



Parish Post

Compassion, Community and Christ Build Our Church

1315 N. Pine Street, Rochester MI 48307 www.fccrochester.org

Phone: (248) 651.6225 Email: fccrochester@sbcglobal.net

Sept.
2011



FROM THE PASTOR

Have you ever heard the phrase, "moved from pillar to post"? The image comes to mind when someone or something is continually moved from one place to another; and it isn't often a comfortable situation.

That may be what made me uneasy earlier this year when I read about Chicago Theological Seminary moving its campus. As an old alum, I marveled at the beautiful new buildings the Seminary is erecting for the education of future students in ministry.

It wasn't the future I was concerned about, but rather the past. Back in 1930, the original records of our church were given to the Hammond Library at C.T.S. so the Seminary could preserve these historic records in perpetuity. What would happen to them when the Seminary moved? That had me concerned.

I shuddered to recall my own days at the seminary when a librarian re-discovered an urn in the rare book room, containing the remains of a former seminary president everyone had forgotten. Would the records of our church have a better fate than that?

It took a dozen phone calls and emails, but our history is safe. It's just been moved again. The Seminary has donated all of the items to the Congregational Library in Boston, where they will be preserved and cherished.

I think we can relate to that. Who hasn't felt the continuous effects of change when everything seems to be going from pillar to post? Who hasn't felt forgotten or out of touch with all that movement happening? So much change is disconcerting. In the midst of it people can feel left behind, lost in the shuffle, sometimes even a relic of the past.

How good it is to realize that someone cares after all! Even a check-in call makes a differ-

ence. Best of all is having faith that no matter how much change is going on, there is a place where one will be safe and even cherished. It is our work, and God's, to bring that Good News to one another, at both pillar and post.

With the new Fall Season beginning at church there will invariably be changes. Our worship will continue to evolve; Church School will grow; the Capital Stewardship Journey will have a big effect on us. Our new building and organization will move us to imagine even more possibilities. Change is the new normal. Even church needs to go to different places to reach new generations for Christ.

Yet what has been, should not be left in the dust. With every new praise song, we can remember that there is an equally cherished hymn. For every baby baptized, we can celebrate that there is an elder to honor. It isn't only Facebook that connects people. Old fashioned telephone calls, visits and face-to-face meetings always work wonders. The life of faith is not new. Forms will change, not the Gospel. We need what has been as much as what will be. We can honor the past, present and future of God's encounters with us. Only then will we not feel moved from pillar to post. Whatever directions the future takes us, it will be as important as ever to embrace the following covenant, as it was in 1827.

We covenant and promise that by the strength of Divine Grace we will make it our endeavor to walk the walk worthy of Christians... We also covenant and promise to walk together in Christian fellowship.

*(Original Church
Covenant 1827)*

GBU,
Rev. David



COME, LET US WORSHIP TOGETHER

*Reaching out to God in Praise,
Responding to God in Thanks,
Celebrating God in Christ,
Being with God Together!*

Classic Worship at 9 AM, in a traditional setting.
Celebration Worship at 11 AM, praise in a blended setting.

Carol Hall will be our Pulpit Guest on September 4, 11, and 18. We welcome Carol, remembering the many good experiences we shared with her during her final year of Seminary and internship with our congregation. Rev. David and Karen Wheeler will be celebrating their 40th Anniversary with an extended vacation during that time.

Sunday September 11th is the 10th Anniversary of the Terrorist strikes in New York, Pennsylvania and Washington D.C. Our hearts continue to mourn those who lost their lives. We commend those who acted with heroism and faith in the aftermath of the crisis. We pray yet for the peace that eludes the world.

In commemoration of this Anniversary, there will be an opportunity for you to create a **Book of Memory and Prayer**. All are invited to write a prayer, share a story, or make a comment on the pages to create this lasting memorial. The Book will be available outside the Sanctuary at church for you to add your thoughts and prayers, beginning Sunday August 28th.

September 4, 2011 *Do Unto*

When you read Romans 13:8-14 you are reminded that the sum total of the equation of our lives is "love". Come and hear how the love of our Creator shows in the proof of the equation for worship in many ways.

September 11, 2011 *To Act But For the Future*

Reading the scripture Genesis 50:15-21 and through the story of Joseph and his brothers we will all remember the history of this date and also be reminded to act in response to the formation of the future.

September 18, 2011 *A God Wink?*

Come and hear what a God Wink is as we review the story from The Apostle Paul about life through the Holy Spirit.

