

Congregational Courier

THOUGHTS FROM DARCY CRAIN SENIOR MINISTER

Dear Friends:

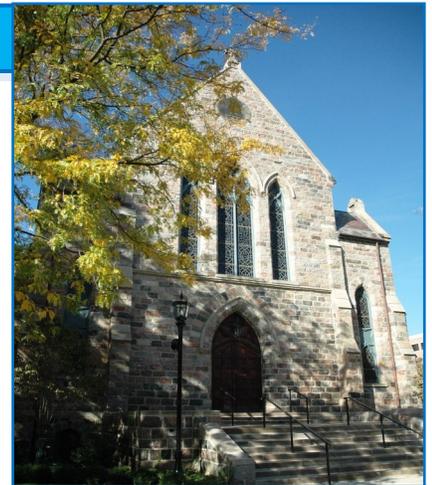
In Lent, many begin a time of abstaining, reflection, and prayer. We often think of this is a somber time; if you don't think it's somber, check out the Lent section of our hymnal, it provides several hymns that may change your mind on that matter. It is into this somber season that I enter with an ear-to-ear grin and childlike excitement. Why? Because we have all the right players on the team, and this staff team of FCC is poised and ready to lead us through Lent. I could not be more proud and frankly more excited about all we can do and where we can grow as a faith family.



When I first began my work as Senior Minister, I laid out a new vision for staffing: two full-time clergy, one part-time specialized children's ministry staff, and one part-time specialized clergy. These programming staff work closely with our Admin. Asst. (Carolina), our Media Specialist (Jared), our Bookkeeper and Sunday Solver of All Things (Nancy), and our incredible music staff: Ben, Tim, Terry, and Joshua. As we enter Lent, I am incredibly excited to have a full team of staff ready to lead with all the creativity and gifts they bring. Lily and I are joined by Eric (see page 15) and Marina (who joined us this past Fall), and together we are well positioned to serve the breadth of ministry opportunities at FCC.

Even in the somber nature of Lent, I have a sense of excitement, as if we are preparing to feast as much as we are to fast. Perhaps, the true nature of Lent is to be aware that as we journey with Jesus to the horrific events of Good Friday and in anticipation of that sunrise Easter morning, we do both fasting and feasting. Lent is the time to consider what it is we fast from and what it is we seek to feast upon. This prayer written by William Arthur Ward is helpful to me as I seek to draw closer to Jesus through both fasting and feasting with our incredible full staff team this Lent.

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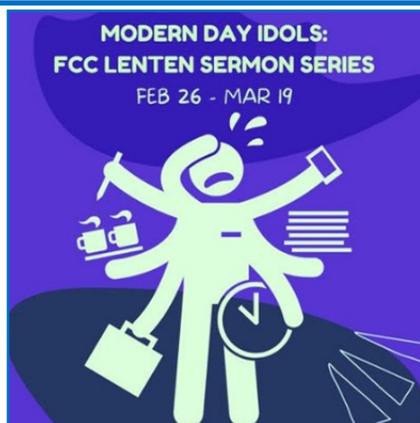
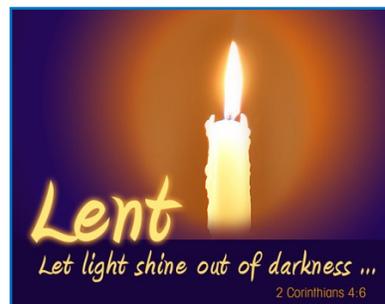


Whatever Your Story, You're Welcome Here

“Fast from judging others; Feast on Christ dwelling in them.
Fast from emphasis on differences; Feast on the unity of all life.
Fast from apparent darkness; Feast on the reality of all light.
Fast from words that pollute; Feast on phrases that purify.
Fast from discontent; Feast on gratitude.
Fast from anger; Feast on patience.
Fast from worry; Feast on God’s providence.
Fast from complaining; Feast on appreciation.
Fast from negatives; Feast on affirmatives.
Fast from unrelenting pressures; Feast on unceasing prayer.
Fast from hostility; Feast on non-resistance.
Fast from bitterness; Feast on forgiveness.
Fast from self-concern; Feast on compassion for others.
Fast from discouragement; Feast on hope.
Fast from facts that depress; Feast on verities that uplift.
Fast from lethargy; Feast on enthusiasm.
Fast from suspicion; Feast on truth.
Fast from thoughts that weaken; Feast on promises that inspire.
Fast from shadows of sorrow; Feast on the sunlight of serenity.
Fast from idle gossip; Feast on purposeful silence.
Fast from problems that overwhelm; Feast on prayer that sustains.”

Let us fast and feast together, full team, full steam ahead.

Darcy Crain
Senior Minister



While our ancestors may have begun with a golden calf, there is no shortage of today’s idols: appearance, fame, fortune, intellect, publications, Pinterest dinners, and picture perfect family vacations, the list goes on and on. Idolatry is not a new concept for our faith. Our ancestors dealt with the core of this challenge long before we did. What can we learn from them about how to face idolatry with faith and courage?

LILY TINKER FORTEL
MINISTER OF FAITH FORMATION

This Courier newsletter comes at the beginning of March, just as our (mild) winter seems to linger and dwindle all at once. It will last us through May, as spring's new beginnings are fully underway and we begin to taste the warmth of summer. It's almost as if Lent was timed for these seasonal changes. It was!



Welcome to Lent, FCC! Lent is a journey we take with Jesus and his earliest followers, with Jesus's present day followers around the world, and with our beloved FCC community. Lent is a time for pause and reflection. It is a time to reflect on why Jesus's life and example led to his persecution—and ultimately his crucifixion—by those who feared him, his message of love, and the change he represented. It's an opportunity to reflect on our own journey as disciples, and the needs of our world. It's an invitation to ask ourselves what we wish to change in our own lives. We can ask what we are ready to let go of as we yearn for growth and the end of winter's dormancy. We remember that life does not end in winter; we remember that life prepares to emerge. We can ask what we want to add to our lives as we anticipate spring's renewal and new beginnings. Then, with Easter, we lean into the beauty of life's resilience and rebirth.

As you reflect on these things in your individual lives, you'll find support and encouragement at FCC. We have ordered printed **Lenten devotionals** from the 'stillspeaking writer's group' for individual reflection. Our existing adult **small groups** will continue to be a space for growth and fellowship. We'll be offering new adult faith formation opportunities as well! We'll launch a series of Saturday **yoga classes**. We'll explore **meditation** with Eric and other community leaders. Your Missions & Outreach Committee will present you with opportunities for **service** to our community. Your children and youth will have meaningful opportunities for fellowship and learning in **FCC Kidz** on Sunday mornings *and* outside of Sunday mornings. Your high school youth will prepare for FCC's summer service trip to **western Kentucky** this summer. As a community, FCC will reflect on the current programming year and anticipate the new fiscal year. We'll all be presented with the opportunity to joyfully support the life of FCC through **stewardship** pledges and by sharing our **time and talents** for the good of the broader community.

