



# FCC PILGRIM PULSE

MARCH 2018

Pilgrim Pulse Volume 10 Issue 3

## *The Good News...*

I pray that your journey through Lent has been a blessing so far. It's another busy time in the church calendar, so I am hoping that you're finding some time for prayer and contemplation. Many people take on a personal sacrifice or fasting during this time as a way to train their spirit and connect more deeply with God. We're studying the disciplines of our faith on Wednesday evenings after our soup and sandwich suppers. Whatever disciplines you are taking up or however you are engaging this season, I hope that you have taken the first steps to putting your feet on the spiritual path as we journey toward the joy of Resurrection Sunday.

It's been a challenging time in our country to be sure. There is much grief and division leading to fighting between sides, but I am grateful for the growing sense of peace and purpose that we have together as a congregation. This series we're in, taking some time to review our Covenant and what it means for us seems to be resonating among us. Just last week we had some fun during the sermon by taking on a jigsaw puzzle and learned how we come together for the purposes of being interlocked together in order to reveal a greater picture of our Lord Jesus. We were lifted on the reminder that while this picture is so much larger than each of us individually, it is not complete without each of us individually. Just as those pieces are unique and diverse, so each of us brings something to the Body of Christ here too. I pray that you are finding your unique place and desiring to stay connected to the bigger picture that is First Congregational Church here in Greenville.

Following Easter Sunday, our Community Life free dinners and group studies will begin at 5:00 p.m. This is a change that we are making to help reach more hungry people in need since the bus does its final pickups at 5:30. We want to feed as many people as we can in our community. What's even more than that is we want to connect them to a loving community that can reflect Jesus to them, whether they join us for service and study or not. And in that regard, you don't have to be hungry or in need to join us. Please come and participate. Our community is built in an entirely unique way when we sit down together at the table to share a meal. There is a warmth and connection there that we don't find anywhere else.

Please be warmly inviting friends and family to join us for breakfast and worship on Easter morning!

*Pax Christi,  
Rev. Jason Dillingham*




IN OUR PRAYERS				
IN OUR MILITARY... Ben Crittenden, Jacob Crittenden, Matthew Crittenden, Jordan Varney, Paul Lepley, TJ Curry, Joshua Roose, Blake Schlien, Stephanie Roose, Melissa Staffen, Rick Grimes, & Joe Suchowolec				
WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR:				
Marta Lores	Bill Delp	Rob Sansom	Pat Toth	Jackie Kocher
Lucille McLachlan	Betty Lincoln	Sandra Tiffany	Roxy Rice	Dan Eagles
Barb Hoy	Dixie Kingsbury	Gloria McPherson	Brian Tiffany	Bonnie Braman
AT CARE FACILITIES				
Millie Crowe	-at Maple Creek, Grand Rapids			
Lois Hazlewood	-at Hathaway Hills Assisted Living Room #31			
Bette Houle	-at Lakeview Terrace Assisted Living			
Natalie & Dick Kilfoil	-at Hathaway Hills Assisted Living Room #20			
Al Koett	-at Metron Greenville			
Mary Lou Merritt	-at Green Acres			
Corla Morgan	-at SHUM RNC Room #103			
Kathie Sansom	-at Green Acres			
Mary Crittenden	-at SHUM RNC Room #109			
Norma Nicholas	-at Green Acres Room #201			
Ken Thomas	-at SHUM RM #102			
FAMILY AND FRIENDS				
Robert Dunn	Brother of Sandra Tiffany and Larry Snow			
Coreen Johnston	Mother of Lynne Rowland			
Judith Rice-Lesage	Sister of Roxy Rice			
Debbie & Bob Stevenson	Family of Linda Jones			
Mike Tuin	Son of Janet Tuin			
Mason LaMange	Nephew of Chris Hubbard			
Marjoan Wohlfert	Sister of Michele Kocher			
Lucas Hopkins	Grandson of Carolyn Coles			
Nathan Faling	Grandson of Carol Magoon			
Ann Hutler	Daughter of Mary Crittenden			
Gary Petersen	Son of Darlene Petersen			
Brian Adair	Husband of Deb Adair			
Pam Hann	Daughter of Myron Tiffany			
Howard Spaulding	Nephew of Sandra Tiffany			
Jacob Baumgardner	Friend of Dave & Linda Jones			
Jessica Headley	Daughter of Jim & Holly Case			
David Crittenden	Son of Mary Crittenden			