Sunday September 25 *God Has No Grandchildren*

One of the most famous chapters in the Gospels is John 3. Jesus' famous words to Nicodemus are about being born anew. His word to us is about God so loving the world. Rev. Wheeler will preach about being sons and daughters of God, one and all.

The Sanctuary Choir will sing at 9 AM.
CrossWords will sing at 11 AM.



Say a
prayer
for...
John Mitchell
Ella Steele

In Sympathy

Our prayers also go out to the family of **Benita Klein**, who passed away on July 28th. Funeral services were conducted for Benita by Rev. Wheeler on August 1st. We join Benita's husband Andy and all their family in praying for God's grace and the assurances of eternal life.

Baptisms!

The congregation has celebrated the gifts of life and the promise of life in Christ with four baptisms in the month of August. We share the joy of celebrating God's love with the families of:

Theodore Johnston,
son of Joshua & Jennifer Johnston,
baptized on August 7.

Warren Bauer,
son of Robert and Jenny (Phelps)
Bauer, baptized on August 14.

Dakota and Brooklynn Carey,
son and daughter of
Pat and Lyndsay Carey
baptized on August 21st.



Blessing of
the Animals

October 1, at 4 pm
In the lower parking lot!



Our VISION STATEMENT

First Congregational Church, U.C.C. of Rochester

Compassion, Community and Christ Build Our Church

On Sunday, July 31 FCC held a Congregational Meeting!

And we voted to move forward with a new capital stewardship journey!
You all should have received a special edition of the Parish Post this past week...
inviting you to

Imagine What's Possible!

Concentrating on the Future

When daunted with a task that seems almost impossible one must look to the future to know that it is possible. This year as FCC takes a moment to look to the future, Imagine What's Possible for us. There are a lot of exciting events on the horizon!

Lay leadership Group has been diligently working with the Board of Trustees to make this year a monumental one. Not only are we embarking on a Capital Stewardship Journey but we are also paving our way towards a brighter future! This spiritual journey has the potential to be the biggest and best because our congregation holds faith and support to its highest standards. This could very well be one of the most important years we have been through. We are actively planning now to lay solid groundwork for success in October and November. Together we can imagine what's possible.

Along with the Capital Stewardship Journey, LLG has been discussing a few things that we are looking for help with. One of these items is the need for a Youth Delegate for the Michigan Conference meeting in October. We are calling for all young adults willing and wanting to be the delegate for our Church. The ages we are considering are 18-25. Please submit, in writing why you would be a good representation of the church. LLG feels that the youth of the church is the future. Could this be God's plan for you?

God's plan for many of us comes in different ways. One of those is to lead. When guidance is needed or a question arises on where you can fit in your own journey with faith. We are here. Lay Leadership Group is a collection of people called by you, the congregation, to be leaders. If you feel the Lay Leadership Group may be your calling, we are in need of a leader like you.

Your Faithful LLG:

Abbie Goerg -- Moderator
Lisa Young – Vice Moderator
Wes Davis
Kate Cole
Christine Powaga

Sue Menko
Karen Mitchell
Stephanie Lange

Could the last (9th) spot be for you?

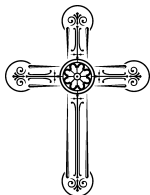
Romans 12:12 Rejoice in Hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

Faithfully Submitted, Abigail Goerg

WELCOME TO THESE NEW MEMBERS ON THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL STAFF TEAM!

SEMINARY INTERN!

K.C. Lazzara will become our Seminary Intern for the school year beginning September 19th. **K.C.** is a First Congregational member, and is completing his final year of Seminary at Ashland Theological Seminary. He will be pursuing Ordination in the United Church of Christ. **Dr. Lazzara**, is also a PhD Psychologist whose practice specialized in assisting youth. **K.C.** will work with Rev. Wheeler on a range of ministries and will be available to the church approximately 15 hours a week. Already **K.C.** has agreed to lead the Men's Retreat in October. *Welcome K.C.!*



PANTRY DIRECTOR

Lorraine Kremer has been named the first Director of our Food Pantry. The number of persons who are being served at the Pantry has doubled each year for the past three years. The Helping Hand Committee and Co-Chairs Liz Munchiando and Melinda Houghton have done marvelous work in meeting the need. **Lorraine Kremer**, will now be working with the Committee to fulfill the goals. Lorraine is a First Congregational member. She is an MSW, and brings an extensive background in social service to this new position. Most recently she was the head of the Alzheimer's Association, Greater MI Chapter. *Welcome Lorraine!*



ROCHESTER AREA NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE HOSTS
A SPECIAL EVENT FOR THE PANTRY!

