

First Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
PO Box 892  
Cadillac, MI 49601

## *“The Tie that Binds”*

# JUNE 2015

Newsletter of First Congregational Church UCC  
Cadillac, MI

Margie Annis, Music Director  
Penny Phelps, Church Treasurer  
Rachel Whiteman, Church Clerk

Church service is Sunday morning 10:30 a.m.  
childcare available.

The church is open on **Wednesdays** from 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Supply Pastor Dani Veenstra

Office email: [office@firstcongcadillac.org](mailto:office@firstcongcadillac.org)

Web Site: [www.firstcongcadillac.org](http://www.firstcongcadillac.org)



# June 2015

## *The Tie That Binds*

First Congregational United Church of Christ  
Cadillac, Michigan

### **A MESSAGE FROM OUR SUPPLY PASTOR**

**Dani Veenstra**

I copied this devotional from the Still Speaking email I receive daily. I saved it because it spoke to my heart and caused me to pause and wonder? Do we have the plastic on the furniture where we do our Sunday living?

Room - Mary Luti

*"In [God's] house, there are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare one for you?" - John 14:2*

When I was young, I knew a family that was fanatically protective of their living room. The armchairs and sofa had plastic covers. The carpet was unblemished. The end tables were Pledged to an impossible sheen. The parents threatened mayhem to any kid who tried to go in there. Not a lot of living went on in that living room.

I've since learned that family wasn't unique. Apparently lots of parents enforced a rule about never entering the best room in the house. It was reserved for special company, and that wasn't their kids. To this day there are probably thousands of adults out there who routinely look warily over their shoulders before setting foot in a living room.

Harmless enough, I guess, unless you've also come to believe that it's normal to be confined to the kitchen, the basement, or the closet. That it's normal to be barred not only from the best rooms in the house, but also from the best parts of life. That it's not just living rooms you don't deserve to enter. That you're not special company, and never will be, ever.

By his life, death, and resurrection, Jesus entered every living room in God's house of joy and removed all the plastic, spilled wine on the couch, and tracked a little dirt across the rug. 'There,' he

said when he was done, 'all prepared for the most special guests. Come in, all of you. Come in.' I believe it is our intention here at Cadillac First Congregational United Church of Christ to say 'Come in, You are welcome here', but do we cringe if they don't wipe their feet enough or perhaps they wiggle during service ( young and old alike) or they fall asleep or spill communion bread or juice? Our new mat outside the front door says "Extravagant Welcome" God is Still Speaking. Let us continue to find new ways to remove the protective covering from the furniture of our hearts as well as the church and rejoice for all the muddy feet and boisterous guests who come into God's house each week. Let us see each one as a beloved and special guest, whether here for a first time or the thousandth time. Come in, All of you, Come in. Hebrews 13: 1-2 Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.

*Pastor Dani*

### **OFFICE HOURS**

Please note that Pastor Dani is now available at the church from **10 am - 12.30 pm on Wednesdays.**

### **OMISSION FROM LAST MONTH'S NEWSLETTER:**

Thank you also to Sara Keinath for representing us as our UNA delegate in April.

## EVENTS

### CHOIR - Margie Annis

The choir will be on summer break after June 14<sup>th</sup>  
My heartfelt thanks to these friends and singers  
who mean so much to me and to the church.

### May's Pancake Brunch

Over \$200 was made at the pancake brunch for the Stehouwer Clinic. Thanks to helpers and supporters!

### Back to the Bricks Classic Car Show - Sunday June 7th

**We need 10 more cases of bottled water** which will be handed out the car show, in return for a donation to the church. If you bring in the receipt with your name on the back, this can be added to your year's donations total for tax purposes. An envelope is in the pastor's study to put the receipts in.



Also, **10 more volunteers** are needed to help on June 7<sup>th</sup>. Coolers and bags of ice are also needed. – see sign-up sheet at the back of the sanctuary.

### WALKING GROUP - Pat McCurdy

Anybody interested in forming a weekly walking group this Summer? If so, please talk to Pat McCurdy so one can be set up. We could meet at After 26 and walk the by the lake and go for coffee afterwards.