Ash Wednesday on February 26 marks the beginning of Lent. On Ash Wednesday, we remember our own mortality, and the wonder of the circle of life. Many choose to mark their foreheads or hands with ashes. Often ashes are administered with the blessing "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." My favorite blessing for administering Ash

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LILY TINKER FORTEL
MINISTER OF FAITH FORMATION

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Wednesday ashes is, "You are made of sacred stardust and to sacred stardust you will return." In the coming months we will reflect during Lent, celebrate during Easter, and anticipate spring and even summer together! I wish for each of you the wonders of the sacred stardust of this life: the sacred stardust from which you are formed, the sacred stardust that shines from within you, the sacred stardust of Jesus's life and God's limitless love, and of our love for one another in community. May FCC's Love continue to shine bright for you and for our broader communities of Ann Arbor and beyond.



Rev. Lily Tinker Fortel
Minister of Faith Formation

Faith Formation News



Welcome Emma!

We are thrilled to welcome a new childcare provider in FCC's nursery and toddler room! Emma learned about the need for childcare providers when Darcy and Lily delivered cookies to Betsy BarbOUR Hall during finals week. If you know of other young adults who might be interested in a paid childcare opportunity at FCC please let Lily or Marina know.

A note from Emma: *"Hi! I'm Emma. I'm from Berkeley, California. I'm currently a sophomore at the University of Michigan studying to be an archaeologist. I enjoy rock climbing and Mexican food and my favorite animals are alpacas."*

Faith Formation Upcoming Events

- **Yoga at FCC with Jill Diwan during Lent** (see full article on page 10)
- **20/40 Upcoming Sunday Gatherings** (see full article on page 22)
- **Brunch Bunch Service Day** (see full article on page 23)
- **Meditation Mondays** (see full article on page 11)

JFS Easter Tree - Giving in Community (see full article on page 14)

FCC Kidz and families will receive information on how they can participate on March 5. We thought FCC's children and youth might like an opportunity to offer their own simple gift of

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LILY TINKER FORTEL

MINISTER OF FAITH FORMATION

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welcome. Along with a small handmade greeting card, the Easter Giving bag could contain a tiny stuffed animal, hair scrunchies, and new box of crayons, markers or a coloring book... any (new) little gift warmly given from the heart to those in need of a smile, a friendly message and welcome to our community.

Family Camp (see full article on page 11)

High School Youth Service Trip - June 18-24 in Western Kentucky

Graduating 8th graders through graduating seniors are invited to join FCC Youth for a life-shaping experience! Friends of FCC Youth are invited to join. For more information, please contact Lily (lily@fccannarbor.org).



FCC's 2023 Summer Volunteer Trip

Join us for a life-shaping week

WHO: YOU! FCC's High School Youth (finishing 8th grade-graduating seniors) and youth from Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church
WHAT: FCC Summer Service Trip
WHERE: Western Kentucky
WHEN: Sunday, June 18-Saturday, June 24
WHY...

JUNE 18-JUNE 24, 2023



FCC's 2023 Summer Volunteer Trip

...WHY

THROUGH SERVICE WE ARE CHANGED

Service: Western Kentucky was hit hard by tornadoes in December 2021. We're going to help two communities as they cleanup and rebuild.

Growth: We will challenge ourselves and grow. We'll learn new skills and work hard all week long!

Community: You'll build and deepen lifelong friendships!

Adventure: See a new part of the world! In addition to service, we'll explore KY, including an adventure to Mammoth Cave National Park!

Fun & Spirituality: We'll have fun and grow in our spirituality.

Winter Highlights 2022 - 2023 @ FCC

ERIC HAUSMAN
ADJUNCT MINISTER

A childhood pastor of mine, Pastor John, had an interesting theory of food. He hated the idea of diets that told you what you can't eat. Instead, he loved eating lots of the good things that you can eat. Instead of putting up a reminder to refrain from refined sugar, he would put up pictures of delicious meals that are also healthy to consume. In a spiritual sense, he found that when he focused on what he couldn't have... it just made him want it more. So it was a pragmatic approach to stay focused on all the good things he would fill his stomach with. Pastor John loved food so much that one could miss the big lesson he was trying to make. This same shift in perspective is something you can do in all areas of life.



Ash Wednesday just started on February 22 this year. It marks the beginning of Lent and a time of year when many churches begin a time of fasting in preparation for Easter. There are some who will also be picking additional things to do without and give up during these 40 days. I've done this before and it can be a powerful spiritual practice. And yet, this year I am not making any lists of things I can't have. Instead, I'm keeping my eyes on the good things I want to see more of in my life. This will be my Lenten practice, and I invite you to join me. What are the good things you want more of?

Sometimes we help make things real by sharing them with others. In this spirit, I have turned the door to my new office into a kind of sharing wall where we can name some of the changes we are hoping to see in our lives. Take a piece of paper and write something on it. Then post it on my door. It is that simple. Take a moment to read what others have posted as well. My hope is that our sharing together strengthens not just each of us but our whole community.

Yours in faith and gratitude,
Rev. Eric



CALL TO ANNUAL MEETING on Sunday, June 11, 2023

The first notice of the Annual Meeting usually goes out at the end of May. Since this Courier covers May, this is the first official call to The First Congregational Church of Ann Arbor's Annual Meeting, the purpose of which is the presentation of the annual reports, the election of officers, and discussion of other appropriate business. Per FCC Bylaws Section 9.3 Notice of Meetings, this also serves as the required '*personal notice hand mailed or electronically mailed to each member of the Church at least five days in advance of the meeting*'. The 2022-2023 Annual Report will be available May 28, 2023. Please plan on attending!

REFLECTIONS ON THE MSU SHOOTING

DARCY CRAIN, SENIOR MINISTER



As I write this, it has been exactly one week since the shooting on the campus of Michigan State University. This evening last week I was texting our youth group members at State to check on their welfare. Yesterday, one of our students, home for the week with her roommate, sat in our pews, seeking peace, and meaning, and safety in our sanctuary.

Our service didn't speak directly to the terror of that night. Eric prayed beautifully about it, but we did not light candles. We didn't have a display honoring the victims by face and by name. Maybe we should have, maybe that would have been healing to our Spartan alumni and current students and families. I am sorry if we fell short in helping you process, honor, and grieve this horror. I will be honest, it was still surreal to me, and I just couldn't set smiling young faces into frames with names and surround them with candles. It seemed like yesterday we had done that for Oxford, our youth filing in and lighting the candles, because it could have just as easily have been them.

On Monday night, it was them. In fact, one of our youths that lit candles for Oxford in our sanctuary in December of 2022 was huddled in her dorm room barricaded and traumatized. It was them, and it was us, and it was an entire community. We talked about mountain top experiences on Transfiguration Sunday. The truth of it is that the campus of MSU held many of those powerful and transformative and yes, even spiritual experiences for many alumni. And on Monday night that sanctuary was desecrated by terror. Hate-filled and purposeless terror. The place of sanctuary that held memories of finding your purpose, finding your person, finding your way in the world, had been replaced by trauma. Walking through the Union; for lunch, to meet a friend, for a first date, to study, to simply 'BE' a young person in a wonderful chapter of their life is forever changed, for students and for alumni too.