- REMINDER: A funeral service will be held for one of our beloved Winslow Circle members, Rose Ellen Thompsen, on March 10<sup>th</sup> at Faith Lutheran.
- Special Prayers for Coleen Venema for her upcoming procedure and recovery.
- **Changes for our "Please Pray for List": People that are placed on our prayer list will remain on the list for 3 weeks. If you would like a person to remain on the list after 3 weeks, you will need to call the church office to make your prayer request again. Thank you!**

# ~ March 2018 ~

<i><b>Sun</b></i>	<i><b>Mon</b></i>	<i><b>Tue</b></i>	<i><b>Wed</b></i>	<i><b>Thu</b></i>	<i><b>Fri</b></i>	<i><b>Sat</b></i>
				<b>1</b>  4:15 CC 6:30 GS 7:30 AA	<b>2</b> 11:30 AA	<b>3</b>
<b>4 Communion</b> 9:30 Choir 11a Worship -12:15 PF Mtg.  3p Venture 6p AA	<b>5</b>  5:30 Cubs	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 10a PURLS  <b>6p Lenten Supper (Chancel Choir)</b> 7p Group Study 7p Boy Scouts	<b>8</b>  4:15 CC (Sanctuary) 6:30 GS 6:30 GS Leader Mtg. 7:30 AA	<b>9</b> 11:30 AA	<b>10</b>
<b>11 Girl Scout Sunday &amp; Daylight Savings Time</b> 9:30 Choir 11a Worship -Children's Choir  3p Venture 6p AA	<b>12</b>  5:15 Cub Leader Mtg. 5:30 Cubs 6:30 Deacons	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 10a PURLS  <b>6p Lenten Supper (WF)</b> 7p Group Study 7p Boy Scouts	<b>15</b>  4:15 CC 6:30 GS 7p F.A.N. 7:30 AA	<b>16</b> 11:30 AA	<b>17</b>  <i><b>St. Patrick's Day</b></i>
<b>18</b> 9:30 Choir 11a Worship -12:15 PF Mtg.  3p Venture 6p AA	<b>19</b>  5:30 Cubs	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 10a PURLS  <b>6p Lenten Supper (Church Council)</b> 7p Group Study 7p Boy Scouts	<b>22</b>  4:15 CC 6:30 GS 7:30 AA	<b>23</b> 11:30 AA	<b>24</b>  <i><b>2p Pinewood Derby</b></i>
<b>25 Palm Sunday</b> 9:30 Choir 11a Worship  3P Venture 6p AA	<b>26 Holy Week</b>  5:30 Cubs 6p Cubs Pack Mtg. 7p Trustees	<b>27</b>  7p Council	<b>28</b> 10a PURLS  1p WF Board Mtg. <i><b>No CLS Dinner</b></i> 7p Boy Scouts	<b>29 Maundy Thursday</b>  6p Potluck 6:30 GS 7p Maundy Thursday 7:30 AA	<b>30</b> 11:30 AA  <i><b>Good Friday</b></i>	<b>31 Holy Saturday</b>

