their gifts!



Women's Fellowship Circle

You are invited to join us on **Tuesday, July 10th** at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This will be another special meeting for ***food service training***. Contact Cindy Raue for additional information and training dates if you are unable to make this meeting: kcRaue@gmail.com or 616-218-0779



GROOVE! EXERCISE CLASS

No class June 29th

Restart in July: Fridays at 10am at the church.

Instructor: Heather Winia Cost: \$7/session



Save your Lids and Recyclables!

Please continue to save plastic & metal lids. Drop them in the box marked "Lids" in the narthex. Also, metal pie plates, foam trays (any color) and empty cereal boxes are welcome. **Thank you! From Diana & the Sunday School Team.**

Sunday School Overview for July



Little things make a big difference

In our Summer Sunday School we will learn that ***Little things make a big difference***. Love them or hate them, bugs are a part of God's creation. As small as they are, these little things can give us some direction on how to live a life that glorifies God. Our children will make small steps to grow in their faith throughout the summer.

Our Summer Memory Verse

"The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands." Psalm 19:1 NIV

July 1 - Ladybug

Scripture: Acts 17:22-31, Paul in Athens

Synopsis: Some people believe that ladybugs bring good luck. God doesn't want us to trust in luck or anything other than him.

Objective: Kids will pray for something they are hoping will happen.

July 8 - Firefly

Scripture: Matthew 5:13-16, Salt and Light

Synopsis: In the summer time, few things light up the night like fireflies. God wants us to be his light in this world so others can find Jesus.

Objective: Kids will come up with one way they can show Jesus to their classmates.

July 15 - Grasshoppers

Scripture: Genesis 19:12-29, Lot Flees from Sodom and Gomorrah

Synopsis: No bug is harder to catch than the grasshopper. When they see trouble coming, they jump to safety. God wants us to jump and flee from temptation. Objective: Kids will state how they will get away when they are tempted to sin.

July 22 - Roly Poly

Scripture: 2 Chronicles 20:1-30, Jehoshaphat Leads Judah to Victory

Synopsis: When the Roly Poly gets spooked, he rolls up in a ball - and often gets bat- ted around! God doesn't want us to hide in fear, but to trust in him and be brave. Objective: Kids will state one fear they have that they want to give to Jesus.

July 29 - Praying Mantis

Scripture: Luke 18:9-14, Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector

Synopsis: The praying mantis only looks like he's talking to God; he's actually looking for something to eat! God wants us to be people who genuinely pray and seek Him. Objective: Kids will make a plan to spend time praying every day.



Kitchen Update From Cindy Raue

Our first Kitchen Training sessions, held during the June 10th Women's Fellowship meeting and after Sunday service on June 24, are under our belt. YEAH! I would like to thank all of those who have participated in training so far. Some good ideas were shared.

So far we have reviewed the first 6 items in the manual. The most important thing to remember, in my view, is that there are "Cheat Sheets" all over the kitchen. This is not so much an exercise in memory as it is a process for us all to participate in sharing our kitchen with our neighbors. A lot of the items are common sense, and everyone is encouraged to remind each other (with smiles) to correct an action. Since "we are all in this together", I look forward to many good and happy memories with everyone in and out of the kitchen.

Our next sessions will cover the last 6 items and are scheduled for the July 10th WFC meeting and after Coffee Hour on Sunday, August 5. Now if anyone missed the first 6 - and would still like some training - please join us on either of these two dates! We can work out another time to review the first 6 items. Copies of the manual are available in the kitchen.

I would like to share with everyone the *Introduction* in the manual:

We host two distinct kinds of food- related events here at the First Congregational Church of Saugatuck. Events that cater to church members, which are self-contained, (such as fellowship hour following the Sunday worship service, soup supper Bible studies during the Lenten season, youth lock-ins, etc.) and events that are hosted for the community (such as funerals, weddings, fund raisers, outreach events, etc.)

The following Standard Operating Procedure is intended for community oriented events. All the volunteers that serve in our kitchen commit to upholding this standard for the safety, peace of mind and ease of our neighbors.

Again - a BIG THANK YOU to those who joined in on the fun.

For interest in joining, please contact Cindy Raue at 616-218-0779 or kcraue@gmail.com.



JULY 27-28 **WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP** **GARAGE SALE!**

Place: Gleason's Storage Barn
(on Holland St., Saugatuck)

Clean out those storage spaces, closets and cupboards, and set aside any clean, gently used items for the sale. Drop off will be Thursday, July 26 (time TBD).

Save those plastic & paper grocery bags, too!