I sat in our beautiful sanctuary the week after the shooting. Inside, the space was quiet, the windows beautiful as always, the organ majestic; the silence was beautiful and healing. That Sunday the sanctuary filled with people seeking that sense of peace or healing or purpose or understanding. Alumni wore Spartan ties and hoodies. Students, home from campus, sat in our pews looking shell-shocked. What I saw on Sunday was resilience and hope. When students and alumni chose to come to a different sanctuary after their own was defiled, they chose hope. When we choose to cry and be angry and be scared and have all the feelings rather than throw up our hands in apathetic despair, we choose hope. People took to social media to share their stories and in so doing created communal support where others experienced isolation. How you choose hope looks different, but seeing all the green and white in

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REFLECTIONS ON THE MSU SHOOTING

DARCY CRAIN, SENIOR MINISTER

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our sanctuary, the faces of brave students and alumni that didn't try to hide their hurt, the vigil on the diag, the Spartan flag on UM campus, that all gave me hope. The fact that our own youth brought her roommate to her home church, her sanctuary, on this week of terror and trauma brought me hope.

I often pray to a living and loving God. I see a living and loving God whose heart broke with so many others on the night of February 13. I see a living and loving God that inspires policy makers and mental health care professionals and communities of support and advocacy to say enough is enough. Even in the terror, I see a community of people willing to be a sanctuary to others when and where they need it.

I know the reality is dismal. I am all too aware that we just prayed for another mass shooting in CA a few weeks before State happened. I'm not saying it's ok. I'm not suggesting that we can whisk away the bigness of it with words or prayers or vigils. I am saying I believe in a living and loving God that joins our cry that enough is enough. I am saying that I believe in a future I cannot yet see. I am saying that I believe the promise Christ gave, that a light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it.

MUSIC COMMITTEE

PAUL FOSSUM, CHAIR

We gratefully acknowledge the excellence of the musical offerings during the Advent season. Special thanks to Terry Farmer and the Change of Pace band for their Blue Christmas, to Ben Gaughran and the Chancel Choir, Soloists, and Orchestra for their December 11 offering of the Saint Saëns Christmas Oratorio, and to the musicians supporting our Christmas Eve services.

We are also grateful to the American Center for Church Music (ACCM), headquartered at FCC, and the local chapter of the American Guild of Organists - both entities captained by our organist, Dr. Timothy Huth. Since the last *Courier* issue, Dr. Joe Gascho and the UM Baroque Orchestra, the Classical Bells Hand Bell Choir, and the Black Church: A Kaleidoscope of Colors symposium and concert provided an abundance of musical entertainment. Please mark your calendars for these upcoming events:

Sunday, April 2, 10:00 a.m. - Special Music Presentation of the Rutter *Requiem* (page 10)

Saturday, April 8, 4:09 p.m. - Change of Pace Easter Eve Service - Live Band (page 10)

Sunday, April 30, 4:00 p.m. - Slavi Ukraine! Organ concert to benefit Ukraine (page 20)

As always, please let us know what is on your mind regarding all "things musical" at FCC.

FCC CORE IDENTITY STORY - VISION STATEMENT

WARMING CENTER THANK YOU - PAM DABBS, MISSIONS & OUTREACH

The FCC Warming Shelter has closed its doors on our 9th, not 7th season of operation as was reported earlier! Where have all those years gone? Regardless, it is bittersweet because we have gotten to know many of the 65+ attendees and we will not only miss them, but we will worry about their safety and well-being in the future. The one bright spot is that we did do something to help those who entered our doors. It may not have been huge...but, the food and warmth helped in the moment and that is the way of "homelessness", survival from minute to minute. Our members (50+) who donated time, food/supplies and funds depended on each other in order to operate the warming shelter and in the process became a closer knit congregation and those who were in need depended on us to provide the lifesaving food and warmth. It was a win, win situation. It is hard to determine whether the warming shelter helped the homeless more, or gave more to our members through their understanding of the true meaning of a "working church".

During the last few years, when Covid was interfering with normal life and we had renovations going on, we made lunch in our private kitchens or in the Pilgrim Hall Kitchen and delivered it at noon to one of the churches in town that had space to safely open their doors. This was done on Monday, Wednesday's and Fridays during February of 2020, 21 and 22. We were able to do this with a Warming Shelter budget provided each year by the FCC Trustees. During a normal "in person" warming shelter at our church, we use this same budget, but because we provide breakfast, lunch, snacks and pay a lobby attendant, we ask our church members to donate food/ supplies to offset our costs. I must say that our church members never, ever have let us down with our requests and it is truly AMAZING to see and to be a part of such a special mission. There is nothing more special than working among friends/members who really CARE. FCC thanks you all!

Yes, we are helping people in the community who need us, but in the process, as a congregation we are gaining so much. We are meeting other members in our church and getting to know each other as we work together on a common goal. I keep saying this each year, but one day this year proved my point! As I was coming to the shelter to work in the afternoon, two morning volunteers were saying good-bye to each other and saying how nice it had been to meet each other and work together! I smiled because these two people really had never met, even though they both had been members of FCC for years and years! So the proof of the warming shelter's value was right in our own kitchen as we worked together and got to know our fellow members!

The FCC warming shelter is a perfect example of our favorite saying: "Whatever Your Story, You're Welcome Here". Absolutely, every single person of the 65+ people we served with housing insecurities was welcomed here each day we were open. Together, we did what we could to make February days warm and food friendly. As a church, the more we reach out to others, the closer we come to truly representing our church and its' "Vision": We strive to be a joyous spiritual home, welcoming and valuing all people, engaging God's Word, and enriching lives".

We thank all of you for all you did to make this a very successful "season of warming!"
You are the BEST!

Please Notice This



If you have a story that you would like to share that reflects an aspect of our FCC Core Identity, please submit it to robbiesawitski@gmail.com. This is who we are...let's share our stories together!

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE AT FCC

April 2 Palm Sunday

10:00 a.m. Special Music - John Rutter *Requiem*
FCC Chancel Choir and Orchestra

April 6 Maundy Thursday

7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday marks three key events in Jesus' last week: his washing of his disciples' feet, his institution of the Lord's Supper, and his new commandment to love one another. Tenebrae, an ancient service, increases darkness by gradually extinguishing candles to symbolize the coming darkness of Jesus' death. After the service, people leave in silence.

April 7 Good Friday

12:30 p.m. There are three - half hour long services at First United Methodist, 120 S. State St. FCC leads the service at 12:30 p.m.