# ~ April 2018 ~

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<b>1 EASTER &amp; Communion</b> 9:30 Choir 10a Breakfast 11a Worship <i>-PF Assist</i>  3p Venture 6p AA	<b>2</b> <div style="background-color: #cccccc; text-align: center; padding: 5px;">Spring Break →</div>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 10a PURLS  1p Winslow 5p Free Dinner 6p Group Study 6:30 Bethany	<b>5</b>     7:30 AA	<b>6</b>     11:30 AA	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 9:30 Choir 11a Worship 12:15 PF Mtg.  3p Venture 6p AA	<b>9</b>  5:15 Cub Leader Mtg. 5:30 Cubs 6:30 Deacons	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 10a PURLS  5p Free Dinner 6p Group Study 7p Boy Scouts	<b>12</b>  4:15 CC (sanctuary) 6:30 GS 7:30 AA	<b>13</b> 11:30 AA  <div style="background-color: #cccccc; text-align: center; padding: 5px;">PF Retreat in Saugatuck →</div>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 9:30 Choir 11a Worship Children's Choir  3p Venture 6p AA <div style="background-color: #cccccc; text-align: center; padding: 5px;">PF Retreat →</div>	<b>16</b>   5:30 Cubs	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 10a PURLS  5p Free Dinner 6p Group Study 7p Boy Scouts	<b>19</b>  4:15 CC 6:30 GS 6:30 GS Leader Mtg. 7p F.A.N. 7:30 AA	<b>20</b> 11:30 AA	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9:30 Choir 11a Worship 12:15 PF Mtg.  3P Venture 6p AA	<b>23</b>  5:30 Cubs 7p Trustees	<b>24</b>  7p Council	<b>25</b> 10a PURLS  1p WF Board 5p Free Dinner 6p Group Study 7p Boy Scouts	<b>26</b>  4:15 CC 6:30 GS 7:30 AA	<b>27</b> 11:30 AA	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:30 Choir 11a Worship   3p Venture 6p AA	<b>30</b>  5:30 Cubs	<div style="text-align: center;">  </div>				

# ~ FCC COMMITTEE NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS ~

## PASTORAL NEWS

**Community Life Service (CLS):** Please join us for our Lenten Suppers at 6:00pm, & study at 7:00pm. Our Community Life dinners will resume after Easter Sunday, on Wednesday the 4<sup>th</sup>, with dinner at 5:00pm & group study at 6:00pm.



**Pastoral Care:** Our Pastoral Care team is here for all of us! If you could use some spiritual or emotional care, we hope you will reach out to our Pastoral Care Team. Contact the church office to arrange a time to get together.

## CHURCH OFFICE NEWS

**OFFICE HOURS:** are Monday through Friday 9am to 3pm with lunch from 2-2:30. For security reasons, the front door will be locked. If you need assistance, please knock or call the church office at 616-754-3445. Thank you!

## DEACON NEWS

**Mutual Ministry:** If you are assigned a Mutual Ministry task you are unable to do, or on a date you're not available, please contact the Deacon of the month or Deb Dieckman at (616) 754-3687 or [dadieckman@gmail.com](mailto:dadieckman@gmail.com). Thank you!

## EASTER FLOWER ORDERS

We are now taking orders for Easter plants, to honor or remember our loved ones. Will we be offering a 6" plant for \$10 dollars. You will have your choice of a Lily or Hyacinths (pink, lavender, or white). Please fill out the enclosed form and turn into the church office with your payment. *\*All proceeds will go towards the Deacons Discretionary Fund. If you would like to make an additional donation above the \$10 – that too will be put toward the DDF. Thank you for your order and donation to help others!*



OR



## PRESCHOOL NEWS

March is here and is going to be filled with lots of surprises! The first part of the month we will be reading and honoring the great Dr. Seuss! Next, the children will be tasked to make a Leprechaun trap! That naughty leprechaun will try anything to get his pot-o-gold and the children try their very best to catch him! There is always some chaos this time of year, as they never know what they will find; green water in the toilets, a grandma might get tied up or their hair dyed green! He will stop at nothing to get his gold! But Ms. Candy is confident her preschoolers will be able to catch him this year! ☺ The children will then be asked to bring in their pet for show & tell on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. And finally, our little ones will be getting ready for the Easter Bunny to come visit; where we will be making our own Easter egg basket and doing an Easter Egg hunt here in class. As Always - *The fun never stops here at Ms. Candy's Preschool!*

- Ms. Candy will begin accepting registration packets starting April 19<sup>th</sup>, for children who will be attending Preschool in the fall. Parents Mark your calendars for April 19<sup>th</sup>. At that time, we will begin accepting registration packets for children wishing to attend in the fall! Anyone interested in sending their little one to a wonderful, loving, and Christian based school. If you or someone you know is interested, please stop in the church office to pick up a packet! Find her on Facebook or call 754-7608.

