



# FCC PILGRIM PULSE

MARCH 2019

Pilgrim Pulse Volume 11 Issue 3

*The Good News . . .*

The sun is shining as I write this, and I pray that GOD's face is shining warmly on you and yours today. What a month we've had in February! The snow days have been crazy, and they've played havoc with our weekly activities. Thankfully we've not had to cancel any Sunday worship services, but Wednesday evening Community Life dinners and our two Bible studies have endured several interruptions. Combine that with the widespread power outages and I hope you have been able to stay safe and warm. I hope you've realized some extra time for prayer and contemplation as well.

And now here we are at the beginning of the Lenten season. I hope you will join us at our Ash Wednesday Silent Breakfast. This year men are welcome along with the women and we will again have an imposition of ashes at the end. Our Lent Soup Suppers begin on Ash Wednesday as well and we'll begin a study together as we take a walk through the Gospel of Luke toward the cross and the resurrection of Jesus, who leads the way forward into eternal glory for all of us. What a profound and holy season we are in.

As we approach Easter, I hope you will be inviting friends, family, coworkers, and neighbors to our Resurrection Sunday service. It's one of the best times of year to reach out to help connect new people to our fellowship. I'm praying that the LORD will bring you those opportunities and that you'll have the courage to compassionately invite new or long absent people to join us. We're already enjoying new faces and new families joining us (from all age groups) so it seems a good season to continue to invite others into this great season we are living through together.

Don't forget to connect with our YouTube channel and our Facebook page and share them through your own social media accounts. The more you view, like, and share, the more other people will see what's going on here at First Congregational Church of Greenville. We're going to be putting some more energy into these areas, so if you have some experience, ideas, or skills that may be helpful on the website or social media, and would like to join the media team, give me a shout and we'll have a chat.

In the meantime I wish you a Good Lent!

*Peace of Christ,  
Rev. Jason Dillingham*



## IN OUR PRAYERS

**IN OUR MILITARY:** Matthew Crittenden, Jordan Varney, Paul Lepley, TJ Curry, Joshua Roose, Blake Schlien, Stephanie Roose, Melissa Staffen, Rick Grimes, Joe Suchowolec, Griffin Gloeden, and Kyle Durdle.


### WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR:

<i>Marta Lores</i>	<i>Jackie Kocher</i>	<i>Rob Sansom</i>	<i>Pat Toth</i>	<i>Anne Burgess</i>
<i>Lucille McLachlan</i>	<i>Betty Lincoln</i>	<i>Sandra Tiffany</i>	<i>Roxy Rice</i>	<i>Keith King</i>
<i>Barb Hoy</i>	<i>Brian Adair</i>	<i>Gloria McPherson</i>	<i>Brian Tiffany</i>	<i>Kathy Reed</i>
<i>Nathan Failing</i>	<i>Marjoan Wohlfert</i>	<i>Coreen Johnston</i>	<i>Gary Petersen</i>	<i>Jade Hannah</i>
<i>Lucas Hopkins</i>	<i>Bonnie Hoseth</i>	<i>Bill &amp; Jean Boyd</i>	<i>Mike Tuin</i>	<i>Michael Balars</i>
<i>Fawn Houghteling</i>	<i>Bonnie Braman</i>	<i>Pat Flashaar</i>	<i>Carrol Minard</i>	

### FCC FAMILY AT CARE FACILITIES

<i>Millie Crowe</i>	<i>-at Maple Creek, Grand Rapids</i>
<i>Lois Hazlewood</i>	<i>-at Hathaway Hills Assisted Living Room #31</i>
<i>Bette Houle</i>	<i>-at Lakeview Terrace Assisted Living</i>
<i>Natalie Kilfoil</i>	<i>-at Hathaway Hills Assisted Living Room #20</i>
<i>Corla Morgan</i>	<i>-at SHUM RNC Room #103</i>
<i>Mary Crittenden</i>	<i>-at SHUM RNC Room #109</i>
<i>Norma Nicholas</i>	<i>-at Green Acres Room #201</i>
<i>Jelane Hamper</i>	<i>-at Green Acres Room #206</i>
<i>Bob Dunn</i>	<i>-at Metron</i>