April 8 Change of Pace Easter Eve Service

4:09 p.m. Terry Farmer and the COP Band

April 9 Easter Sunday

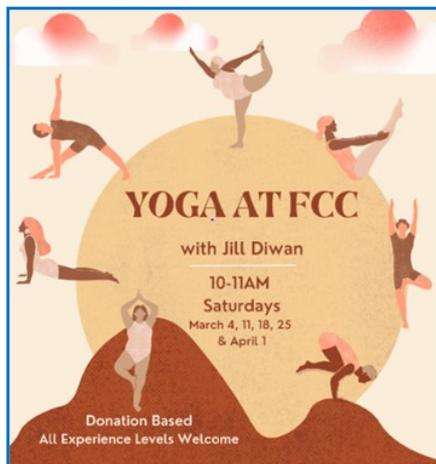
9:30 a.m. Communion

10:00 a.m. Traditional Easter Service
Easter Egg Hunt during the service

11:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast



MARCH / APRIL / MAY EVENTS



NEW Lent and Spring Yoga at FCC with Jill Diwan
Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., Pilgrim Hall

Yoga for Lent

March 4
March 11
March 18
March 25
April 1
~ No class April 8 ~

Yoga for Spring

April 15,
April 22
~ No class April 29 ~
May 6,
May 13,
May 20,
~ No class May 29 ~

If you are looking for a welcoming place to become a more flexible you, contact Robbie at robbiesawitski@gmail.com to be added to our email list. Donation based. Childcare provided. We hope you will join us!

MARCH / APRIL / MAY EVENTS

March 21, April 18, and May 16 - Good Grief Lunch Bunch

In December we gathered as a group of people grieving past losses, whether it was 2 weeks or 2 years, or longer. Grief is a long journey that is unique for each and inevitable for all who are tasked to walk its path. We gathered for a time of lunch and fellowship and connecting over shared experiences. It's as simple as that! We will continue to meet monthly on Tuesdays at a local restaurant for lunch or dinner. In February we gathered at Paesano's. In March, we will gather for dinner together. If you'd like to be included in these gatherings, please reach out to Darcy or to Carolina in the office and we will put you on the email/call list. If you need help with transportation, please let us know and we can arrange a ride for you.

March 26 - 175th Anniversary Celebration Brunch

11:00 a.m. Pilgrim Hall

In addition to the Certificates of Membership that are handed out, your Activities and Fellowship Committee is planning a festive and unique meal for our 175th Anniversary Celebration Brunch. We are looking for volunteers to make their favorite egg bake casseroles, cinnamon roll casseroles, or any other delightful breakfast/brunch casserole that you may wish to share with the church. The more variety, the better! We are especially hoping for some Gluten Free and Vegan dishes from those who have good recipes. If you would like to contribute a casserole, please email Robbie at robbiesawitski@gmail.com.



MEDITATION MONDAYS

The First Congregational Church of Ann Arbor

April 10, April 24, May 1, May 8.

Meditation Mondays - April 10, April 24, May 1, May 8

Whether new to meditation or experienced within a particular tradition, this 4-week series has something to offer for everyone. With guest speakers and familiar faces we will explore meditative practices of different kinds. Through art, scripture, music, and silence, we will get to experience different ways of meditating through history and in our own lives.

Family Camp - April 21 - 23

All FCC people are invited to this year's family camp from April 21-23. Registration is now open! Join FCC members from all walks of life for exploring nature, worshiping together, and building community. Tower Hill is located right on Lake Michigan. To register, please email Carolina at office@fccannarbor.org. Suggested payment is \$75/adult and \$50/children and youth, though payment is not a requirement for participation!

FCC
FAMILY
CAMP

April 21-23, 2023
Tower Hill Camp, Sawyer, MI

• Lake Michigan • Community • Archery • Bonfire • Hiking • Worship

Registration Now Open!
Suggested Payment*: \$75/adult \$50/child
*Payment is not a requirement for participation!

To Register, contact Carolina: office@fccannarbor.org
Questions: Lily (lily@fccannarbor.org)

ALL FCC PEOPLE WELCOME!
ALL GENERATIONS
GRANDPARENTS, COLLEGE STUDENTS,
EMPTY NESTERS,
SINGLE PEOPLE, COUPLES, &
FAMILIES WITH YOUNG KIDS

MARCH / APRIL / MAY EVENTS

Slavi Ukraine* Benefit Organ Concert to Aid the Ukrainian People **Sunday, April 30, 4:00 p.m.**

Presented by FCC, in association with the American Center of Church Music (ACCM), this concert will feature distinguished concert organist Dr. Gail Archer.

Free-will offerings will go to support humanitarian efforts in Ukraine. For more details, please see the full article in the Contemporary Issues report on page 20.

* *Glory to Ukraine*

May 6 - FCC Spring Cleaning Workday

The Building & Grounds Committee is planning an All-Church workday (maybe just morning is needed) on Saturday April 22nd. Please pencil this date in your calendar if you are able to spend the morning, and maybe a bit of the afternoon helping to spruce up the FCC grounds. We may also have some light indoor or building exterior projects to tackle, too. Many hands make light work. As time approaches, we'll have a list of projects put together. *Thanks, Your B & G Committee*

*Save
the
Date*

AFC - R & R Schupan Tour

Tuesday, May 9, 7:30 p.m.

This is a rare opportunity to get behind the scenes at the trash and recycling center that handles the Ann Arbor Art Fair. Schupan & Sons LLC, located at 4820 Holtz Dr., in Wixom, MI has offered us a private tour of their facility.

We will gather at Kensington Metro Park in the late afternoon, to enjoy a picnic of individually bagged dinners and friendship, while we wait until 7:00 p.m. to caravan over to the facility. If you would like to join us, or have questions, please contact Robbie at robbiesawitski@gmail.com.



STEWARDSHIP SUBCOMMITTEE MIKE CREAL, CHAIR



Our stewardship campaign will kick off in March, as we consider how we can make commitments of sharing our resources to further the mission of The First Congregational Church of Ann Arbor. Whether you have called this church home for decades, are a newer member or you've recently begun streaming us online, stewardship is our shared opportunity to support this faith community we love. You'll be hearing more from us in the mail and in an email the week of March 13th. Throughout the campaign we will be sharing members' stories that have inspired us and are hopeful that their journeys will inspire you as well!

Stewardship Committee: Mike Creal, Colleen Creal, Terry Foster, Jim Miller, Darcy Crain

MARCH / APRIL / MAY HIGHLIGHTS

Notable March Dates

- 1 Peace Corps Day
- 7 Purim - begins at sundown, the date varies
- 12 Daylight Savings begins at 2 a.m. - date varies
- 17 St. Patrick's Day - when everyone is a wee bit Irish
- 14 National Pi Day - Because today is 3.14, the value of Pi



March is:

- Music in Our Schools Month
- National Women's History Month
- Red Cross Month
- Social Workers Month



Notable April Dates

- 2 World Autism Awareness Day
- 14 National Donate a Book Day (see page 14)
- 18 Tax Day
- 22 Earth Day
- 26 Administrative Professionals Day



April is:

- Celebrate Diversity Month
- National Stress Awareness Month
- National Volunteer Month
- Sexual Assault Awareness Month



Notable May Dates

- 4 Star Wars Day – *"May the fourth be with you."*
- 5 Cinco de Mayo
- 6 National Nurses Day
- 8 V-E Day
- 9 National Teacher's Day - Tuesday of first full week of May
- 14 Mother's Day - second Sunday in May
- 25 National Missing Children's Day
- 29 Memorial Day - last Monday of month



May is:

- Gifts from the Garden Month
- Lupus Awareness Month
- National Barbecue Month
- National Bike Month
- National Blood Pressure Month



FCC AND OUR COMMUNITY NEWS AND INFORMATION



FCC FOOD PANTRY

Did you know that Hope Clinic is the largest free food program in our county? This service includes a pantry of choice, where shoppers pick the food they want including dairy, meat, and fresh produce. Please help fill our empty food donation shelves! Food insufficiency happens year round in our community. The food items we collect go to Hope Clinic’s food pantry. The pantry is part of the Food Gatherers network but also relies on donations to provide a variety of food choices and specific dietary needs.



