

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

## *“The Tie that Binds”*

# JUNE 2019

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 Rowley, Newsletter Editor  
Laura Jacobson-Pentces, Chairperson of Trustees

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

The church is open on **Mondays and Wednesdays** from Noon-2:00 p.m.

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

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# A LETTER FROM REV. DR CAMPBELL LOVETT, UCC MICHIGAN CONFERENCE MINISTER



Eastward Ho!

I travelled with a UCC delegation to the Middle East in 2016. After visits with our mission partners in Egypt, Lebanon and Jordan we arrived in Israel/Palestine and toured Jerusalem's Old City. At the Temple Mount, we learned more about the Golden Gate. This gate, now sealed, was the only eastern entrance to the Temple Mount and is likely the gate through which Jesus entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. When you look at this eastern gate from outside the wall, as you walk down the hill toward the Garden of Gethsemane, you realize how steep the climb was for Jesus and his followers. Riding on a donkey would have been a great help for Jesus!

John Domenic Crossan suggests that Jesus' choice of an eastern entrance into Jerusalem was to parody the entrance from the west of Pilate and his Roman guard. Early Christians believed that in the Second Coming of Jesus, Christ would appear from the east in keeping with the Palm Sunday entrance strategy. The resurrection also was associated with the easterly direction because of the women journeying to the tomb at dawn and seeing its emptiness by morning's first sunlight. Our Easter sunrise services usually face eastward to recall that first Easter morn; and for that same reason many early churches were built with altar areas situated in the east of the building.

There is much significance in this eastward direction. I have walked through airports and seen faithful Muslims find a secluded corner, face east, kneel and offer one of their five daily prayers. I have been a part of Native American blessings where, facing east, we honored the dawn, light, wisdom and understanding. Though I admire a glorious sunset, I am more inspired by the first light of day. I've been to Cadillac Mountain in Maine where (allegedly) the sun can first be seen in the US, and to Newfoundland where the sun's rays first shine in North America. My "first light" prayer on most mornings is: "Thank you, God, for giving me another day; I've never had this one before!"

As we move past the events of Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter, and now into spring and summer, I pray that the light from the east will illuminate and inspire our gatherings so that the message of life over death, hope over fear, and love over hate may be boldly proclaimed and faithfully lived out.

With you on the Journey,  
Campbell Lovett, Conference Minister

# JUNE EVENTS

## PRIDE SUNDAY JUNE 23<sup>rd</sup>



Our Open and Affirming (“ONA”) Committee will be leading a Pride service on **Sunday June 23<sup>rd</sup>**.

## PRIDE PARADE SATURDAY JUNE 22<sup>nd</sup>



A group from First Congregational Church UCC, Cadillac will be attending the picnic and parade in Traverse City on **June 22, 2019**.

See details for the parade and other Up North Pride events at [upnorthpride.com/events](http://upnorthpride.com/events)

# LOOKING AHEAD

## SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING: JULY 28



The Semi–Annual Congregational Meeting will take place at 11:30 am on **Sunday July 28<sup>th</sup>**. The 10:30 am service will be a conversational Early Christian Worship experience in Fellowship Hall.

# WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

## MUSIC CELEBRATION SERVICE

On Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, we enjoyed a service of music. Claude Johnson, the minister of music and youth at the First Congregational Church of Greenville, MI, sang a number of hymns and shared his faith journey. David Doud and Jack Purkiss provided uplifting music. Margie Annis and John Doud gave a dialogue/meditation on the Adam Brooks Webber hymn, "WE Too Seek You". All in all, it was a wonderful May Sunday morning to gather together and be inspired by so many talented and inspirational musicians.



Claude Johnson



Jack Purkiss





Dave Doud

*Many thanks to Robin Corbin for these great photos!*

## **SPRING CLEANUP**

Thanks to everyone who helped with the cleanup in May. It was a lovely warm Spring day for outdoor work.



# **MAY'S MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

## **- Laura Jacobson-Pentces**

The Board of Trustees met on May 21 for their regular monthly meeting. Here are the highlights of the meeting.