### Tai Chi Class

The Tai Chi class has now been moved to **Sundays at 3pm**, by the lake opposite the football field.

\$5 donation to church funds.

Instructor: Catherine (Casey) Cline.

### Fellowship Hour

Please sign up for Fellowship Hour for June and July. If nobody volunteers there will be no drinks and refreshments served. If you have any questions, please talk to Carol Nilsson, Chair of the Board of Trustees. The last Sunday will be still a potluck.

### Pride Event Grand Rapids June 20<sup>th</sup>

There is a sign-up sheet for drivers on the back table. Leaving 8:15am. Returning around 6pm. If you would like to order a T shirt, please contact Linda Baynes.



## COMMUNITY

### Footliters



The Footliters are presenting the play "The Odd Couple" at 7pm on June 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>. Also 2pm on June 13<sup>th</sup>, at Cadillac HS Auditorium.

Tickets \$10 from After 26, Brinks, Peebles, UPS or Majestic in Lake City. \$12 at the door.

#### THE CAST:

Ralph Annis – Roy; Jacob Betts – Felix; Pam Holmquist – Ceciily; Russell Peak – Murray; Martha Stenman – Gwen; Steve Stenman – Oscar; Steve Tikkanen – Vinnie; Andy True – Speed

### Electronics Recycling Event

Bring your waste electronics for recycling on **Saturday June 27<sup>th</sup>** to Cadillac Christian Reformed Church. 1110 East Division Street.



FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY PRESENTS:



St Clair Shores poet M L Liebler and acclaimed musicians Eddie Baranek, Charlie Palozzola and Steve King perform Beatles forever: a Short Story about Growing Up in St Clair Shores with The Beatles. Featuring songs and singalongs of Beatles music. Share laughs, memories, harmonies and music in the library meeting rooms **Friday June 5 2015 5-7pm** (faux cocktails served)

## MISSIONS



### Update on the After 26 Depot Café

On June 4 of this year the After 26 Project celebrates the 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of our opening. It is a tremendous accomplishment for us given that the statistics on new restaurant start-ups surviving past the first year are abysmal. The restaurant business is a tough business, especially in northern Michigan where winters are harsh and patronage suffers. The After 26 Depot Café currently generates about 80% of our expenses. That sounds good until one realizes that we have about a \$300,000.00 annual budget. Generating nearly a quarter of a million dollars per year is incredible, but it still leaves us 50k – 60k short. That difference is made up through the generous donations of many, the philanthropy of grant organizations, and various fundraisers. The First Congregational Church has been a very significant partner in supporting the

## Dave Gaunt

Depot Mission. The good news is that the gap is narrowing as we become more firmly established in the community, and gain more exposure state and nationwide. We try to live our slogan - Relax at the After 26 Depot Café where the food is great, the service is friendly, the atmosphere is classy, and the Mission is vital.

One of the events we will promote to fill the financial gap will be our inaugural summer fundraiser which will occur on **Saturday August 1, 2015** in downtown Cadillac at the Rotary Performing Arts Pavilion, and the surrounding area. It will be called the *Friends of the Depot Music Festival*. Since we have many supportive and gracious musicians who perform at the Depot (on Friday nights and some Saturdays on a regular basis,) these same musicians have been invited to

be part of a major music festival extravaganza. On the afternoon of August 1, a continual line-up of musicians will cross the stage and perform a selection of songs for the audience's pleasure. We are also pleased to feature the fun and high-energy group Roosevelt Diggs as our headliner, who will perform a 90-minute evening concert. All of these details are being worked out (with the musicians, the City of Cadillac, and a variety of other stakeholders.) Also included in the afternoon/evening event will be a variety of food options, snacks, and a wide selection of beverages. Additionally, we expect to have artisans and crafters who will operate booths offering an intriguing variety of items. Raffles and other activities will be in the mix as well. Whether you support the After 26 Project by patronizing the café, volunteering in varied capacities, or attending our various fundraisers, please know that we appreciate everything you do to make a difference in the lives of those who would have few opportunities without this support.