SCARE AWAY HUNGER!

OCTOBER 23 — FUN FAMILY DAY AT THE PARK!

A 5K walk/run to Scare Away Hunger
is the featured event!



The Rochester Area Neighborhood House is planning the first ever
Scare Away Hunger 5K and Autumn Family event to raise money for the food pantry!

The event will be held in the beautiful downtown Rochester Municipal Park from 3 to 5 pm.

Everyone is welcome for the family friendly event.

The 5K run/walk event will begin at 3 pm, but runners must register by October 14 if they want to have a t-shirt! The race will be chip timed and there will be prizes! The fee is \$20 for students, \$25 for individuals and \$60 for families.

The family activities are free, and they include pumpkin rolling races, an obstacle course, dance presentations, face painting, crafts, a scavenger hunt and more.

There will even be a raffle to win gift cards to area businesses!

Call 248.651.5836 if you have questions — this is RANH's number.

You can register for the 5K online at www.ranh.org/scare-away-hunger

The Trustees Tour

This past month, your Board of Trustees toured the **old part** of the building with a critical eye. It is important, as a new group of leaders, to be familiar with our ministry spaces. We want each room to be clean, inviting, maintained and even decorated in a way that invites our discipleship energies to flow.

Most rooms were OK.

In general though, we

need to consider:

- Windows
- Carpet
- Fresh Paint
- Tile for bathrooms
- Repaired air conditioning
- Fixing leaks, especially in the Adult Library

*We look forward
to doing some
maintenance!*

We plan to tally our lists of all we want done and will use it to begin a wish list. The list will also provide guidance for the kinds of improvements that may have priority when funds from the Capital Stewardship Journey become available.

Parsonage for Rent

Members of the church are invited to rent the parsonage beginning immediately. It is currently empty and clean! This past June, we passed a budget indicating an income from the rental of the property totaling \$10,300. Once rented, the Board of Trustees will immediately contract for new attic insulation.

Features

- 1600 Square feet Ranch with fireplace, ceiling fans
- 3 Bedrooms, 1 1/2 Bath
- Living Room, Dining Room, Kitchen, Family Room
- Partially finished basement
- Low Rent (adjusted for church family rental)
- Renter pays all utilities direct and water bill to church
- Must qualify, security deposit required
- Loving church family across the street!

Contact Kathy Campbell:

Phone -248 375 2757

Email: DKCampbell821@att.net

Are you Handy?

We need a couple simple repairs done around the church that would be very expensive to hire out. In keeping with good stewardship of our funds, we would prefer to invite your participation rather than hire costly contractors:

Do you?

- Drywall (4' x 6' repair)
- Floor Tile (small hallway)
- Paint (Hallway)

Let us know and we'll provide the materials!

Call Kathy Campbell 248 375 2757

Email: DKCampbell821@att.net



9/11/2001

There is a memorial book commemorating the events of 9/11/2001 in the Narthex. Please share your thoughts, memories, and prayers in this book honoring and remembering those who were lost ten years ago in the NY Twin Towers, the Pentagon, and in Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

Plan ahead to get your FLU SHOTS at FCC

*The UCC Evangelical Home in Sterling Heights will again offer a free flu shot to the adults at FCC. You must be 18 years of age. Plans are to offer the shots on **Sunday, October 23** between services and after the second service. Watch for details and registration sheets in the early October bulletins.*



**LOOKING
TOWARD
FALL**

CROP WALK

The annual Rochester CROP walk will be held on Sunday, October 9, starting at 2 pm at the park.

Many of our church members, including the youth groups, will participate by walking.

If you cannot walk, we urge you to make a pledge to one of our walkers. Commit to pay any amount per mile (ex. 50 cents, \$1, or \$10); or pledge a flat rate for completion of the walk. Funds are sent to food distribution agencies, including our food pantry, Neighborhood House and the Community Kitchen.

Pledge Packets will be available Sept. 18 between services from Brenda Brannack. Call Brenda if you have any questions — 248.651.0098.



H.E.R.O.E.S. Care

Homefront Enabling Relationships, Opportunities, and Empowerment through Support

Two of our newly trained Stephen Ministers, Steve Smoger and Les Sultz, recently attended a H.E.R.O.E.S. Care one-day workshop. They can now serve as Home Support Volunteers to provide needed help and support to military families throughout the deployment cycle. This program is a collaborative effort with Stephen Ministries St. Louis, Operation Homefront of Missouri, and other organizations to address the needs of our military families. More information can be found at www.heroescare.org.



