



Thank you for joining us at the
First Congregational Church
PO BOX 633, 269 Hoffman, Saugatuck, Michigan 49453
269-857-2929 ★ Office@1stCongregational.Net
1stCongregational.Net

August 16th, 2020
First Congregational Church
Saugatuck, Michigan

What To Expect At Drive-In Church

- You can worship from the safety of your car! When you pull into the church parking lot you will be greeted by an usher who will help you park and will offer you a bulletin (or there will be a digital copy available on the website, 1stCongregational.Net). Tune into 89.7FM for the audio of the broadcast!
- If you would prefer to worship outside your car, you are welcome to bring your lawn chair and sit where you like. You will be expected to spread out, and if you plan on signing along with the hymns please leave at least 15' between your household and your neighbor. There will be "boombox" radios placed around the church property so that you can hear the radio broadcast.
- Kids! Attention families! There is an Activity Tent set up on the front lawn of the church. Kids (ages 6 and up) will be welcome during the worship service to come to the tent and do a craft. There are a few rules in the Activity Tent. 1) Kids need to wear a mask at all times. 2) They will be seated with their siblings or members from their household (kids or grandkids attending on their own will need a family member to come with them). 3) Supplies will not be shared between tables. We have two volunteers overseeing the Activity Tent. Our volunteers will be introducing the art project and helping kids social distance, but they will not be helping kids do their art. Sadly, nursery care will not be provided at this point.
- Please wear your mask when you are outside your car.
- Restrooms are available. Please sanitize your hands upon entering the building.
- We will be contract-tracing. Your attendance at worship services and mid-week gatherings going forward will be noted so that if someone in the congregation or someone having visited the building contracts the Coronavirus, you will be notified.
- Lastly, we will be streaming the service live to the church Facebook page and emailing out a YouTube link to the service in the Mid-Week News! If you are high-risk or feeling ill please stay home and take care of yourself and join us online for worship :)

I thank you all for being nimble in these creative and challenging times. It may be a while yet before we are able to reasonably gather inside the Meeting House for worship. Let's celebrate that worshiping outside allows us the space to sing and to gather in a variety of ways that respects people's comfort levels during the pandemic.

All together in Christ,

Pastor Sarah



The Gospel is Going To The Dogs

She came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table."

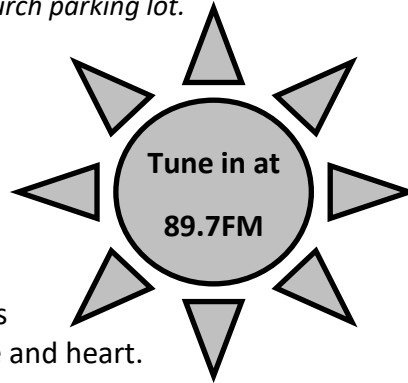
Matthew 15: 25-27

First Congregational Church of Saugatuck

Order of Worship for the Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

Thank you for joining us today for this time of prayer and praise! During these extraordinary times worship will look and feel a little different as we get creative to accommodate necessary safety precautions and strive to make worship accessible to our cherished community. Now, perhaps more than at any other time, it is vital for us all to seek out unique ways of fostering fellowship within the Body of Christ. Thank you for your ministry of presence whether you are worshipping from home or the church parking lot.

Gathering



Opening Jingle

Let us build a church, Outside the walls
Where all can safely be, A place of worship, hope and heart.
Where we forge community.
Built of prayer and Word and service,
A family of God's grace
Let us now proclaim from neighbor to neighbor:
All are welcome! All are welcome!
All are welcome, in this place!

Worship of Welcome

God is good. **All the time.**
All the time. **God is good.**

Call to Worship

God gathers us together from our various places to worship as one.
How good it is to worship together in unity!

We come from our different occupations, activities, and neighborhoods; having had a myriad of experiences and conversations.

How good it is to worship together in unity!

We come as unique individuals, yet bound together in the love of Christ. Our time together is good indeed! May we celebrate our oneness today!

How good it is to worship together in unity!

Sharing in the Ministry

Welcome! We are so glad that you have gathered with us today to **worship** and **wonder**. May you be energized in your **witness** this week!

Campfire Fellowship Gatherings—Wednesday Evenings at 7pm

Starting August 19th at 7pm we will be having a campfire in the small handicap parking lot at the church. Come for a s'more, good music, and a chance to catch up and just be together. Our Community Life Captain, Pat Gentry will be helping to coordinate these gatherings so talk to her for more information.