## **JOYS AND CONCERNS**

It is with sadness that we report the death of Tim Vollmar, who passed away on Thursday night at U of M Hospital in Ann Arbor. Condolences to Mary Vollmar and all the family.

### **Prayer List**

Please hold these members, friends, and family in prayer:

**Brian Belleville, Margaret Leemon, Jenny Freese and Linda Baynes, Ruth Pitts, Aaron Eckert, Terry Oss, Jim & Sharon Thompson, Marge Mattison, Ellen and Duane Anderson, Christine Barton, the family and friends of Tim Vollmar**

## Sunday Morning Schedule

Date	Usher/Greeters	Liturgist	Fellowship Hour	Sexton	Preacher	
<b>JUNE 7</b>	<b>Sue Wachowski &amp; Karen Anderson</b>	<b>Karen Anderson</b>	<i>Birthday Sunday</i> <b>Pat McCurdy</b>	<b>Bob LeVand</b>	<b>Dani Veenstra</b>	
<b>JUNE 14</b>	<b>Karma Chapo &amp; Donna Debney</b>	<b>Karma Chapo</b>	<b>Sue Wachowski</b>	<b>Laura Jacobson-Pentces</b>	<b>Dani Veenstra</b>	<b>Mission Moment</b> Joyce
<b>JUNE 21</b>	<b>Carol &amp; Jerry Nilsson</b>	<b>Tom Jobson</b>	<b>Charlotte Barfield</b>	<b>Linda Baynes</b>	<b>Dani Veenstra</b>	
<b>JUNE 28</b>	<b>TBA</b>	<b>Robin Corbin</b>	<b>Pot Luck</b>	<b>Penny Phelps</b>	<b>Dani Veenstra</b>	

<b>JUNE 2015</b> *Non-Church activities that occur in the church.						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<u>1</u> *Jazz.5:45 pm *Symphony Board 7pm	<u>2</u> *Jazz.8:30 am	<u>3</u> *Strength 4:30pm *Jazz.5:45 pm  <b>CHOIR 7pm</b>	<u>4</u> *Jazz.8:30am 5:45 pm	<u>5</u> *Jazz.8:30am	<u>6</u> *Jazz.8:30 am
<u>7</u> <b>CHOIR 9:30</b> <b>Worship 10:30</b> <b>COMMUNION</b> <i>Back to the Bricks Car Show</i> Tai Chi 3pm by the lake	<u>8</u> *Jazz. 5:45 pm	<u>9</u> *Jazz. 8:30 am	<u>10</u> *Strength 4:30pm *Jazz.5:45 pm  <b>CHOIR 7pm</b>	<u>11</u> *Jazz. 8:30am 5:45 pm	<u>12</u> *Jazz.8:30am	<u>13</u> *Jazz.8:30 am
<u>14</u> <b>CHOIR 9:30</b> <b>Worship 10:30</b> Tai Chi 3pm by the lake	<u>15</u> *Jazz. 5:45 pm <b>BoT 6:30 pm</b>	<u>16</u> *Jazz.8:30 am	<u>17</u> *Strength 4:30pm *Jazz.5:45 pm	<u>18</u> Jazz. 8:30am 5:45 pm	<u>19</u> Jazz.8:30 am	<u>20</u> Jazz.8:30 am <b>Pride Event</b> <b>Grand Rapids</b>
<u>21</u> <b>Worship 10:30</b> Tai Chi 3pm by the lake	<u>22</u> *Jazz. 5:45 pm	<u>23</u> *Jazz.8:30 am	<u>24</u> *Strength 4:30pm *Jazz.5:45 pm <b>NEWSLETTER ITEMS DUE</b>	<u>25</u> Jazz. 8:30am 5:45 pm	<u>26</u> Jazz.8:30 am	<u>27</u> Jazz.8:30 am
<u>28</u> <b>Worship 10:30</b> Tai Chi 3pm by the lake	<u>29</u> *Jazz. 5:45 pm	<u>30</u> *Jazz.8:30 am				