Meals in a can: ravioli, hearty soups, beef stew		Shampoo /Conditioner
Canned meats	Whole Wheat Pasta	Bar soap
Canned fish	Rice	Dish soap
Low salt soups	Cereal	Laundry Soap
Canned fruit	Peanut Butter	Ketchup, Mustard, Mayonnaise

Please place your donations on the food collection shelves in the Smith Welcome Center.

Book Drive for Cass Community Services



Mind and Spirit is collecting new and gently used books for the new Fox Family Center at Detroit’s Cass Community Services. We appreciate donations of books for children through adults. Especially needed are books by black authors as well as those with multicultural representation. Please place books in the striped bin, found in the donations area of the Smith Welcome Center. We will be collecting these for several months.

Thanks for your help!

MISSIONS AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE GREG EGGLESTON, CHAIR

Starting in March, our annual **JFS Easter Giving Tree** project begins again. This effort supports newly arrived refugee families with household necessities. Among items being requested this time will be new bed pillows (Target \$4), new twin and queen comforters (NOT fleece), new bath and hand towels, light bulbs, toilet paper, paper towels, gift cards, and excellent used condition floor lamps, table lamps, end tables, coffee tables, vacuums, microwaves and more! Keep an eye out for details in upcoming FCC emails and bulletins!

If you are looking for a place to donate your gently used furniture, consider JFS as one of your options. The process is super simple! Send a picture of your item to JFS volunteer Patty Benson at pbenson@comcast.net. She will provide details of how to drop things off at the JFS offsite storage area. Please do not take furniture to JFS. Any questions regarding the process, please contact FCC member Sheryl Kurze at kurze.sheryl@gmail.com.

FCC AND OUR COMMUNITY NEWS AND INFORMATION

Meet the Newest Staff of FCC

Rev. Eric Hausman, Adjunct Minister

We are thrilled to welcome Rev. Eric to FCC! Eric joined us formally on January 30 and has been providing wonderful leadership to our worship services and our Tuesday Night Series (TNS) small group. His role as Adjunct Minister at FCC is to provide leadership to our Sunday worship services: serving as minister in the 9:30 am communion service, offering various prayers during our 9 and 10 am services, and occasionally, preaching. Eric also comes to us with a depth of knowledge on spiritual development in congregations. If you haven't had a chance to say hello to Eric and welcome him to FCC, please do so in the weeks to come! After earning his Master of Divinity from Harvard, Rev. Eric completed internships at King's Chapel (Boston) and Universitätsklinikum Frankfurt (Germany). For 10+ years, he served congregations throughout New England and Germany as Senior Minister.



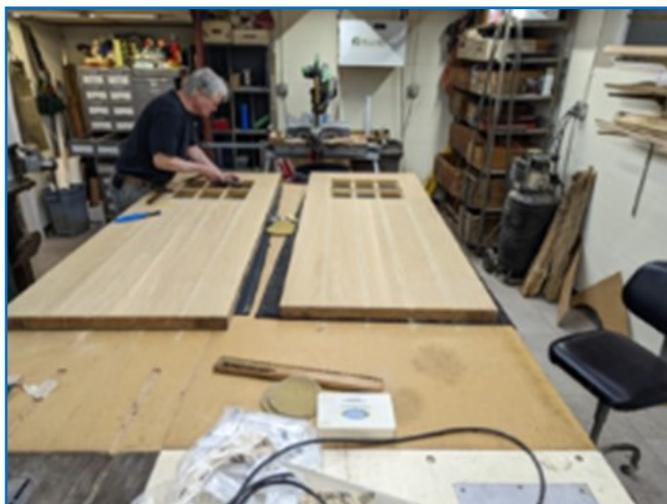
In 2019, Rev. Eric moved to Ann Arbor and shifted his focus to hospital chaplaincy. Upon completing a residency at St. Joe's (Ann Arbor) and an additional 2,000 clinical hours at St. Vincent (Toledo), he became board certified with the Association of Professional Chaplains. He continues his clinical work as Mission and Spiritual Care Manager at Glacier Hills.

Rev. Eric is passionate about seeing faith development as a life-long quest and has special interests in spiritual direction and small group ministry. He loves to travel, the outdoors, and live music. He lives in Ypsilanti with his two children and their Labrador puppy.

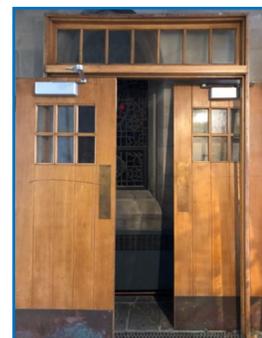
Old Douglas Chapel Doors - Check this out...

Jane Thomson, Building and Grounds member, is sharing some info with us. The person who bought our old interior chapel doors is

repurposing them!



Update



CHURCH COUNCIL
CHRIS VERMEULEN, CHURCH COUNCIL SECRETARY

Elected Positions

Church Council Chair: Bruce Pringle
Church Council Vice-Chair: Ellen Rambo
Secretary: Chris Vermeulen
Treasurer: Mike Dabbs
Clerk: Gae Miller
Historian: Betty Bishop

Remaining Positions Filled by Board and Committee Chairs

Board of Deacons Co-Chairs: Jennifer Santi
Board of Trustees Chair: Rick Reid
Board of Christian Education Chair: Val Towery
Missions and Outreach Committee Chair: Greg Eggleston
Music Committee Chair: Paul Fossum
Nominating Committee Co-Chairs: Rick Muhs and Kristy Stoneburner
Activities and Fellowship Committee Chair: Robbie Sawitski
Contemporary Issues Committee Chair: Sara Holmes
Ministers: Darcy Crain, Lily Tinker Fortel, Eric Hausman
PRC (Pastoral Relations Committee): Debbie Bourque, Colleen Creal, Ray Decker, Rick Reid

Current Activities

Annual Meeting

June 11, 2023 is the date of the next Annual Meeting (see page 6).

Proposed FY2023-2024 Budget

Boards and Committees submitted their requests on February 26. The Board of Trustees and the Treasurer will work on putting together a proposed budget for approval at the Annual Meeting. Watch for a preview presentation a couple of weeks prior to the Annual Meeting.

Covid 19 Health Safety Committee (a sub-committee under the Church Council)

At this time the building remains open with masks recommended in most all areas except the FCC Kidz nursery room (where masks are still required). The status is subject to change as needed and updates are published in the Friday/Monday Emails.