W.O.W. CORNER
(Wise, Outstanding and Wonderful)
BOB SHELDRIK

Did you know that Bob Sheldrick has been directing the youth handbells at First Congregational Church for 25 years? We know that his direction of the Jubilation Ringers is exceptional, but it is also his spirit, faith and humor that keep the youth coming back year after year.

Detroit native Robert Spencer Sheldrick Jr., moved to Rochester in 1972. He attended West Middle School and Rochester High School where he played the saxophone and clarinet in the Jazz Band, Concert Band and Pep Band. In Bob's senior year of high school, he was playing handbells and attending St. Phillips Episcopal Church. Don Westphal, handbell director of the Jubilation Ringers of First Congregational Church asked Bob if he would substitute at an upcoming festival. From then on Bob became part of the FCC handbell choir and he has never left. Bob also traveled to seven countries in three weeks ringing with the Southern Michigan Youth Chorale. He attended Adrian College the next four years, and would chaperone and ring bells on festival trips during the summers with the Jubilation Ringers. Bob was the natural choice to become the youth handbell director in 1986 when Don Westphal left.

While attending college, Bob directed the youth handbell choirs at Adrian United Methodist Church. While he played in Jazz and Concert Bands at college, he was also active in the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship. Bob graduated in 1981 from Adrian College with a double major in Business Administration and Religion and he began working for a small computer firm leasing IBM equipment.

He experienced major joys and major losses in the 1980s. His only sibling, Liz was killed in an automobile accident. Bob married and had a daughter, Sarah Elizabeth. He began working for Trident Corporation, the company he continues to work for in international and domestic printer sales. In his spare time, he played in the Rochester Community Band and the Troy Community Orchestra. By the early 1990s he was divorced but rekindled a friendship from college with Barbara England. Older and wiser, they were smitten and in love. In 1994 Bob and Barb were married at First Congregational Church and in 1997 Shannon Elaine was born followed by Andrew James in 2000.

Bob has taken nearly 20 trips over the years with the Jubilation Ringers. The group, under his direction, has rung bells in Indiana, Illinois, Georgia, Kansas, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, New Hampshire, New York, North and South Carolina, Rhode Island, at Disney World and Busch Gardens as well as Ireland, England and Scotland. By the time many of our church youth graduate from the Jubilation Ringers, Bob has worked with them as ringers for over seven years. Bob feels that part of the joy of his work is to follow their lives and to get to know them well while they are playing and learning wonderful music.

Don Westphal had this to say about Bob. "More than twenty-five years ago we adopted Bob as a bell ringer from another church. Since then he adopted us and has been a wonderful leader and inspiration to youth, sharing his enthusiasm and joy."

Karen Mitchell said. "Handbells have connected Bob and me to this church for more than three decades. We started playing bass bells in high school and have been ringing duets ever since."

Lisa Young says. "Bob has always been a friend to me and a great musical mentor. I will always be grateful for everything I've learned from him."

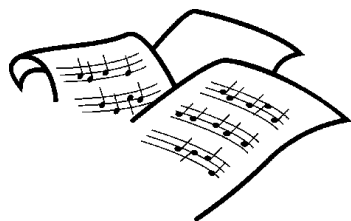
These are only a few of the many people whose lives have been enriched by Bob Sheldrick. Bob is honored that the FCC parents have let him be a part of their children's lives. He feels grateful to have had the church upbringing that his parents have given him and is thankful his parents live close by so they can enjoy one another. Barb Sheldrick feels that Bob is intuitive about people and seems to be in the right place at the right time. Life is busy and good at the Sheldrick home. Bob knows he is blessed. He gives back by volunteering for a Beaumont based program called NODA (No One Dies Alone). He lives his faith and tries to be that open vessel for God to work through.

First Congregational Church is incredibly blessed to have Bob Sheldrick on board. He has enriched our music program as well as our lives. All we can say about Bob Sheldrick is W.O.W.!

Submitted by Chris Goerg, Parish Visitor

FALL Church Groups!

There are many fellowship and other groups within the church. Some are daytime groups, some are evening groups. Some are study groups. Some are craft groups. Some are exclusively for youth, some are for adults. Check out next few pages of this Post and see where YOU fit in!



Fall Music Groups

Resurrection Brass will continue to rehearse on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm in the Conference room.

The Sanctuary Choir will rehearse on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 pm in the choir room/Alan's office.

Crosswords Band rehearses on Friday evening in the sanctuary.