### FAMILY AND FRIENDS

<i>David Crittenden</i>		<i>Son of Mary Crittenden</i>
<i>Dennis Snow</i>		<i>Brother of Larry Snow and Sandra Tiffany</i>
<i>Jasmine Luce</i>		<i>Friend of Candy Outman</i>
<i>Sarah Brygal</i>		<i>Friend of Candy Outman</i>
<i>Bob Deal, Jr. and Tom Deal</i>		<i>Brothers of Candy Outman</i>
<i>Jody VaderYact-Jones</i>		<i>Cousin of David Jones</i>
<i>Sheli Kesteloot</i>		<i>Friend of Dave &amp; Linda Jones</i>
<i>Adalynn Hemmes</i>		<i>Friend of Ms. Candy's Preschool</i>
<i>Jenica Tipton</i>		<i>Granddaughter of Chris Hubbard</i>
<i>Debbie Bolthouse</i>		<i>Friend of Dave &amp; Linda Jones</i>
<i>Larry Moss</i>		<i>Member of FCC Family</i>

- **REMINDER** – People that are placed on our prayer list will remain on the list for 3 weeks. Please help us update the prayer list. If your loved one is doing well, or needs to be kept on, please let us know. Please remember when putting a name on the prayer list, **you must have permission to do so** – for privacy issues. Thank you!

### Message of Thanks:

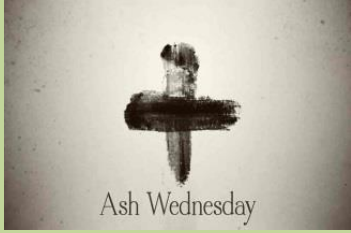

Dear Church Family – How blessed we are to have such a kind and caring church family. I wish to thank Patrice for all the phone calls, for the chocolates and for visiting me. Thanks Ms. Candy & the Preschoolers for the phone calls and for singing the delightful songs and for all the valentines and yummy treats and to Coleen for visiting me. Thanks to all of you for the lovely cards, phone calls and well wishes. I am slowly healing. I hope to be back soon. Love to all of you ~ *Mary Snow/Grandma Mary*

### Special Prayers for:

The family of Mary Lou Merritt family as she passed on the 14th of February. Her life was celebrated on February 24, 2019 here at FCC. Please also send special prayers for Larry Moss and Jenica Tipton.

We also send prayers to Jerry Jones as he will be having double knee replacement surgery on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Please pray for his surgery and recovery to go well. Thank you!

