



FCC PILGRIM PULSE

NOVEMBER 2019

Pilgrim Pulse Volume 11 Issue 11

The Church Covenant . . .

We are banded together as a Christian Church to maintain the worship of God, to proclaim the gospel of Christ, to develop in people a consciousness of their relations and duties to God and their fellow souls, and to inspire them with love for truth, passion for righteousness, and enthusiasm for service.

To this end we pledge our loyalty to Christ and covenant with each other to strive to express His spirit in our individual and corporate life: to live together as Christian brethren, and to submit ourselves to the government of this church, working, giving, praying for its increase, its purity, its peace, and seeking in every way to make it a power for the building up of the Kingdom of God.

Amen.



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 Gloden, 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>Mike Tuin</i>
<i>Lucille McLachlan</i>	<i>Betty Lincoln</i>	<i>Sandra Tiffany</i>	<i>Roxy Rice</i>	<i>Michael Balars</i>
<i>Barb Hoy</i>	<i>Marjoan Wohlfert</i>	<i>Gloria McPherson</i>	<i>Gary Petersen</i>	<i>Carrol Minard</i>
<i>Lucas Hopkins</i>	<i>Bonnie Braman</i>	<i>Coreen Johnston</i>	<i>Jade Hannah</i>	<i>Tom Deal</i>
<i>Larry Moss</i>	<i>David Crittenden</i>	<i>Bill & Jean Boyd</i>	<i>Susan Beauvais</i>	<i>Jasmine Luce</i>
<i>Holly Case</i>	<i>Judith Rice-Lesage</i>	<i>Pat Flashaar</i>		

FCC FAMILY AT CARE FACILITIES

<i>Millie Crowe</i>		<i>-at Maple Creek, Grand Rapids</i>
<i>Lois Hazelwood</i>		<i>-at Hathaway Hills Assisted Living Room #31</i>
<i>Bette Houle</i>		<i>-at The Brook Assisted Living, Cedar Springs</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>Lois Visch</i>		<i>-at Masonic Pathways in Alma Room #282A</i>
<i>Bob Dunn</i>		<i>-at Metron</i>
<i>Keith King</i>		<i>-at Hathaway Hills Assisted Living Room #14</i>

FAMILY AND FRIENDS

<i>Jennaca (for healing)</i>	<i>Friend of the Dillingham Family</i>
<i>Mark Iverson</i>	<i>Brother-in-law of Deb Dieckman</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!

Congratulations!

A Great Grand baby boy was welcomed into the world on October 19, 2019. Joseph Chandler Smith 8lbs. 3oz. He was welcomed with love by his parents, Chris Smith & Christine Johnson. He was also welcomed with love by Grandparents Deb & John Bonk and Great-Grandpa Ron Kingsbury!

Continue Prayers for:

Sharla McCoy, the Brygal Family, Jack Corner, Jerry Garner, and Barb Hoy (home).

~ November 2019 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
*Daylight savings ends November 3rd. Move clocks BACK one hour! 					1 11:30 AA	2
3 Communion, Potluck, & Daylight Savings Ends 9:30 Prayer Group 9:30 Choir 11a Worship 12:45 CC 3p Venture	4 5:30 CS 6:30 Council	5	6 10a PURLS 1p Winslow 4p Girl Scouts 5p Free Dinner 6p Group Study 6:30 Bethany 7p Boy Scouts	7 4p Prayer group 6:30 Tp. 125G 7:30 AA	8 11:30 AA	9
10 Veterans & Volunteer Sunday 9:30 Prayer Group 9:30 Choir 11a Worship 12:15PF Youth 12:45 CC 3p Venture	11 Veterans Day 5:30 CS 6:30 Deacons	12 5p HCA Potluck	13 10a PURLS *Set up for Bazaar 4p Girl Scouts 5p Free Dinner 6p Group Study 6:30 Scouts Court of Honor Ceremony	14 4p Prayer group 6:30 Tp. 125G 7:30 AA	15 11:30 AA *Bazaar & Vendors set-up	16 9-2 Holiday Bazaar
17 9:30 Prayer Group 9:30 Choir 11a Worship 12:45 CC 3p Venture	18 5:30 CS	19	20 10a PURLS 7p Boy Scouts	21 4p Prayer group 5:30 F.A.N. 6p OA Group 6:30 Tp. 125G 7:30 AA	22 11:30 AA	23
24 Thanksgiving & Congregational Heritage 9:30 Prayer Group 9:30 Choir 11a Worship 12:15 PF Youth 12:45 CC 3p Venture	25 Preschool Thanksgiving Feast (3's)  6p CS Pack Mtg./Potluck 7p Trustees	26 10a Deck the Halls & WF Board Mtg. Preschool Thanksgiving Feast (4&5) 7p Beer & Hymns	27 10a PURLS 5p CLS Thanksgiving Dinner 7p Boy Scouts	28  <div style="background-color: #f4a460; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Thanksgiving Break </div> <div style="text-align: center; color: red; font-weight: bold;">~OFFICE CLOSED~</div> 7:30 AA	29	30 2-4 Bday Party Janet Taylor