## IMPORTANT DATE & EVENTS

Here is the list of Lenten suppers for the remainder of the lent season:

- March 7<sup>th</sup> will be hosted by The Chancel Choir
- March 14<sup>th</sup> will be hosted by Women's Fellowship.
- March 21<sup>st</sup> will be hosted by FCC Church Council.
- *\*All dinners are served at 6pm with group study at 7pm.*
- There is no dinner on the 28<sup>th</sup>.
- There will be a potluck on March 29<sup>th</sup> to celebrate Maundy Thursday. The potluck will be at 6pm with service at 7pm.

### **Other important dates:**

- March 11<sup>th</sup> will be Girl Scout Sunday as well as Daylight savings time – make sure to set your clocks ahead one hour!
- April 1<sup>st</sup> will be our traditional Easter Breakfast at 10am with service at 11am.



## CELEBRATIONS

- *Happy Birthday!* To Patricia Butts (3/1), Ann Emerson (3/1), Carrie Venema (3/14), Gavin Outman (3/16), Jane Truesdell (3/21), and Larry Snow (3/24).



- *Happy Anniversary!* To Larry & Mary Snow (3/24) and Greg & Valerie VanderMark (3/28).
- If you would like your special occasion or event announced, please contact the church office.

## MUSICAL NEWS

- **The Chancel Choir** meets Sundays at 9:30am. We are always looking for new members to join. Please contact Greg VanderMark if you would like to sing in the choir!
- **The Children's Choir:** The children's choir will be performing in church on the 11<sup>th</sup>. Please come to watch and support our youth! As always, we continue to invite any children wishing to join – there is still time! We sing songs, play games, have snacks, and friendships are made – all while spreading the love and joy of Christ through music. If your child or a child you know would like to participate, please contact Valerie VanderMark. Practice is every Thursdays at 4:15-5:15pm.

## PF YOUTH NEWS

The Michigan Congregational Summer Camp will be July 8<sup>th</sup> through the 13<sup>th</sup> for grades 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup>. The week of summer camp will provide an incredible opportunity for our youth to see how a Christian community can extend beyond Sunday services. This year's theme is "The Happiest Place on Earth". The camp will be held at YMCA Camp Ohiyesa in Holly, MI. Early registration deadline is June 1<sup>st</sup>. There is also a \$75 deposit (nonrefundable). A poster with more information is posted on the church bulletin board. If you would like a packet, please stop in the church office today! The packet has all the necessary information and documents for your child to attend. There is also a form (for eligible families) for a scholarship, which must be submitted by May 1, 2018. Please see Claude with any additional questions or concerns. *Get your packet today!*



## NOISY COIN OFFERING

February 25 was the last day to turn in our noisy coins for IM KIDS 3<sup>rd</sup> MEAL PROGRAM. The final total collected was \$235.70! Thank you for supporting the Christian Education mission project for February!

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

### ATTENTION PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS!

Christian Education is planning a Child Led Service on May 20. Please have your children attend Children's Choir Practice and Sunday School as regularly as you can to prepare for this event. We hope to have a play portraying Pentecost because that day is Pentecost Sunday. Choir awards, Teacher Appreciation, and Bibles for our 1<sup>st</sup> graders will be distributed on May 20.

- New Spring curriculum: As we begin the newest curriculum in Sunday School, the children will be learning about Jesus and following in his footsteps. There is a special lesson included for Palm Sunday on March 25. Please support your child in learning about Jesus and have them attend Sunday School.
- \*Please remember the first Sunday of every month is communion, so children will be invited to stay and worship with the congregation.
- If you are would like to volunteer to help with the 7-9-year old class, please contact Fran Gibbs at 616-754-7714.



## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP NEWS

- Winslow Circle meets at 1pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month in Fellowship Hall.
- March 7<sup>th</sup> Winslow Circle meeting will be Hosted by Rose Riddle and Gloria McPherson. Devotions by Michele Kocher.
- WF Will be sponsoring an "All Church" potluck to honor our 80 years plus members on May 6<sup>th</sup>, immediately following church service.
- Terri Lynn Nuts will be for sale on March 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Bethany Circle will meet March 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 or immediately following Lenten Supper. Questions Contact Chris Hubbard.
- Rummage sale will be May 4<sup>th</sup>. Please mark your calendars and start saving your gently used items!
- WF will be holding a fundraiser to help refurbish our Kitchen Cupboards. Proceeds from the Terri Lynn nut sales will also go towards this project.

**CHURCH COUNCIL/BOARD MEETINGS:****Deacons: Monday the 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.****Trustees: Monday the 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.****General Fund: Operating Budget Income**

Jan 2017 YTD \$17,192 ♦ Jan 2017 YTD \$53,874.50

Shortfall \$36,682.50

**MUTUAL MINISTRY****March 4 – Communion**Greeters: The Chancel ChoirLiturgist: Duane PutnamChildren's Message: Sandra TiffanyUshers: Chris Hubbard, Carolyn Foster, and **1 more needed**Coffee Hour: John & Deb House and Steve & Diane RooseSound Techs: Bruce Beauvais and Corey Norman**March 11 – Girl Scout Sunday**Greeters: The Girl ScoutsLiturgist: Susan BeauvaisChildren's Message: Morgan MariaUshers: The Girl ScoutsCoffee Hour: Harry & Rose Riddle, Jerry & Gloria McPherson, and Deb Adair; assisted by the Girl ScoutsSound Techs: Blake Rowland and Joe Suchowolec**March 18**Greeters: Scott & Lynne RowlandLiturgist: Karen HulbertChildren's Message: **NEEDED**Ushers: Jerry & Taylor McPherson and Greg GardnerCoffee Hour: Doug & Chris Dodd, Greg Gardner, and Claude JohnsonSound Techs: Bruce Beauvais and Blake Rowland**March 25**Greeters: Paul & Kris JagerLiturgist: Bonnie WickerhamChildren's Message: **NEEDED**Ushers: Marian Griffith, Wilson Hoy, and **1 more needed**Coffee Hour: Doug & Lisa Stek and Jim & Patti RitzemaSound Techs: Corey Norman and Joe Suchowolec**Trustees of the Month:**

Kirk Faber and Duane Putnam

**Deacon of the Month:**

Jane Truesdell

**April 1 – Communion & Easter Sunday**Greeters: Dan & Rosel EaglesLiturgist: Chris HubbardChildren's Message: NEEDEDUshers: Morgan Venema, Cheryl Flashaar, and **1 more needed**Coffee Hour: NO COFFEE HOURSound Techs: **NEEDED****April 8**Greeters: Harry & Rose RiddleLiturgist: Scott RowlandChildren's Message: **NEEDED**Ushers: Doug & Chris Dodd and **1 more needed**Coffee Hour: Ann & Patrick Emerson and Carrol & Vivian MinardSound Techs: **NEEDED****April 15**Greeters: Carolyn Foster and Tami TefftLiturgist: Don GibbsChildren's Message: **NEEDED**Ushers: Jerry & Stephanie Garner and Corey NormanCoffee Hour: Joe & Emily Suchowolec, Jane Truesdell, and Deb DieckmanSound Techs: **NEEDED****April 22**Greeters: Myron & Sandra TiffanyLiturgist: Linda JonesChildren's Message: **NEEDED**Ushers: Joe & Emily Suchowolec and Marian GriffithCoffee Hour: Lynn & Bonnie Wickerham and Terri MerrittSound Techs: **NEEDED****April 29**Greeters: Doug & Chris DoddLiturgist: Chris DoddChildren's Message: **NEEDED**Ushers: Terri Merritt, Carla Durdle, and Chris HubbardCoffee Hour: Don & Fran Gibbs, Cheryl Flashaar, and Larry AlmanSound Techs: **NEEDED**