# ~ March 2019 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>*Ash Wednesday Activities:</b> 10a WF 63 <sup>rd</sup> Silent Breakfast 11a Prayer & Imposition of Ashes 7p Service & Imposition of Ashes						
					1 11:30 AA	2
<b>3</b> <b>Communion</b> 9:30 Choir 11a Worship 12:45 CC  3p Venture	<b>4</b>     5:30 CS	<b>5</b>     5:30 CS	<b>6 *Ash Wednesday</b> 10a PURLS <b>10a Silent Bfast &amp; Imposition of Ashes</b> 10:30 Winslow <b>6p Lenten Supper (Deacons &amp; Cubs)</b> 6:45 Bethany 7p Service 7p Boy Scouts	<b>7</b> <b>11a GAMA</b> <div>PF Youth Spring Retreat to Royal Oak →</div> 6:30 GS Leader Mtg. 7:30 AA	<b>8</b> 11:30 AA	<b>9</b>     5a Pine Wood Derby
<b>10 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent, Scouts, &amp; Daylight Savings Time</b> 9:30 Choir 11a Worship Special Music – <b>Preschoolers Visit</b> 12:15 PF Youth 12:45 CC 3p Venture	<b>11</b>     5:30 CS 6:30 Deacons	<b>12</b>     5:30 CS	<b>13</b> 10a PURLS    <b>6p Lenten Supper (Trustees)</b> 7p Service 7p Boy Scouts	<b>14</b> Preschool Leprechaun Traps due   6:30 F.A.N. 7:30 AA	<b>15</b> 11:30 AA	<b>16</b>     5a Pine Wood Derby
<b>17 St. Patrick's Day</b> 9:30 Choir 11a Worship 12:45 CC  3p Venture	<b>18</b>     5:30 CS Pack Mtg.	<b>19</b>     5:30 CS	<b>20</b> 10a PURLS   <b>6p Lenten Supper (Choir)</b> 7p Service 7p Boy Scouts	<b>21</b>     7:30 AA	<b>22</b> 11:30 AA	<b>23</b>     5a Pine Wood Derby
<b>24</b> 9:30 Choir 11a Worship 12:15 PF Youth 12:45 CC  3p Venture	<b>25</b>     7p Trustees	<b>26</b>     7p Beer & Hymns	<b>27</b> 10a PURLS   <b>6p Lenten Supper (FCC Council)</b> 7p Service	<b>28</b>     7:30p AA	<b>29</b> 11:30 AA	<b>30</b>     5a Pine Wood Derby
<b>31</b> 9:30 Choir 11a Worship 12:45 CC  3p Venture	<div> <b>Lenten Supper Schedule:</b>            March 6<sup>th</sup> Deacons &amp; Cub Scouts            March 13<sup>th</sup> Trustees            March 20<sup>th</sup> Choir            March 27<sup>th</sup> FCC Council         </div> <div>           April 3<sup>rd</sup> Preschool            April 10<sup>th</sup> WF            April 16<sup>th</sup> Maundy Thursday            *All dinners start at 6:00 pm.         </div> <div>  <b>Sunday March 10<sup>th</sup></b> </div>					

# ~ April 2019 ~

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 10a PURLS  1p Winslow <b>6p Lenten Supper (Preschool)</b> 6:45 Bethany 7p Service 7p Boy Scouts	<b>4</b>  <b>11a GAMA</b>  7:30 AA	<b>5</b> 11:30 AA	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> <b>Communion</b> 9:30 Choir 11a Worship 12:45 CC  3p Venture	<b>8</b>  5:30 CS 6:30 Deacons	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 10a PURLS  <b>6p Lenten Supper (WF)</b> 7p Service 7p Boy Scouts	<b>11</b>  6:30 GS Leader Mtg. 7:30 AA	<b>12</b> 11:30 AA	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> <b>Palm Sunday</b> 9:30 Choir 11a Worship 12:15 PF Youth 12:45 CC  3p Green Acres 3p Venture 4p SHUM	<b>15</b> <b>Holy Week</b>  5:30 CS 7p CE Mtg.	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 10a PURLS   <b>No Comm. Life</b> 7p Boy Scouts	<b>18 Maundy Thursday</b>  6p FCC Potluck 7p Maundy Thursday 7:30 AA	<b>19</b> 11:30 AA  <b>Good Friday</b>	<b>20</b>  <b>Holy Saturday</b>
<b>21 Easter Sunday</b> 9:30 Choir 10a Breakfast 11a Worship 12:45 CC  3p Venture	<b>22</b>  5:30 CS 7p Trustees	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 10a PURLS  1p WF Board 5p Free Dinner 6p Group Study 7p Boy Scouts	<b>25</b>  7:30 AA	<b>26</b> 11:30 AA	<b>27</b>  <b>9-3 Clothing Swap</b>
<b>28</b> 9:30 Choir 11a Worship 12:15 PF Youth 12:45 CC  3p Venture	<b>29</b>  5:30p CS Pack Mtg.	<b>30</b>  7p Beer & Hymns				

# ~ FCC COMMITTEE NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS ~

## PASTORAL NEWS



**Community Life (CL):** Starting March 6th our free community dinners will be transitioning into our Lenten Supper at 6pm and Study at 7pm. The regular time will resume after Easter.