Current opportunities to serve include:

- Sunday Nursery – Contact Connie Rusiecki: [**Connie.rusiecki@gmail.com**](mailto:Connie.rusiecki@gmail.com)
- Welcome Team/Greeter & Scripture Reader – Contact Pat Gentry or Kristyn Boyce ([**pat.gentry22@gmail.com**](mailto:pat.gentry22@gmail.com) or [**kristynboyce@yahoo.com**](mailto:kristynboyce@yahoo.com))
- Acolytes/Bell Ringers – Contact Pastor Sarah: [**rev.sarahgladstone@gmail.com**](mailto:rev.sarahgladstone@gmail.com)
- Trustee Board – Contact Cathy Brockington or Phyllis Yff ([**caBrocking68@gmail.com**](mailto:caBrocking68@gmail.com) or [**pnee.kline@yahoo.com**](mailto:pnee.kline@yahoo.com))



Andrew Rudich	07/04
Myrna Dornan	07/15
Sydney Baker	07/15
Pat Gentry	07/22
Alex Brockington	07/23
Peggy Boyce	07/23
Avery Brockington	07/24
Elizabeth DeBoer	07/26
Thom Houseman	07/29



Am I missing anyone?

Member Spotlight - Tim Terlouw

Interviewed by Pastor Sarah

1) *Tell me about your hobbies and interests:*

I love food! I enjoy cooking, it is my passion. I like trying new things and new restaurants. I'm also a big reader, anything sci-fi and action. I enjoy taking photos, seeing movies, and discovering new places.

2) *Who are your greatest spiritual influences?*

My dad is a retired pastor, so he was probably my biggest influence. Sarah says he is a 'mystic.' Rev. Chandler Stokes from Westminster Presbyterian in Grand Rapids was really the pastor that brought me back to church after years away and remains a powerful voice in my life. Also, I have worked with Camp Sunshine, a camp for people with disabilities, for years! And through Camp Sunshine I was taught about acceptance, what it is to truly love your neighbor and being open to other people's stories and journeys.

3) *If you could choose a superpower, what would it be and why?*

I would choose Flash-like speed. Just think of all the places I could go!

4) *What does it mean to be the church?*

This is an ever-evolving answer for me. Church, to me now, is a place to connect with one another, a safe place to learn, ask questions, explore, and experience life.

5) *If you could live in any fictional reality, what would it be and why?*

Star Wars! Although I don't totally trust myself with a light saber, I've always wanted to train as a Jedi! I love the epic nature of the setting and the heroes.

6) *Is there anything you would like to tell the congregation?*

Be patient with me. I may seem quiet and reserved. But I am so looking forward to getting to know all of you.





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.



New Bible Study Class Begins July 10th @ 6:00 PM

To coincide with our summer mission collaboration with Forgotten Man Ministries, Pastor Sarah has chosen The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness by Michelle Alexander.

Books will be ordered and available before the first class. Cost is \$13.



Christian Neighbors Summer Cereal Collection

Throughout the summer, we welcome boxes of cereal to help the food pantry stock up – the #1 requested food item for kids during the summer break. We think of “holidays” or school lunches, but the truth is that summer is the most difficult time for kids without enough to eat. Share your love through a simple act of a box of cereal.



MI Congregational Summer Camp The Happiest Place on Earth™

-Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, Rejoice -

Sponsored by The Michigan Conference of Congregational Christian Churches

July 8 – July 13 YMCA Camp Ohiyesa (south of Fenton)

Any student who completed grades 3 through 8 may attend.

Registration materials are available in the office

*****Pastor Sarah will be participating on July 7 and 13*****

Youth Sunday



July 2018

First Congregational Church Activity Calendar

Sunday Worship Services – 10:00am (Nursery Provided)

Communion 1st Sunday of the month

Sunday School – 10:15am

Social Hour after Worship – 11:00am

Office Hours: Tues, Wed, Thurs – 10:00-2:00

DEACON OF THE MONTH: KRISTYN BOYCE

Sunday 1	Monday 2	Tuesday 3	Wednesday 4	Thursday 5	Friday 6	Saturday 7
Communion			Parade 2pm water distribution		Groove 10am	
8** <u>Outdoor Service – music by VanRaalte's</u> CE planning meeting 11:20 Grace of Douglas 2pm	9** District 3AA 7 pm	10** WFC 10am Food Service Training Trustees 10 am Bible Study 6 pm	11**	12**	13** Groove 10am	14
15 <u>ANNUAL PICNIC!!</u>	16	17 Diaconate 6 pm Bible Study 6 pm	18 Prudential 6 pm	19 CROP walk Planning 6pm	20 Groove 10am	21
22	23	24 Bible Study 6 pm	25	26	27 <u>WFC Garage</u> Groove 10 Wedding Rehearsal	28 <u>SALE</u> Wedding
29	30	31 Bible Study 6 pm	1	2	3 Groove 10am	4
<p>Bible Study: Theme will connect with our summer Forgotten Man mission project</p> <p>Outdoor Service: music provided by the Van Raaltes!</p> <p>**MI Congregational Summer Camp – July 8 through 13</p>						