~ December 2019 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-weight: bold;">Merry Christmas</p>						
1 Communion & 1st Sunday in Advent 9:30 Prayer Group 9:30 Choir 11a Worship 12:45 CC 3p Venture	2 5:30 CS 6:30 Council 7p CE Mtg.	3	4 10a PURLS 1p Winslow 4p Girl Scouts 5p Free Dinner 6p Group Study 6:30 Bethany 7p Boy Scouts	5 11a GAMA 4p Prayer group 6:30 Tp. 125G 7:30 AA	6 11:30 AA Santa Parade 5:30 CS meet	7 2p WF Christmas Tea 
8 9:30 Prayer Group 9:30 Choir 11a Service 12:15 PF Youth 12:45 CC 3p Venture	9 5:30 CS 6:30 Deacons	10 5p HCA Potluck	11 10a PURLS 4p Girl Scouts 5p Free Dinner 6p Group Study 7p Boy Scouts	12 4p Prayer group 6:30 Tp. 125G 7:30 AA	13 11:30 AA <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <i>Troop 125G Lock-in 6p on the 13th to 12p on the 14th</i> </div>	14
15 9:30 Prayer Group 9:30 Choir 11a Worship Special Music – <i>Children's Choir</i> 3p Venture 4p PF Party 5:30 Christmas Caroling	16 5:30 CS Pack Mtg./Christmas Party 7p Trustees	17 7p Beer & Hymns	18 10a PURLS 4p Girl Scouts 5p Dinner 6p Group Study 7p BS Groups	19 Preschool Christmas Pageant (4 & 5's) 4p Prayer group 5:30 F.A.N. 6p OA Group 6:30 Tp. 125G 7:30 AA	20 11:30 AA Preschool Christmas Party (3's)	21
22 9:30 Prayer Group 9:30 Choir 11a Worship *Sunday School 12:15 PF Youth 12:45 CC 3p Venture	23	24	25	26	27 11:30 AA	28
<div style="background-color: #d9e1f2; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;"> Christmas Break December 24 to January 6th </div>						
3p Venture		Christmas Eve 7p Worship 11p Worship PF Assist w/ evening services		4p Prayer group 7:30 AA		
29 9:30 Prayer Group 11a Service *no Sunday School	30	31 New Years Eve				
<div style="background-color: #d9e1f2; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;"> Christmas Break </div>						

~ FCC COMMITTEE NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS ~

PASTORAL NEWS

Community Life (CL): Dinner is at 5pm with group study at 6pm. Volunteers needed to help cook and serve supper on Wednesday nights. Food prep begins between 2-3pm and cleanup is done by around 6pm. Please see Megan Dillingham if you can help!

- **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. To schedule an appointment or visit, please call the church office, email Pastor Jason or call the Parsonage.

COMMUNITY LIFE THANKSGIVING DINNER

Food donations needed for the Community Life Thanksgiving dinner on Wed., Nov. 27th. We will need volunteers to cook and clean up, as well. Keep an eye out for a signup sheet on the bulletin board outside of the office or see Megan Dillingham for further details.

DEACONS NEWS

- Fellowship is planning a movie night for early in November. Date TBA.
- Membership is working on an in-depth update to the list of active members.
- We have 20 volunteers to help at the Kids Against Hunger event! Thanks to everyone for the volunteers and donations!
- New Coffee Hour info (see next page).
- Special Meals group is planning a potluck after the worship on Nov. 3rd!
- Plans are in the works for a Christmas time Angel Tree and for an opportunity to give needed basic items to the residents of Greenville Acres.

