

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

## *“The Tie that Binds”*

### **July/August 2017**

Newsletter of First Congregational Church UCC  
Cadillac, MI

Margie Annis, Music Director

Patrick Delaney, Treasurer

Penny Phelps, Administrator

Marie Linn, Clerk

Rachel Whiteman, Secretary/Organist

Karen Smeltzer, Newsletter Editor

Carol Nilsson, Chair of Trustees

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

Sunday School and childcare available.

The church is open on **Mondays and Wednesdays** from 10:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Minister: John Doud [pastor@firstcongcadillac.org](mailto:pastor@firstcongcadillac.org) (231) 775-7632

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

# Messages from Celesta Lockwood

## and Samuel Pentces



### *Bullying Could Be Anywhere!*

One thing that I am passionate about is bullying. Bullying is everywhere and you can't run from it. It wasn't bad when I was little – kids said stupid stuff and my granny would tell me to stand up for myself, and I tried. But now that I am not little anymore, it's not just a few kids saying rude things. Now it's outright bullying and abuse. And not just in schools. Families and family members can also be bullies. A family member would bully me to be a Christian saying that I wouldn't go to heaven and would never see my family members like my granny; she would guilt trip me.

But I couldn't believe in that sort of god. Since I was born, bad things have happened to me. People would say that it's god's power that I'm alive and healthy. Basically, they would also say that I need to live every moment of my life for god. But I think it was me that was determined to stay alive; that I got myself through bad times by hard work and determination – not some being in the sky.

And now I am a young lady who graduated from high school with plans to be a graphics designer at a college this fall or next. Being bullied for most of my life made me want to prove them wrong; that it doesn't matter if you have a different religion. And yes, it does stress me out, but I always overcome it.

~ *Celesta Lockwood*



### *Superheroes!*

He is vengeance. He is the night. He is Batman! Making his starring debut in Detective Comics Issue # 27, in May of 1939. The graduating class of 1939 faced the uncertainty of the world as Soviet Russia and Nazi Germany were rising further and further in power and the second world war was on the horizon. Ten years later in 1949, the graduating class faced the startup of the cold war, with the possibility of communist spies lying amongst them, and the threat of swift destruction from Russian nuclear weapons loomed overhead. Flash forward another 10 years to 1959, and the graduating class was faced with the beginnings of the civil rights movement, and the Cuban missile crisis was to follow within the next two years. The point being that every graduating class throughout American History has had challenges to be faced in the real world. The problems that the previous generation faced were not the same problems that fell upon the shoulders of the next. Now in 2017, the list of challenges seems almost too long to count. From corruption in our justice system, to our easily manipulated economy, to our over reliance on fossil fuels. It will be the responsibility of my generation to fix these problems. So, you may be wondering how this relates back to Batman. The answer being that within the 78 years of the character's existence, kids and adults have seen superheroes like Batman as something that represents a kind of hope that one person can voluntarily make some sort of difference in the world. People are drawn to superheroes because they represent the best we can become and the best we can do for the world. Like real-life humans, they face countless challenges and take on near impossible feats, often with the small hope that they can succeed and make a change for the better. One could make the argument that characters such as Superman, Batman, or Captain America are just exaggerated human beings like FDR, or Martin Luther King, Jr. Not only that, but we start thinking differently and approach problems from new angles. In contrast to comic book land, Batman from the 1930's comics would simply punch every bad guy who stepped in his path, while

Batman from the 1990's comics would only resort to violence when it was necessary, and would try to reform his enemies.

People can look to these characters and find courage within themselves to make a change for the better. They are an embodiment of the potential we can hope to achieve, and they don't let fear stand between them and doing the right thing. FDR once stated that we have nothing to fear but fear itself, and although we cannot stop fear from being ever present in our lives, we cannot let it overpower us and keep us from doing what is right. Even though we are just humans, we can look past the fear and uncertainty that is presented before us, and find something that we can do that will benefit the wellbeing of others. It's as John F. Kennedy once said, "Ask not what your country can do for you. Ask what you can do for your country." With the many problems that stand before us today, anyone or anything that can encourage people to find it within themselves to make a difference in the world should be taken into thought. Although comic book superheroes are not real, they are much more than just characters on paper. They are figures to imprint upon ourselves as inspiration. And just as new problems will face the next generation, so too will these characters continue to inspire the courage in all of us to make a change for the better.