And the **Pray'se Choir** will probably rehearse on Thursdays again. Additional participants are desperately needed!

All musical persons are urged to participate!
See Alan Lollar if you have questions.

INFORMATION ON THE FOLLOWING GROUPS IS ON THE GOLD INSERT PAGE

Alleluia Ringers
Adult handbell group

Youth Vocal choir
6th graders through high school

Youth Handbell choir
6th graders through high school

Youth groups

SHYG

Our Senior High Youth will meet this year on Sunday afternoons, starting September 18th. We meet at 12:15 pm in the SHYG room. Pat & Lyndsay Carey are coordinating their activities.

KOOL

The Kids Of Our Lord, Middle School youth group will meet on Sunday afternoons at 12:15 pm starting September 18th pm for a variety of activities. They meet in the Kool Kage in the lower south wing. See Lisa Wilmot for details if your teen has not already received a packet of information.

Peace by Peace

This group of women meets monthly, usually on the third Monday. They correspond with a group of women overseas.

Men's Study Group

Thursday mornings at 6:30 a.m. there is a men's study group meeting in Room 21. Feel free to come and join this group.

New Class this Fall

If you like to learn and laugh, study and grow in faith - the new Tuesday morning study group is perfect for you. This fall beginning Tuesday, September 6, we will begin a new book that has 17 individual chapters of study that will take us right through the holidays. Each chapter, written by a variety of authors, each will give us a new perspective on Practicing Our Faith in ways that feel comfortable and prove meaningful in the crazy and busy lives we lead. Mark your calendars and join us for any or all of the sessions.

Book Purchase Required: Practicing Our Faith by Dorothy Bass
 Available used from church for \$5.00 and also new online for \$18.95 or by Kindle for \$9.99

When: Tuesday Mornings 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.
Dates: Begin with Chapter 1 on September 6th and ending in December
Preparation: Read a 12 - 14 page chapter before you come to class.

We are a casual class of coffee and tea drinkers that are sometimes well prepared and other times not so much. We have fun being Christians together in pursuit of a better understanding of our faith, and how it makes our lives better. Join us! Questions? Call Kathy Campbell @ 248 375 2757 or email Brad Barnes @ babarnes@comcast.net

BOB'S BETTER BIBLE STUDY

Dr. Bob Groves has had to temporarily discontinue the Tuesday night Bible Study. He will notify his regular participants when the class can continue! Newcomers can contact the FCC church office as we create a list of interested persons for Dr. Bob's class.

Ladies In Faith Together — L.I.F.T.

Meeting Tuesday, Sept. 6, 7 pm!
 Complete fall schedule on bulletin boards!

NewsLetter
DEADLINE September 21
 (will be mailed 9/28)

Men's Fellowship

Retreat details next page!

N I M B L E N E E D L E S

On any given Tuesday morning the Conference Room/Parlor is filled with chatter and laughter, and we usually have several projects in progress. Nimble Needles are known within the Church for their prayer quilts and the banners which grace our church. You may not know that this group also makes "warm" quilts which are donated to the Detroit Rescue Mission and we have made donations to Quilts of Valor, the Women in Service to the Appalachia Project, and we create our High School seniors' study pillows. We maintain a small boutique of handmade crafts — baby quilts, throws, twin sized quilts, dish towels, placemats, table runners and wall hangings. We do commissioned pieces of work. All proceeds are used to begin and complete more banners, prayer quilts, donation items and the updating of the Conference room/Parlor.

If you are ever in need of that "special" gift item, ask Sandy Purdom or Shirley Buckmaster for a preview or to make a special order.



Nimble Needles invite each and every one of you to join us
 in our mission work and fellowship!

Men's Spiritual Uplifting Weekend

**Soul
Surfing**

Where: Echo Grove Camp in Lakeville
When: October 14th and 15th, 2011
Cost: \$60.00 (Monies need to be turned into Church Office ASAP
No later than September 13th.)

What to bring:

Pillow, Sleeping bag or blanket, Bible, and of course a SMILE.

Agenda:

Friday night we arrive around 5:00 PM.

Pizza (all you can eat) @ 5:30.

Followed by the Movie Soul Surfer and fellowship.

KC Lazzara will lead us in 3 sessions Saturday on Soul Surfing by using
 "Fathers in the Bible".

After we leave the camp we will watch the Michigan - Michigan State Game.

KC will then do a wrap-up session after the game

Please let Wes Davis know if you are planning to attend.

For more information you can call Wes at home @ 810-375-2049.

Thank You to the Garden Angels!