Upcoming maintenance expenses and budget concerns. Richard Harvey noted that there are several upcoming maintenance expenses - including a scheduled furnace check, new exit signs (as required by the Fire Marshal), and the replacement of the basement windows that were vandalized last fall. The cost of these three items will be in excess of \$1000. Expenses such as these are covered by the budget, however, the budget is tight. Patrick Delaney expressed his concern (echoed by those on the board) about future unexpected expenses, such as those that might be incurred due to a major failure - such as the furnace, etc. The board recognizes that there are a number of updates and repairs that are needed in the near future and the cost of these will exceed the current budget. In light of this, the board is actively discussing and exploring methods and means to increase the funds available. The board is currently in the discussion and exploration phase and looks to present some of these ideas at the semi annual meeting, to the congregation for their input.

Determination of 501(c)3 status (IRS non-profit status). Penny Phelps relayed that she contacted the IRS in regards to the status of our 501(c)3 application and was told that they are still processing August 2018 applications (ours was submitted in October). The delay is due to the government shutdown. They suggested that she complete a request asking for an expedited process and she is doing so.

Sexton Orientation/Training. The next session for those sextons that missed Richard's orientation will be June 9 during Fellowship Hour.

Submitted: Laura Jacobson-Pentces

# ***THE WIDER UCC***

## **GENERAL SYNOD 2019**

Sara Keinath will be our delegate at the national UCC's General Synod in Milwaukee. The conference runs from June 21-25

## **TWOCAN PROJECT**

**Donna Debney**

The TWOCAN project is back – I will be displaying my poster and accepting any donations you have saved from the funds you received when you returned your deposit cans and bottles these past few months. As you may remember, the UCC WOMEN OF MICHIGAN are collecting monies to be passed on to CHURCH WORLD SERVICES to help cover shipping costs as they send much needed supplies to victims of floods, fires and other disasters. At the moment, Clean Up Kits are needed in those places where flooding has occurred.

Thank you for all you do!

- Donna Debney

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE					
Date	Greeters/ Ushers	Liturgist	Fellowship Hour	Sexton	Preacher
2	Carol & Jerry Nilsson	Catherine Doud	Don & Nancy Liebau	Carol Nilsson	John Doud
9	Don & Nancy Liebau	Karen Rowley	Penny Phelps, Marie Linn	Don Liebau	John Doud
16	Joyce & Mike Oatley	Laura Porter	ONA Committee	Marie Linn	Judy Coffey
23	Steve & Laura Jacobson Pentces	Penny Phelps	Willa Brintnall, Linda Johnson	Linda Baynes	ONA Committee
30	Gert & Sperry Claypool	Don Liebau	Patrick Delaney, Charlotte Barfield	Sperry Claypool	John Doud

JUNE 2019 CHURCH CALENDAR						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<u>1</u>
<u>2</u> Choir 9:30am <b>Worship 10:30am, Communion (in pews)</b>	<u>3</u> Office 12-2pm	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u> Office 12-2pm Choir 7pm	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>
<u>9</u> Choir 9:30am <b>Worship 10:30am Sexton Education 11:30am</b>	<u>10</u> Office 12-2pm	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u> Office 12-2pm	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>16</u> <b>Worship 10:30am</b>	<u>17</u> Office 12-2pm	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u> Office 12-2pm	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>
<u>23</u> <b>Worship 10:30am - ONA ("Open and Affirming") theme</b>	<u>24</u> Office 12-2pm <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE (July/Aug )</b>	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u> Office 12-2pm	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>
<u>30</u> <b>Worship 10:30am</b>						

June Mission: New Hope Shelter

**2019 Missions:** June: New Hope Shelter, July: Back Pack Program, August: TBA, Sept.: Feeding America, Oct.: Neighbors in Need (UCC), Nov.: Salvation Army, Dec.: Christmas Fund (UCC)

**NON-CHURCH ACTIVITIES THAT TAKE PLACE IN THE CHURCH BUILDING:**

**Jazzercise:** Mon: 5:45pm Tue: 8:30am Wed: 4:30pm, 5:45pm Thu 8:30am, 5:45pm Fri 8:30am Sat 8:30am  
**Yoga** (Sandy Gaunt): Wednesdays: non-segregated class at 10am