*~Samuel Pentces*

NOTE: These were the messages shared during the May 21, 2017 Youth Sunday worship service.



# LIFE IN THE CHURCH

Reminder: **Sunday, June 25** we will be celebrating Pride Sunday at the 10:30 AM worship service. The ONA Committee will lead the worship service.

There will also be a Pride Parade in Traverse City at 1:00 on June 25. Contact Linda Baynes or Bob LeVand for details.

Rita Meech will be holding a Memorial Service for Terry Oss at our church on Monday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> at 4:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to this service.

The church's **Semi-Annual meeting & Potluck will be held on Sunday, July 30<sup>th</sup>**. Communion will also be offered during this time. We will have 10:30 service "Early Christian Worship and Communion" in Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited to bring a potluck dish at 10:30. We will eat, worship, study the scriptures and conclude worship around 11:30, then have our Semi-Annual meeting.



The Pancake Brunch that was held Saturday, June 10 brought in \$200 for Stehouwer Clinic. Thank you to Joyce and Mike Oatley, Tom Jobson, Troy Knight and Jerry Nilsson for working in the kitchen providing the meal.



Thank you to Marie Linn for washing and cleaning all of the church glasses.

Thank you to Liz Raduazo for her generous assistance with our grant proposal.

Thank you to all those who so willingly shared their musical, religious education, Sunday School, Youth, ushering, sexton, liturgical, and preaching talents over the 2016-2017 church year, as well as to those who prepared food for our fellowship after worship service. You have, by your talents, provided our church with joy and inspiration, as well as unconditional love. And, of course, thank you to Karen Smeltzer for her devotion to our monthly church newsletter.

*~John Doud, Pastor*

## 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Pool Party

Sunday, July 16, 2017

11:30 AM

Twin Falls Resort of Cadillac  
(home of Bob LeVand & Troy Knight)

128 E. Pine St.

231-775-0586



Time again to grab your swim suits and floaties, sun screen and kids – come on down to the cement pond. One day only, Esther Williams’ Synchronized Swim Team. All performances will be captured for posterity and amusement. The team has spared no expense on costumes; the back drop remains the same – wet and wild. Members of the team, who need additional rehearsal time may contact Bob or Troy about pool time availability to hone their craft.

\* Please bring a dish to pass (to serve 10 people), folding lawn chair and swimming togs.

\* We’ll provide the hamburgers/hot dogs fixin’s, as well as soda/H2O. (The mixology machine and its “smoothie” pal are looking forward to renewing old acquaintances.)

\***Time:** directly following church service, till ??? Feasting will begin at 12:30 p.m. Listen for the dinner bell. (For those movie buffs – perhaps a ‘dive-in’ movie at dusk?)

A “Sunday Funday” production

## Church Garden

Once again this year there will be vegetable and herb gardens planted in front of the church in the raised beds. The two taller planters will hold herbs; the two lower planters will hold vegetables. There will be one planter open for you to plant your own herbs and one planter open to plant your own vegetables. This offers the opportunity to plant and care for your own herbs or vegetables if you don’t have your own garden area available. The planters will be ready for planting after Memorial Day.

Please sign up on the sheet at the back of the church if you’d like to help water the planters.



# BOARD OF TRUSTEES

## FROM THE CHURCH CLERK –

Please fill out the Membership form below, if you haven't done so already, and return it to the church clerk, Marie Linn. You may leave it in the church office or email it to: [clerk@firstcongcadillac.org](mailto:clerk@firstcongcadillac.org)

### MEMBERSHIP PROFILE

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

City-State-Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate & Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Baptism Date & Place: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Previous Church Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse & Date Married: \_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY CONTACT: (Name and phone) \_\_\_\_\_

–

CHILDREN: Name – Birthdate – Baptism Date – Current Address: (use back for additional information)

1 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

### TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF

Profession: \_\_\_\_\_

Passions: \_\_\_\_\_

Interests: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Talents: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you willing to serve in a leadership capacity in the church? Where would you like to serve?