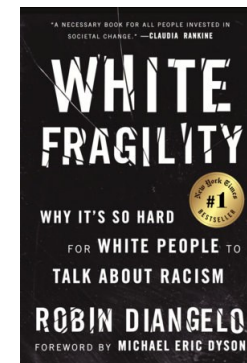


GROOVE Dance is Back!

Friday mornings at 10am, GROOVERS are welcome to gather in the parking lot of Encompass Wellness (2902 Bluestar Hwy.) for some spirit lifting dance! Heather Winia (the instructor) will honor dancers pre-purchased punch cards, the new cost is 10 sessions for \$75 or \$8 for a drop in class.

Lectio @ Lunchtime, Thursdays at 12:30pm

Bring your brown bag lunch and we will meet outside the church for Bible study and discussion. Our Bible selections follow the Revised Common Lectionary, so this is a great opportunity to explore the Sunday passage more fully. Come one, come all!



Upper Zoom Book Study

The next session of our Upper Zoom Book Study, exploring the book, White Fragility, will be on August 18th @ 7pm. This week we will be on chapters 8-9.

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



RUFF WAS A WHOLE DIFFERENT BREED OF GUIDE DOG

Sending Song

My Friends May You Grow In Grace

My friends, may you grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior.

My friends, may you grow in grace, and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ.

To God be the glory, now and forever, now and forever, amen.

To God be the glory, now and forever, now and forever, amen.

Thank you so much for joining us for worship today!

Your ministry of presence is a gift.

If you would like to contribute to the work of the church please send a check to:

First Congregational Church of Saugatuck

PO Box 633

Saugatuck, MI 49453

Or text "Give" to 833-705-1016 to receive a link to our Tith.ly account to donate online.

Be well! God bless!

Thank you for your ministry!

Musician: Kristyn Boyce

Scripture Reader: Pat Gentry

Contact Tracer: Amory Jewett

Parking Lot Usher: Myrna Dornan

Crossing Guard: Cindy Raue

Activity Tent Leader: Kristyn Boyce

Set-Up Team: Phyllis Yff & Timothy Terlouw

Opening Hymn

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing

He chastens and hastens his will to make known

The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing

Sing praises to his name, he forgets not his own

Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining

Ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine

So from the beginning the fight we were winning

Thou, Lord, were at our side, all glory be thine!

We all do extol thee, thou leader in battle

And pray that thou still our defender will be

Let thy congregation escape tribulation

Thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

Invocation Prayer with Lord's Prayer (using 'sins')

You have drawn us together this day from a variety of backgrounds, experiences, hopes, and dreams, Lord. Be with us as together we experience your presence and your healing love. Open our hearts and our spirits to receive strength, encouragement, and peace...

Kid's Blessing Song

Following our Sending Song, the kids of the congregation are invited to go to the Activity Tent on the front lawn of the church where they will be painting blessing rocks or doing some straw weaving! There are a few rules to the Activity Tent for everyone's safety: crafters must be 6 years old and above, masks are required for children and adults, kids will be grouped with their household, if a child is solo then a parent/grandparent must accompany them.

Encountering God's Word

Scripture Reading

Matthew 15: 10-28

10 Then he called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: 11 it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." 12 Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" 13 He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be

uprooted. 14 Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." 15 But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." 16 Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? 17 Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? 18 But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. 19 For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. 20 These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."

21 Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. 22 Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." 23 But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." 24 He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." 25 But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." 26 He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." 27 She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." 28 Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

Sermon

The Gospel is Going to the Dogs

Responding to God's Love

Hymn of Response

"Great is Thy faithfulness, " O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Congregational Prayer

Sung Response

Hear Our Prayer, O Lord

*Hear our prayer, O Lord. Hear our prayer, O Lord.
Incline, thine ear to us. And grant us thy peace*

Sending

Sending Blessing

You have been reconciled with Christ.

Do the work of Christ in the world:

**extend support to those in need,
speak up for those cast aside,
build bridges of reconciliation,
strengthen bonds of community,
knowing that**

the Maker of Our Days,
the Restorer of Our Souls
and the Breath of Our Lives

will be with all of us this day and ever more.

Closing Hymn

I Will Sing of the Mercies of the Lord

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever,
I will sing, I will sing,
I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever,
I will sing of the mercies of the Lord.
With my mouth will I make known
Thy faithfulness, Thy faithfulness,
With my mouth will I make known
Thy faithfulness to all generations,
I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever,
I will sing of the mercies of the Lord.

The Reading of the Covenant & Charge

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.