During this summer with its many weather ups and downs.....from a cool, wet start, to a warm, dry July and a wonderful run in August... our gardeners have been challenged. It was difficult to get flowers planted, then difficult to keep them watered and alive, and now the weeds are trying to take over the gardens.

*A special "Thank You" goes out to **Ella Steele**, Millie McAllister, MaryAnn and Mackenzie Lutz, the Palmer ladies, Evy Phillips, the Wilmot family, Jim Purdom, Lee and Kappy Taylor and Dick Buckmaster for their hard work to keep the flowerbeds so beautiful and inviting to our Church. Thank you to Bruce McGregor for weeding and edging the driveways and sidewalks. Enjoy the beauty of the flowers as they begin their fall "color" show.*

P.S. Did you see the photo of our FCC kids in the Garden? The picture was in the Oakland Press. What a great shot!

Sunday Adult Study *Join with Sue Menko and others as they study the Bible together!*

Adult Sunday School Classes are based on the Lectionary. The lectionary is a 3-year cycle of Biblical readings organized into years A, B, and C. Each yearly cycle begins on the first Sunday of Advent. Year B follows A, year C follows year B, then back again to A. Each week includes:

- first reading from the Old Testament;
- Then a responsorial Psalm;
- The second reading is from one of the New Testament Letters (only on Sundays); and then a
- Gospel reading.

Year A: Gospel of Matthew (Nov. 2010 through 2011)

Year B: Gospel of Mark (December 2011 through 2012)

Year C: Gospel of Luke (December 2012 through 2013)

The Gospel of John is read throughout Easter, and is used for other liturgical seasons including Advent, Christmas, and Lent where appropriate.

We meet in the Ruggles Room every Sunday at 10:10AM. Bring your coffee and mosey on down to chat with us. We look forward to perusing the Bible with you!

Yes, this is the same ad as last year — back by popular demand with dates and names changed to protect the innocent!

Rummage time

(to the tune of "Summertime" by G. Gershwin)

*Rummage time, and the sortin' is easy
Rummage time, and the bags piled high.
The royal stuff, is so very good lookin',
So hush little shopper, don't you cry!*

*It's coming soon, Please come as a worker,
You'll help us to sort, price, tag, (and then buy).
But don't wait too long! Don't miss the big sign-up;
This is your chance, You'll really soar high.*

*Rummage time, and the sortin' is easy
Rummage time, and the bags piled high.
Oh such an event, it truly is thrillin'
So hush little shopper, don't you cry!*

"Best FCC food and fellowship of the season!"
— anonymous



FALL RUMMAGE DETAILS

Set up — Sunday, Sept. 25; starting at 3 pm

Collecting/Sorting/pricing/fellowship/food — Mon. to Wed, 9 a.m. to 5 pm; Thurs. 9 til noon

THURSDAY PRESALE — 6 to 8 pm

SALE DAYS: FRIDAY, SEPT. 30, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; SATURDAY October 1, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

SATURDAY, TEAR DOWN AND RESET CHURCH — NOON TO 4 p.m.

Confirmation

CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2011-2012 ORIENTATION MEETING SUNDAY 9/25

Our Church invites Ninth Grade students to take part in the Confirmation Journey each year. Rev. Wheeler teaches the class, supporting the young people as their relationship with God in Christ grows. This year the Orientation Meeting for Confirmation will take place on Sunday September 25th at 12:15 PM. Ninth Grade students and parents are invited to attend. Of course, pizza will be served. Contact the church office if you have any questions, fccrochester@sbcglobal.net or 248-651-6225



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

To these
Sunshine
List
Members!

September 11 Gloria Kaflik

September 25 Jay Irey

September 30 Bill Martin

Rally Day & Bible Carnival
September 18th
10:00 a.m.

Bibles for four year olds, first graders and fourth graders will be passed out during the 9:00 service. Then during the 10:00 hour we will use them for fun games and activities as we kick off the Sunday school year.

Parents please come join your children for this event.

We will get registered for the year, you will get a curriculum preview and get to see how you might be able to plug in this year.

A fabulous way to start the Sunday school year!!

September 11th 2011 10:00 a.m.
TEACHERS!

Kindergarten through fifth grade teachers and shepherds will have a meeting to go over curriculum and plans for the year.

If you cannot attend please contact Lyndsay Carey ahead of time to arrange for your materials.

Thanks for all you do!



SHYG & KOOL will meet each Sunday from 12:15-2:00 beginning September 18.