Are you interested in serving on a committee? If so, which \_\_\_\_\_

### OFFICE USE ONLY

Membership Date: .....

Transfer of Letter: .....

Reaffirm. Of Faith: .....

Confession of Faith: .....

Confirmation: .....

Friend: .....

Date removed/reason: .....

## Sunday Morning Schedule

Date	Greeter/ushers	Liturgist	Fellowship Hour	Sexton	Preacher
July 2	Linda Baynes & Penny Phelps	Karen Anderson	<i>Birthday Sunday</i>	Bob LeVand	Penny Phelps
July 9	Al Snyder & Steve Jackson	Joyce Oatley	<i>Patrick Delaney</i>	Marie Linn	Pat Ponczek
July 16	Laura Jacobson & Sam Pentces	Karma Chapo	<i>No Coffee Hour (Pool Party/Potluck)</i>	Carol Nilsson	John Doud
July 23	George Davis & Leif Williams	Robin Corbin	<i>Margie Annis</i>	Penny Phelps	John Doud
July 30	Bill & Sue Cinco	Penny Phelps	<i>Potluck Semi-Annual Meeting</i>	John Smith	John Doud

## JULY 2017 CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b><i>Mission: Back Pack Program</i></b>						<u>1</u>
<u>2</u> Worship 10:30 am COMMUNION (circle) Penny Phelps, Minister	<u>3</u> 4:00 PM Terry Oss Memorial	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u> Office open 10:30-1:00	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>9</u> Worship 10:30am Pat Ponczek, Minister	<u>10</u> Office open 10:30-1:00	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u> Office open 10:30-1:00	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>16</u> Worship 10:30am	<u>17</u> Office open 10:30-1:00  <b>Board Meeting 6:30 pm</b>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u> Office open 10:30-1:00	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>
<u>23</u> Worship 10:30 am	<u>24</u> Office open 10:30-1:00	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u> Office open 10:30-1:00	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>
<u>30</u> Worship & Potluck in Fellowship Hall 10:30 am SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING & COMMUNION	<u>31</u> Office open 10:30-1:00					

Sunday Morning Schedule					
Date	Greeter/ushers	Liturgist	Fellowship Hour	Sexton	Preacher
August 6	Karma Chapo & Donna Debney	Ralph Annis	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	Sue Wachowski	John Doud
August 13	Charlotte Barfield & Sue Wachowski	Charlotte Barfield	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	Linda Baynes	John Doud
August 20	Sperry & Gert Claypool	Casey Cline	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	Sperry Claypool	Pat Ponczek
August 27	Carol & Jerry Nilsson	Catherine Doud	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	Patrick Delaney	Pat Ponczek

AUGUST 2017 CHURCH CALENDAR						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b><u>Mission: Shepherd's Table</u></b>		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Office open 10:30-1:00	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> Worship 10:30 am	<b>7</b> Office open 10:30-1:00	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Office open 10:30-1:00	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> Worship 10:30am	<b>14</b> Office open 10:30-1:00	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Office open 10:30-1:00	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> Worship 10:30 am Pat Ponczek, Minister	<b>21</b> Office open 10:30-1:00 <b>Board Meeting 6:30 pm</b> <b>Newsletter items due</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Office open 10:30-1:00	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> Worship 10:30 am Pat Ponczek, Minister	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		

Please be sure to have all articles for the September Newsletter to Karen Smeltzer  
**No Later than August 21<sup>st</sup>.** Thank You

**Non-church activities that take place in the church building:**

Jazzercise: 8:30am: Tue, Thu, Fri, Sat; 5:45pm: Mon, Wed, Thu; 4:30: Wed. Symphony Board: 7pm first Monday of the month  
**2017 Missions** - Jan.: Our Church's Wider Mission, Feb.: After 26 Project, March: One Great Hour of Sharing, April: Love, INC, May: Strengthen the Church, June: New Hope Shelter, July: Back Pack Program, August: Shepherd's Table, Sept.: Feeding America, Oct.: Neighbors in Need, Nov.: Salvation Army, Dec.: Christmas Fund