Pastoral Relations Committee (PRC) (a sub-committee under the Church Council)

The PRC is independent from the ministers and is charged with looking into any issues brought up by members of the Congregation. Feel free to contact any of the members with comments, questions,

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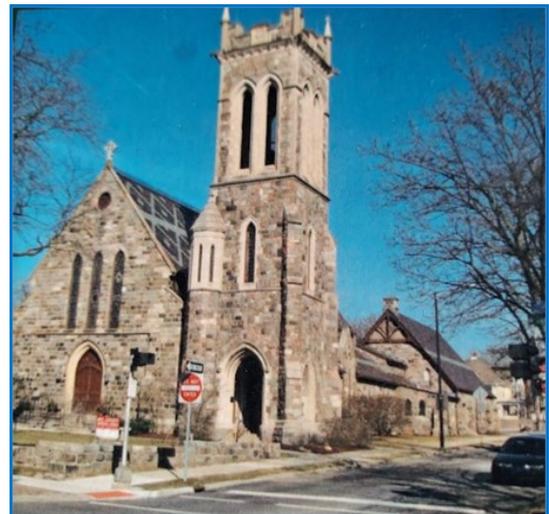
HISTORIAN'S CORNER

BETTY BISHOP

I have been doing some research on the architecture of Congregational churches, especially our stone church. There had been discussion of the need for a larger church for some years, but the Civil War delayed any progress. In February 1870, FCC selected the land at the corner of State and William. Fundraising started in earnest, raising the necessary \$12,000 in a relatively short time. By September 1870, the church made the first payment on the lot, and a church member, Mr. J.J. Parshall, offered to sell the small church, to help finance the field-stone needed.

Now the Society – the part of the church organization involved with building, finances, and other business issues – needed to find an architect. They chose Mr. Gordon W. Lloyd of Detroit, an architect who specialized in Gothic style buildings. He had served as the architect for St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Ann Arbor. They laid the cornerstone of that church in June 1868, and consecrated the church on November 10, 1869. Ten years later, St. Andrews added a chapel and rectory, also designed by Mr. Lloyd. Mr. Lloyd had also designed two houses on Huron St. in Ann Arbor; one later became the Baptist student center. In March 1872, Mr. Lloyd presented the plans he drew, and the First Congregational Church adopted them. Construction started slowly, but on June 23, 1873, they laid the cornerstone. There were some delays and issues with raising additional funds. The old brick church at Fifth and Washington was sold to the German-American Society and became the first home of Zion Lutheran Church. Finally, on May 10, 1876 the new stone church was completed and dedicated.

As we approach the 176th anniversary of the founding of our church, I want to invite all of you to our Anniversary Brunch on Sunday, March 26, at 11 a.m., in Pilgrim Hall, hosted by our Activities and Fellowship Committee. We will also recognize our members celebrating milestone anniversaries of membership. Please see page 11 for Brunch details.



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

or concerns.

Contact Information

Feel free to contact any member of the Church Council with questions, comments, or concerns. We appreciate your feedback on the activities of the Church.

Next Scheduled Meetings

March 20, 2023

April 17, 2023

May 15, 2023

June 11, 2023 (Annual Meeting)

TREASURER'S REPORT
MIKE DABBS

The First Congregational Church of Ann Arbor
2022 – 2023 SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT
October 31, 2022

	ACTUAL 10/31/2022	APPROVED BUDGET 7/1/22 - 6/30/23	ACTUAL PERCENT BUDGET	NOTES
REVENUE				
Pledges	\$ 331,697	\$ 535,000	62%	
Gifts – Operations	40,550	56,000	72%	
Other Income	40,732	38,600	106%	
Special Funds Transfer	<u>-0-</u>	<u>3,500</u>	0%	1
Total Revenue	\$ 412,979	\$ 633,100	65%	
EXPENSES				
Ministry	\$ 119,703	\$ 204,736	57%	
Deacons, Council, C.I.C., AFC	5,491	6,800	81%	
Administrative/Office	178,825	300,869	59%	
Christian Education	24,614	44,350	50%	
Music	52,330	88,640	59%	
Missions & Outreach	36,390	42,700	85%	
Maintenance & Utilities	<u>62,972</u>	<u>\$ 109,085</u>	58%	
Total Expenses	\$ 480,325	\$ 797,180	59%	
NET REVENUE	(\$ 67,346)	(\$164,080)	38%	
TRUST FUND DISTRIBUTION	<u>+\$ 92,000</u>	<u>+\$ 183,196</u>	50%	2
BALANCE	\$ 24,654	\$ 19,116		

NOTES

Approved Budget reflects October 10th adjustments made by Trustees

1. Pastoral Fund distribution of \$3,500 for M&O, and pastoral assistance.
2. 2021-2022 Budget projected distribution from trust and endowment funds is 5% (\$141,896). Included is additional one-time distribution of \$41,300 to cover Livingston sabbatical and vacation costs.

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TREASURER'S REPORT MIKE DABBS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

Misc. Note: 2022-2023 Mortgage Principal payments will be \$35,862. The principal payment is not reflected in the Annual Budget.

The Financial Statement Summary reflects FCC's finances as of January 31, which covers the first seven months of our current fiscal year. Actual pledge revenue is significantly greater than a year ago; and for the first time in recent history, our actual pledge revenue exceeds the pledge budget as of this date. All expenses are within their respective budget amounts. On behalf of the Trustees, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to all members who have been making payments of their pledge. The timely receipt of your pledge payments greatly assists the church in managing its cash flow.

As mentioned in the previous Courier, we have added a third column to the report that reflects the percentage of actual revenue or expense to the annual Budget. Since we are seven months through this fiscal year, we would expect the percentage for each line item to be approximately 58%.

UHY has prepared and presented to the Trustees the Draft of the Annual Financial Review of this past Fiscal Year (July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022). The Trustees accepted the draft financial statements and UHY has finalized them. If you would like to receive a copy of it, or have questions regarding the Review, please feel free to contact Nancy, or me.

For members who pay their pledges or other payments to the church by credit card, we would ask that you to consider adding three percent to the amount of your payment, to help us cover the cost of the bank fees that are charged to the church.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

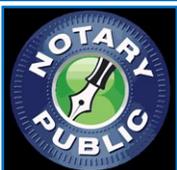
WAYS TO GIVE

In addition to automatic payments and checks by mail, you can scan or text to be directed to online giving.

Online: <https://secure.accessacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?sn=97116&f=2>

Text: OpenToAll To: 73256

Thank you for your Generosity!



Do you need a notary?

Our FCC Bookkeeper, Nancy Sauve is happy to help!

Contact her at nancy@fccannarbor.org and bring your documents to church on Sunday morning.