If you have any questions please contact:

Lyndsay or Pat Carey for SHYG
 Lisa Wilmot for KOOL

JUNIOR WORSHIP

Join us during September Junior Worship: we will focus on music, dance, art, and bells for our Praise Concert that will take place on October 16th at the 11:00 service.



HUGE THANKS FOR
AN AWESOME
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!!!

Thank you to everyone who donated food and supplies, assisted during the week, or donated your time each day to help make this program a great success.

We had a FABULOUS group of adults and teens supporting the children that attended our PandaMania and the feedback was phenomenal!!

From the bottom of my heart,
 THANK YOU!!!

Many blessings~ Lyndsay Carey



M.A.D.D.



During the 10 o'clock hour on Sundays, our children work on a variety of music, art, drama and dance projects.

Adult help is always needed.

Talk to Lyndsay Carey if you would like to help the kids with these musical portions of the Christian Education programming!

Croppin' for Kids

First Congregational Church's Christian Education Program
Is sponsoring an all-day scrapbooking event, again!

September 24, 2011

10 a.m. to 10 pm

Cost is \$35 per person registered by Sept. 1
(\$40 per person after that date)



Includes lunch, dinner and more snacks than you can digest in a 12 hour period!
Not to mention — goodie bags, door prizes, raffles, and a 50/50 drawing.
Vendors will be on hand to help you with your scrapbooking needs, too.

All proceeds go to supplement the many extra programs for our children and youth that are planned by the FCC Christian Education Board throughout the year.

Checks payable to First Congregational Church.

Forms available in the church office.

Space is limited — tables assigned on a first-come/first-served basis.

If you have special needs — let us know and we will try to accommodate you.



Questions: contact Heather at 248.495.5341 or Lisa 248.563.6548

CHILDREN'S SABBATH OCTOBER 16 SPECIAL CONCERT BY THE CHILDREN & YOUTH

"Pirates of the I Don't Care-ibbean"
is going to be postponed.

However, the children will still be participating
on Children's Sabbath

October 16th at the 11:00 service.

There will be an exciting

Praise Concert that you won't want to miss!

Mark your calendars!

We will begin work on the music the first Sun-
day in September during Junior Worship.

COME BE A SUPER HERO/HELPER!

As we look towards September, we would like
for everyone to prayerfully consider
volunteering ONE Sunday of your time
this fall to help during Junior Worship
(held during the 9 and 11 AM services),
or during Sunday School (at the 10:00 hour).

If you have any questions or are interested in
the projects on which

we will be
working during the
upcoming school year,
please contact
Lyndsay Carey.



Letters from our members

Dear church family,

I would like to thank Rev. Wheeler for his visits to our home, in supporting Clark and myself with his prayers and kindness. Also, thanks to all the FCC members that sent cards and prayers.

The Lord's Prayer, sung by Alan Lollar, during the funeral service was so very touching. Thank you.

Also, everyone who helped with the luncheon, applause, applause!

We have been so fortunate to know so many kind and sincere FCC members!

Sending love from the Marengo Family:
Jan, Sue, Marty, Bill, Esther, Billy,
Tyler and Rachel

THANKS MUSICIANS!

I would like to thank all the people who provided special music this summer. It was greatly appreciated.

I would also like to thank CrossWords for doing a wonderful job leading music for the second service.

And lastly, a big thank you to Adam Mitchell, Lisa Young, and Carol Sipsock for filling in for Kathie Bowden, when she took a few weeks of well deserved vacation.

Alan Lollar



August 21, 2011

Dear church family and friends,

I want to thank you all more than heartfelt words can express for your love and support of my mother Betty Hughes in her living here in Michigan the past 4 years, and recent passing on 6/26/11. Your visits, kind words, sympathy cards, and donations to First Congregational church have been a great consolation.

Mom really loved it when you laughed at her silly jokes, and gave her hugs and kisses. I feel truly blessed to have this loving and supportive church family. God bless you all! A special thanks goes out to Pastor David and Chris Goerg for hospital visits and care as well as to Diann Sultz, Steve Smoger and Evy Phillips. Your care, tenderness and support will be remembered always.

Thanks to all those who came to the funeral home and service on a hot 4th of July weekend, and special thanks to the women's fellowship for the reception tea following the service in a very hot fellowship hall and kitchen sans air conditioning! You are truly God's angels here on earth.

Thanks again.
Grace and Peace,
Janet Hughes-Smith and family


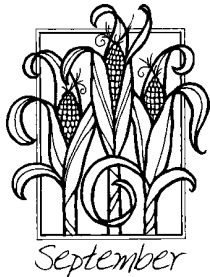


Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the altar flowers that were delivered by Chris Goerg on Sunday, August 14th. They were beautiful and I really enjoyed them!