- **Pastor's Office Hours:** Open office hours are Monday & Wednesday (10am-2pm). Study day on Tuesday. Visits on Thursdays or as needed. Evening visits are available by appointment. If you'd like to schedule an appointment or visit, please call the church office or email Pastor Jason at [pastor.dillingham@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.dillingham@gmail.com).
- **Pastoral Care:** Our team is here for your spiritual & emotional care! If you'd like to schedule an appointment or visit, call the office, the parsonage (835-9032) or email [pastor.dillingham@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.dillingham@gmail.com).
- **Parish Nurse:** Patrice is off on Mondays. She is in on Tuesday & Thursday from 8am to 4pm, and Friday from 8-11am. If you need assistance Mon. or Wed., please contact the Pastoral Care Team.

## DEACONS NEWS

Highlights from the February Meeting:

- Forgotten Man Ministries will be presenting in church on March 3.
- Game night was a big success! Family building projects and a card night are being planned.
- Membership committee could use donations of cards and stamps.
- Lenten suppers begin March 6.
- Jenny Milam was welcomed to the diaconate.

## SCHEDULE OF LENTEN SUPPERS

Here is the Schedule of dinners:

- March 6<sup>th</sup> – Deacons, assisted by Cub Scouts
- March 13<sup>th</sup> – FCC Trustees
- March 20<sup>th</sup> – FCC Choir
- March 27<sup>th</sup> – FCC Council
- April 3<sup>rd</sup> – Ms. Candy & Preschool Grandparents
- April 10<sup>th</sup> – Women's Fellowship
- April 18<sup>th</sup> – Maundy Thursday

\*All dinners are at 6pm with group study following dinner. All are welcome!

## CHURCH OFFICE NEWS

Office hours are Monday thru Friday 9am to 3pm with lunch from 2:00 to 2:30pm. The front door will be locked early on Tuesday and Fridays for staff safety; please call ahead. Thank you!

## TRUSTEE NEWS & PLEDGE INFORMATION

Our Shortage YTD is **\$35,378.50**. The next meeting will be March 25<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the upstairs conference room. Please stop by the church library to pick up your box of tithing envelopes, if you have not done so. We also still have tithing cards, for those of you who have not turned in your pledge card yet.

## CELEBRATIONS

**Happy Birthday!** To Patricia Butts (3/1), Ann Emerson (3/1), Kristen Milam (3/10), Libbie Suchowolec (3/10), Emily Suchowolec (3/12), Rachael Milam (3/14), 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).

## NEWLY APPOINTED

Congratulations and Welcome to Jenny Milam who has been appointed a position on the Deaconate board! We also want to congratulate and announce the new chair and vice chair of the Trustees committee: Karen Hulbert (ch.) and Steve Roose (v.ch.). The Trustees are looking for one more member of the church who would like to join the committee. Please contact Karen Hulbert to inquire. Congratulations to all!

## CHILDREN'S CHOIR NEWS

The group practices on Sundays from 12:45 to 1:15. All children ages 3 and up are welcome to join. Parents are asked to stay at practices if your child is under 8. Contact Katrina at [kat.k.nelson@gmail.com](mailto:kat.k.nelson@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

## BEER & BIBLE – MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

There will be no Bible Study during the Lenten Suppers scheduled in March thru April. Our Men's Bible Study pick back up on Wednesday the 24th of April at 7:30pm. We will have a new location – TBA. If you would like to host meetings at your home, please contact Pastor Jason. Please see the bulletin board for the schedule & join us anytime!

## PF YOUTH NEWS

The spring retreat was rescheduled to March 8-10 at Royal Oak Congregational Church. \$55 per person. The NAPF will be the end of June in Cleveland, Ohio - for all grades entering 9th-12th and Hope. Please check the church bulletin board for PF Youth retreat registration packets and updates.



## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP NEWS

- Due to the weather last month our Circles were unable to meet. Both Circles will meet the first Wednesday of this month. Winslow circle will meet immediately following the Silent Breakfast and Bethany will meet at 6:45; just after the Lenten Supper. Please contact Fran Gibbs or Rosel Eagles with any questions.
- **TERRI LYNN NUTS:** Anyone wishing to purchase a bag of nuts, here is what is available – for \$11 per bag: Pistachios, Giant Cashews, Honey Roasted Cashews, Deluxe Mixed Nuts (no peanuts), Walnut Pieces. For \$10 per bag: Cocoa Almonds, Heart Healthy Mix, Milk Choc. Bridge Mix, Dark Choc. Sea Salt Caramels. For \$9 per bag Malted Milk Balls. For \$8 per bag Almond Cranberry Granola, Gummi Bears, Milk Choc. Jumbo Raisins, and Mixed yogurt Raisins. See Chris Hubbard or call 754-7464 if you would like to purchase a bag!
- **Men & Women of our Church** – Be sure to mark your calendar now for the SILENT BREAKFAST on Ash Wednesday to begin the Lenten Season. The Silent Breakfast is a symbolic breakfast/communion within a peaceful and quiet setting. The speaker is our own Pastor Jason Dillingham, with Roxy Rice doing the invocation, and Janet Tower playing the piano. At the end of the service, an *Imposition of Ashes* will be available. All are invited!

## CHRISTIAN ED NEWS

- Thank you for giving your coins to the Noisy Coin Collection in February – almost \$300 dollars was collected! All proceeds go to IM KIDS 3rd Meal that distributes food to school children in need.
- We begin our spring curriculum in March. Miss Mary will resume teaching our first through third graders in March as well. Our children will be learning about the many people that Jesus helped in his ministry leading up to Easter. We have special lessons for Palm Sunday and Easter to look forward to in April. Our teachers do a wonderful job and would love to have more kids attend Sunday School on as regular a basis as your family can arrange. We are so lucky to have such a dedicated staff.
- Please mark your calendar for May 19 when the Sunday School Students lead worship! We call this Children's Sunday. We will 'showcase' some lessons, Children's Choir will sing, and First Graders will get their first Bible. Please support our teachers by going to Sunday School!

## PRESCHOOL NEWS

After all of the missed days, we FINALLY had a very fun valentine's party! The children came in their favorite PJ's and had popcorn and watched a movie all while exchanging treats and making gifts for their parents. Our preschoolers are starting St. Patrick's day preparations and will be bringing in their leprechaun traps in soon! The Preschoolers will also be performing their pre-spring concert on the 10th of March at Sunday service. Finally, **the Preschool will be selling popcorn and other treats from *The Goodies Factory* based out of Holland, to raise money for school supplies; order forms will be available during coffee hour if you would like to sample or order anything – on March 3<sup>rd</sup> thru the 15<sup>th</sup>. You may also stop in the church office and place an order throughout those dates.** Packets for Fall classes will be handed out in April, for anyone interested in sending their little one to a wonderful, fun & loving Christian based school, please stop in the church office to pick one up! SPACE IS LIMITED! Questions? Call 754-3445 or find her on Facebook.

## FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITY

The Deacons are hosting a St. Patrick's day card party on March 17<sup>th</sup> from 1-5pm in Fellowship Hall.! We invite church members, family, friends, and all who want to come and play cards for a night of fun and fellowship! Please bring a deck of cards and snack if you like. See you there! ☺

## OTHER NEWS & COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **CHURCH CLOSINGS:** please check WZZM 13, Wood TV-8, and Facebook for any activities that may be closed at the church.
- **CARE CARDS:** Anyone wishing to send cards to people in care facilities, to show love and encouragement, please stop in the church office for a directory of all the main facilities.
- **AARP Foundation Tax Info:** is offering Free Tax Help, starting Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> thru April 9<sup>th</sup>. IRS Volunteers will be assisting at the CoA in Stanton, Tues. & Thrus. from 8:30 to 2:30. Call the CoA for an appointment.
- **Check out the CoA website** or call 989-831-7476 for important news & upcoming events at: [www.montcalmcountymissiononaging.org](http://www.montcalmcountymissiononaging.org).
- **Daylight Savings** begins Sunday March 10<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget to **SPRING FORWARD** & set your clocks ahead 1 hour Sturday night!