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES COMMITTEE

MICHAEL MAKIN, CHAIR

The contemporary issues committee was thrilled to have had Colleen Creal lead us in February through the vital topic of Our Youth and Mental Health. These next two months we have some local efforts in our community to engage with as we consider how our faith calls us to love our neighbors by strengthening our communities. On Sunday, March 12, we will hear from Kirk Westphal, urban planner and architect, who will offer a presentation titled, "The Changing Shape of Ann Arbor." Then, on Sunday, April 23, we will hear more about Ann Arbor's A2Zero Energy Plan in a presentation led by Missy Stults, Director of the Office of Sustainability and Innovation.

A Benefit Organ Concert to Aid the Ukrainian People, **Slavi Ukraine!**, will be held in our sanctuary on Sunday, April 30, at 4:00 p.m. Presented by FCC in association with the American Center of Church Music (<https://www.americancenterofchurchmusic.org/>), this concert will feature distinguished concert organist Dr. Gail Archer (<http://www.gailarcher.com/>), who, in 2020, released the album, *Chernivtsi: a Recording of Contemporary Ukrainian Organ Music*. FCC's Dr. Timothy Huth and the Note by Note men's chorale ensemble (from Ann Arbor's Measure for Measure choral society) join her. FCC member, Michael Makin, and Svitlana Rogovyk, both faculty members at the UM Slavic Department, will provide brief commentary.



Gail Archer is an American organist, music director, choral conductor and an academic. She is Professor of Professional Practice in the Barnard College Department of Music, a faculty member at the Harriman Institute, Columbia University, and college organist at Vassar College. She is also the founder of Musforum, an international forum for women organists. Her outstanding career as an organist, teacher, and researcher has taken her across North America and Europe. Her repertoire is equally extensive – works from the seventeenth century to the twenty-first; and from the music of composers known to every American concertgoer to Polish, Russian, and Ukrainian composers, whom she has introduced to a wider audience.

Free-will offerings will go to support humanitarian efforts in Ukraine.

*Glory to Ukraine

If you would like to watch online, we stream our concerts and services through both YouTube and Facebook platforms. You can access these through www.fccannarbor.org and navigating to Worship → Online Worship. From this page you can click on the icon for your platform preference (YouTube or Facebook) and it will take you to the livestream. Please note that the livestream is not accessible until about 10 minutes before the start time.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS SUBCOMMITTEE

JANET ALLEN, MEMBER

The major projects this winter included slate roof maintenance, repair for the Sanctuary Building, and evaluating the west wall in the sanctuary for plaster repair. This area has had recurring water damage affecting the plaster. Last summer, major repairs were done to the outside wall, and chimney that is not in use. This included tuck-pointing and capping the chimney to prevent rain from entering. Once verification demonstrates no further moisture in the plaster wall, repairs will be scheduled. We know this has been an eyesore and are working to restore that area as soon as possible. The Committee has also been hard at work creating a document of all building system maintenance required inside and outside the church, including when the last time maintenance or replacement occurred, when it needs to occur again, and what the estimated cost would be. The Trustees will use this document when planning for future major expenses such as roof replacement, boiler replacement, and our ongoing need for tuck-pointing. We have also established a schedule for inspections and maintenance of our roofs and mechanical systems to stay on top of maintenance each year. With the major renovations during the Capital Campaign and ongoing efforts to “catch up” maintenance needs, we are able to report the building is in relatively good shape at this time!

We are planning a workday for May 6, which will mainly be outside work. Please consider signing up. Many hands make light work, and we always meet someone new at the church.



RAISE RIGHT

Since January, we have raised \$49.45 from two family online orders and eight family in-person purchases of Scrip cards. Thank you to those who participated. The money we raise comes from the suppliers of the gift cards. When you buy a \$50 card, you pay \$50. The company then pays a small percentage to FCC, which we then use to provide support for Intergenerational and Sr. High work-trips. We hope to expand the use of Scrip cards so we can raise more for work-trip events. One way for you to start using Scrip cards is to get one or two gas cards. We have BP, Amoco-BP, and Speedway available, and can get Marathon, Shell, Circle K and Exxon. Think about getting one for a gas station that you frequent on a monthly basis. Buy a card from the Scrip table and use it for the month. If it works for you, then buy another in the following month. If buying gas is not something you do on a monthly basis, perhaps a card for the grocery store you use is a better choice. We have GFS, Meijer, and Walmart/Sam's Club available, and can get Whole Foods and Target. In addition, if those do not work for you, what about coffee shops or fast-food outlets. We have Starbucks, Tim Hortons, and McDonald's available, and can get Burger King, Taco Bell, and Bigby Coffee. For those of you who have already created an on-line account, many of these cards are reloadable so you do not have to wait for a card to show up at Church. Be aware of the fact that you will need *cash or a check to purchase Scrip cards at the in-person table*.

Please let us hear from you. If you want a card that is not currently in stock, contact Chris Vermeulen at cnverm@aol.com, or ask at the Scrip Table.

SMALL GROUPS

Due to the uncertainties surrounding virus counts, expected in-person group meetings can change at any moment. Either your group leader will contact you, or please watch your Tuesday and Friday emails for more updated information.

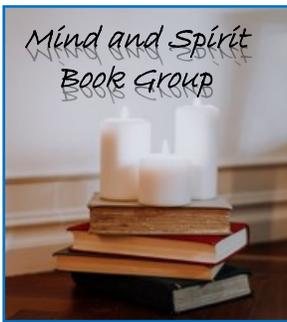
TUESDAY NIGHT SERIES ~ TNS

Please join us Thursday evenings from 7:00pm to 8:30pm in the Mayflower room for our Thursday Night Series (TNS). Each week we watch a video and have a lively discussion on issues of contemporary theological relevance. All are welcome!

TEXT BREAKFAST

Our text breakfast group meets regularly on Wednesdays, from 9:00 a.m. to about 10:30 a.m., at the Alpha Diner, 4389 Jackson Rd, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Darcy (or Lily, depending on who is preaching that Sunday) will lead the discussion that day. We will have the capability to zoom in those who are unable to be present in person. Please watch the Tuesday email for the scripture passage that will be discussed. Please email Darcy at darcy@fccannarbor.org if you would like to join us. All are welcome!

MIND AND SPIRIT BOOK GROUP



Mind and Spirit continues to meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10:15 a.m. in the Mayflower Room, as well as by Zoom. This small group welcomes women of the church who are interested in reading and discussing books about spirituality and contemporary issues. In the coming months we are reading *Without Buddha, I Could not be a Christian* by Paul Knitter, *Gilead* by Marilynne Robinson, and *The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story* by Nikole Hannah-Jones.

The group recently raised \$470 for the library at the new Fox Family Center of Cass Community Services in Detroit. We are still actively collecting children's and adult books for this library. Please see page 14 for details.

If you would like to be on our email list, or would like additional information about the group, please contact Gail Haynes at gehaynes66@gmail.com.

20/40 SMALL GROUP

We are young/youngish adults in our 20s through 40s. We are single, married, parents, and not. Exploring relationships, parenting, school, and more. Everyone is welcome! Childcare provided. We generally meet at FCC, from 5:00-6:30 p.m.

Upcoming dates/times:

Sunday, March 12, April 16, May 7, May 28

For additional information, please contact Lily.