Lyla Purdom

September 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<p>1 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study 6 pm rental 7 PM CIT 7:30 PM OA</p>	<p>2 7 pm CrossWords Rehearsal</p>	<p>3 4:30 PM Pride 7-10:30 PM Upper Room</p>
<p>4 C. Hall preach Worship at 8:30 And 10 a.m. Church school 11 PCUUC</p>	<p>5 LABOR DAY HOLIDAY BUILDING CLOSED</p>	<p>6 Nimble Needles 9 a.m. 9:30 a.m. Practicing our Faith Study 7 PM Ladies in Faith 7:30 PM CE Mtg. 5-8 PM Stew. Journey Mtgs.</p>	<p>7 Office hours 8 AM to 7 PM 12 Joseph Carpenters 6 PM Blessings In a backpack Wed Night choir Rehearsals PCUUC too</p>	<p>8 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study 7 PM Stephen Min. 7:30 PM OA 5-8 PM Stew. Journey Mtgs.</p>	<p>9 7 pm CrossWords Rehearsal</p>	<p>10 4:30 PM Pride 7-10:30 PM Upper Room</p>
<p>11 C. Hall Preach Worship at 9 and 11 a.m. communion 10 AM Church School Teachers Mtg 11 PCUUC 6 PM Bowling</p>	<p>12 6:30pm A.A. 7 PM Financial Peace Univ. (last class) 7:30 pm O.A.</p>	<p>13 Nimble Needles 9 a.m. 9:30 a.m. Practicing our Faith Study 7 PM Trustees Mtg.</p>	<p>14 Office hours 8 AM to 7 PM Noon Lydia Guild 6 PM Blessings In a backpack Wed Night choir Rehearsals PCUUC too</p>	<p>15 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study 7 PM CIT 7:30 PM OA</p>	<p>16 7 pm bridge 7 pm CrossWords Rehearsal</p>	<p>17 4:30 PM Pride 7-10:30 PM Upper Room</p>
<p>18 C. Hall Preach Worship at 9 and 11 a.m. 10 AM Church school BIBLE SUNDAY 11 PCUUC 12:15 KOOL 12:15 SHYG 1 PM rental for Private party</p>	<p>19 6:30 PM A.A. 7:30 PM O.A. 7:30 PM Peace x Peace</p>	<p>20 Nimble Needles 9 AM 9:30 AM Practicing our Faith Study 9:30 AM MOMS Club 11 a.m. Staff 7:30 PM Lay Leaders</p>	<p>21 Office hours 8 AM to 7 PM 11 Healing Min. 6 PM Blessings In a backpack Wed Night choir Rehearsals PCUUC too</p>	<p>22 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study 7 PM Stephen Min. 7:30 PM OA</p>	<p>23 7 pm CrossWords Rehearsal</p>	<p>24 SCRAPBOOKING EVENT — ALL DAY! 10 a.m. to 10 pm LIFT attend Scrapbook event 4:30 PM Pride 7-10:30 PM Upper Room</p>
<p>25 Worship at 9 and 11 a.m. Baptism at 11 10 AM Church school 11 PCUUC 12 first mtg for Confirmation 12:15 SHYG 12:15 KOOL 6 PM Bowling</p>	<p>26 6:30pm A.A. 7:30 pm O.A.</p>	<p>27 Nimble Needles 9 a.m. 9:30 a.m. Practicing our Faith Study 11 a.m. Staff 5-8 PM Stew. Journey Mtgs.</p>	<p>28 Office hours 8 AM to 7 PM 11 Healing Min. 6 PM Blessings In a backpack Wed Night choir Rehearsals PCUUC too</p>	<p>29 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study 7:30 PM OA Rummage Presale 6 pm</p>	<p>30 7 pm CrossWords Rehearsal</p>	
<p>FALL RUMMAGE SALE WEEK — SALE IS 9/30 FROM 9 TO 5; 10/1 FROM 9 TO 1 Set up Sunday 9/25 at 3 pm; Sorting M-W 9 a.m. to 5 pm; Thursday sort/price til done</p>						

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**** AUTO ****

BACK to SCHOOL & BACK TO CHURCH



*FALL means
Back to
Church
Activities!*

CUT INSERT PAGE —

YOUTH VOCAL CHOIR RECRUITING FLYER,

PLUS

BOB SHELDRICKS YOUTH AND ADULT HAND-
BELL CHOIRS