**Trustees of the Month:** Dan Eagles and Kirk Faber  
**Deacon of the Month:** Jenny Milam

**BOARD MEETINGS:**

Deacons: Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm  
Trustees: Monday the 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm

**General Fund: Operating Budget Income**

January 2018 YTD \$53,874.50 ♦ January 2019 YTD \$18,496.00  
Shortage YTD \$35,378.50

## MUTUAL MINISTRY

**March 3 – Communion & Transfiguration Sunday**

Greeters: Al & Gloria Guilfoyle  
Liturgist: Sandra Tiffany  
Children's Message: Pastor Jason  
Ushers: Al & Gloria Guilfoyle and Scott Rowland  
Coffee Hour: Jerry & Gloria McPherson, Marta Lores, Greg Gardner, and Claude Johnson  
Sound Techs: Bruce Beauvais and Blake Rowland

**March 10 – First Sunday of Lent, Preschool visits, Scout Sunday, & Daylight Savings Begins**

Greeters: Scouts  
Liturgist: Morgan Maria Venema  
Children's Message: Coleen Venema  
Ushers: Scouts  
Coffee Hour: Potluck – assisted by Scouts  
Sound Techs: Corey Norman and Blake Rowland

**March 17 – St. Patrick's Day**

Greeters: Scott & Lynne Rowland  
Liturgist: Susan Beauvais  
Children's Message: **NEEDED**  
Ushers: Larry Alman, Chris Hubbard and Hollie Stephenson  
Coffee Hour: Harry & Rose Riddle and Terri Merritt  
Sound Techs: Corey Norman and Joe Suchowolec

**March 24**

Greeters: Paul & Kris Jager  
Liturgist: Scott Rowland  
Children's Message: **NEEDED**  
Ushers: Paul & Kris Jager and Greg Gardner  
Coffee Hour: Doug & Lisa Stek and Jim & Patti Ritzema  
Sound Techs: Blake Rowland and Joe Suchowolec

**March 31**

Greeters: Dan & Rosel Eagles  
Liturgist: Megan Dillingham  
Children's Message: **NEEDED**  
Ushers: Dan & Rosel Eagles and Steve Roose  
Coffee Hour: Jack & Ann Corner, Dick Canfield and Karen Hulbert  
Sound Techs: Bruce Beauvais and Corey Norman

**April 7 – Communion Sunday**

Greeters: Harry & Rose Riddle  
Liturgist: Bonnie Wickerham  
Children's Message: Pastor Jason  
Ushers: Harry & Rose Riddle and Greg Gardner  
Coffee Hour: Hollie Stephenson, Janet Tuin, Rose Cole, and Larry Alman  
Sound Techs: **TBA**

**April 14 – Palm Sunday**

Greeters: Carolyn Foster and Carol Magoon  
Liturgist: Karen Hulbert  
Children's Message: **NEEDED**  
Ushers: Don Gibbs, Carolyn Foster, and Carol Magoon  
Coffee Hour: Ray & Janet Tower and The Venema Family  
Sound Techs: **TBA**

**April 21 – Easter Sunday**

Greeters: Jerry & Gloria McPherson  
Liturgist: Roxy Rice  
Children's Message: **NEEDED**  
Ushers: Larry Alman, Jerry McPherson, and Nyama Newkirk-Davis  
**No Coffee Hour**  
Sound Techs: **TBA**

**April 28**

Greeters: Myron & Sandra Tiffany  
Liturgist: Brianna Rowland  
Children's Message: **NEEDED**  
Ushers: Wilson Hoy, Myron Tiffany, and Marian Griffith  
Coffee Hour: Doug & Chris Dodd and Kirk & Celeste Faber  
Sound Techs: **TBA**