SMALL GROUPS CONTINUED



BRUNCH BUNCH

MS&HS Youth and Parents are invited to join in Brunch Bunch service opportunity on Sunday, March 5 following worship. We'll have bagels at FCC, then head to Alpha House to help them prepare for an upcoming renovation. No brunch bunch in April (happy Spring Break!), but mark your calendars for Brunch Bunch on May 7.

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

AN OUTREACH MINISTRY OF FCC
MARY ANN MARQUARDT

Circle of Friends is a visitation and assistance ministry that links home-centered members, including those in long term care facilities, and Circle Friends (active members of The First Congregational Church) in a one-to-one relationship. Circle of Friends provides a caring connection to the church through regular visits, spiritual support, and other kinds of assistance as appropriate for both parties. Circle of Friends offers support to not only seniors, but also to those church members who are experiencing isolation at home due to health issues, loss of a loved one, or other family stressors. Please contact Mary Ann Marquardt at 313-303-1989, if care is needed, or if you would like to join our group. Also, please let me know if you know someone who could benefit from having a friend. Thank you so much!

ACTIVITIES AND FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

ROBBIE SAWITSKI, CHAIR

Your R&R Team is gearing up for the 2023 Ann Arbor Art Fair running July 20 through July 22. If you are curious about what happens to the trash and recyclables we collect, we have lined up a private tour of the Schupan & Sons, Inc. Recycling center in Milford Township, MI (page 12). Our Sign-up Genius is already up and running.

If you want to sign up for the **Hospitality Crew**, use this link.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044AAEA62AA2F94-fccart4>

If you want to sign up for the **R&R Team**, please use this link.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044AAEA62AA2F94-fccart5>

As our fiscal year draws to a close, our additional upcoming activities are Yoga at FCC (page 10), the 175th Anniversary Celebration (page 11), the Easter Sunday Breakfast (page 10), and the All-Church Picnic and Ice Cream Social on Father's Day, June 18 (details in the Summer 2023 Courier).

**Building
Community**





**The First
Congregational
Church** of Ann Arbor

fccannarbor.org

P.O. Box 7970
Ann Arbor, MI 48107-7970
(734) 662-1679

FCC STAFF

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darcy@fccannarbor.org

Rev. Lily Tinker Fortel

Minister of Faith Formation
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Rev. Eric Hausman

Adjunct Minister
eric@fccannarbor.org

Marina Baker

Children's Ministry Coordinator
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Nancy Sauve

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Carolina Welch

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Terry Farmer

COP Music Director
terryfarmermusic@gmail.com

Ben Gaughran

Interim Chancel Choir Director
ben@fccannarbor.org

Timothy L. Huth

Organist
timothyhuth@gmail.com

Joshua Marzan

Pianist
pianist@fccannarbor.org

**SUNDAY IN-PERSON AND LIVESREAM WORSHIP
AND CHURCH SCHOOL SCHEDULE**

- 8:15 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 8:50—11:15 a.m. Childcare available for Nursery and Preschool
- 9:00 a.m. COP (Change of Pace), Pilgrim Hall
- 9:30 a.m. Communion, Douglas Chapel
- 10:00 a.m. Traditional Worship, Sanctuary, and FCC Kidz Programming
- The 9 a.m. Change of Pace service will continue to be livestreamed on YouTube ONLY.*
- The 10 a.m. worship service will continue to be livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube.*
- Masks will be available at all doors, as well as touch-free hand sanitizers.*
- 11:00 a.m. Friendship Time, Pilgrim Hall

MARCH - APRIL - MAY 2023 CALENDAR

Mar 1,8,15,22,29	9:00 a.m.	Text Breakfast, Alpha Diner
Mar 1,15	10:15 a.m.	Mind & Spirit Book Group, Mayflower Room
Mar 1	5:00 p.m.	Confirmation
Mar 2	4:00 p.m.	Building & Grounds Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Missions & Outreach Meeting via Zoom
Mar 4,11,18,25	10:00 a.m.	YOGA at FCC, Pilgrim Hall
Mar 4	9:15 a.m.	Underground Railroad - FCC Detroit
Sunday, Mar 5	11:00 a.m.	Brunch Bunch - Alpha House
Mar 7,14,21,28	7:00 p.m.	TNS - Tuesday Night Series
Mar 8	7:00 p.m.	Confirmation
Sunday, Mar 12	11:00 a.m.	Contemporary Issues Presentation
	5:00 p.m.	20/40 Group
Mar 13	7:00 p.m.	Board of Trustees Meeting
Sunday, Mar 19	11:15 a.m.	Activities and Fellowship Committee Meeting
Mar 20	7:00 p.m.	Church Council Meeting
Mar 22	12:00 p.m.	Marketing Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Confirmation
Mar 23	4:00 p.m.	Building & Grounds Meeting
Sunday, Mar 26	175TH ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY	
	11:00 a.m.	Anniversary Brunch Celebration, Pilgrim Hall
	11:30 a.m.	Board of Christian Education Meeting
Mar 29	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Apr 1	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir and Orchestra Rehearsal
Apr 1,15,22	10:00 a.m.	YOGA at FCC, Pilgrim Hall
Sunday, April 2 through Sunday, April 9 - HOLY WEEK (Schedule on page 10)		
Apr 4,11,18,25	7:00 p.m.	TNS - Tuesday Night Series
Apr 5,12,19,26	9:00 a.m.	Text Breakfast, Alpha Diner
Apr 5,19	10:15 a.m.	Mind & Spirit Book Group, Mayflower Room
Apr 6	7:00 p.m.	Missions & Outreach Meeting via Zoom
Apr 10	7:00 p.m.	Board of Trustees Meeting
Apr 12	7:00 p.m.	Confirmation
Sunday, Apr 16	11:15 a.m.	Activities and Fellowship Committee Meeting
Apr 17	7:00 p.m.	Church Council Meeting
Apr 19	6:00 p.m.	Confirmation Baptism/Affirmation
Apr 21 - Apr 23		FCC Family Camp (see page 11)
Sunday, Apr 23	11:00 a.m.	Contemporary Issues Presentation
	11:30 a.m.	Board of Christian Education Meeting
Apr 26	6:00 p.m.	Confirmation Dinner and Class
Apr 27	4:00 p.m.	Building & Grounds Meeting
May 2,9,16,23,30	7:00 p.m.	TNS - Tuesday Night Series
May 3,10,17,24,31	9:00 a.m.	Text Breakfast, Alpha Diner
May 6,13,20	10:00 a.m.	YOGA at FCC, Pilgrim Hall
Sunday, May 7	CONFIRMATION SUNDAY	
	11:00 a.m.	Brunch Bunch
May 8	7:00 p.m.	Board of Trustees Meeting
May 15	7:00 p.m.	Church Council Meeting
Sunday, May 21		NO Change of Pace Service
May 25	4:00 p.m.	Building & Grounds Meeting
Sunday, May 28		NO Change of Pace Service
	11:30 a.m.	Board of Christian Education Meeting
May 29	MEMORIAL DAY - CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	

Whatever Your Story, You're Welcome Here