CHURCH OFFICE NEWS

Office hours are Mon-Fri from 9-3 with lunch from 2:00 to 2:30. The door is locked early on Tues. and Fri. If you need assistance, please call ahead.

PARISH NURSE NEWS

- Patrice is in on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8-4 and on Fridays from 8-11. She is available for questions or concerns by calling (616) 894-7288.
- **Grief Support & Education:** sponsored by Spectrum Health. Two support classes are offered: *Grief Never Takes a Holiday* on Wed., Nov. 6th from 6-7:30 pm and *Moving Through Grief* on Wed., Nov. 13, 20, 27, and Dec. 4th & 11th from 10-11:30am. Call Tracey at (616) 486-2854 for more info & to register.

TRUSTEE NEWS

There is an overage of \$1,565.88. **Please note this overage is due to the GACF interest.* The next meeting will be Nov. 25th at 7pm in the upstairs conference room. **Tithing boxes still are available in the library;** if you do not see your box, please leave a note for the office and one will be issued to you. Pledge cards are still available in the Narthex. Thank you for your continued support and care for this church!

CELEBRATIONS

Happy Birthday! To Karen Hulbert (11/1), Carrol Minard (11/1), JJ Suchowolec (11/2), Chris Bosch (11/13), Skylar Kruger (11/13), John House (11/24), Ann Corner (11/25), Lainey Emerson (11/26), Sandra Tiffany (11/26), and Dan Eagles (11/29).

Happy Anniversary! To Brian & Lisa Gardner (11/2), Chris & Doug Dodd (11/24), Jack & Ann Corner (11/28), and Harry & Rose Riddle (11/29).

CHOIR NEWS

- Chancel Choir practices every Sunday at 9:30am.
- The Children's Choir practices every Sunday at 12:45 in Fellowship Hall.
- We are still looking for volunteers for our *Special Music* program, contact Greg VanderMark.

CHRISTIAN ED NEWS

- **SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED!** If you can be a teacher once a month or substitute teach if needed, please leave a message in the church office.
- **Helping Those In Need:** On the 3rd Sunday of the month, we encourage everyone to fill out food basket for those in need. Parents: Please send a non-perishable item with your child. Congregation: Please donate to the basket so the kids can see your example of giving to those who are food challenged.

PF YOUTH NEWS

PF Youth meetings are the 2nd and 4th Sunday's of the month. Upcoming events/mission trips:

- State Fall Retreat is Nov. 8-10, for 6th-12th grade, in Jackson, MI. Packets available in the church office upon request.
- Nov. 17th is a tentative date for Chicken BBQ (funds raised to be used for program and missions).
- Nov. 24th no PF Meeting
- Dec. 7th shopping trip to River Town Crossing Mall.
- See Claude Johnson for more information on events and mission trips.

PRESCHOOL NEWS

- And like that...October is over! The children carved pumpkins and had fun playing with all the colorful leaves that have been falling, making scarecrows and went on a fun ghost hunt!
- Preschool then had the annual Trunk-or-Treat at the end of the month – which was well attended!
- We were happy to welcome back Grandpa Jack in October and hope he can come back soon! We all pray for you and miss you!
- As we move into November, the leaves are really changing and so is the weather! The children are now getting ready for their annual Thanksgiving Feast with their families! During this month, the children will also be learning about the pilgrims and the voyage over to America and the first Thanksgiving Dinner.
- The Preschool is still accepting registration packets for children seeking a loving and Christian based preschool. Stop in the church office to pick up a packet or a packet is available on our church website under (all) News/Events at www.firstccog.org. For additional questions, please contact Ms. Candy on Facebook, or by calling 754-7608 or 754-2445.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP NEWS

- **Winslow Circle** meets **Wed., Nov. 6 at 1pm.**
- **Bethany Circle** meets **Wed., Nov. 6 at 6:30pm.**
- **Terri Lynn Nut** orders will be delivered in Nov. – Date TBA. Questions? Contact Chris Hubbard
- **FALL RUMMAGE SALE:** The fall rummage was once again a great success! A very big "Thank you" to everyone who donated items! Also, thanks to those who helped with set-up, clean-up and box-up left-over items, to take to Arms of Love. Special thanks to Danielle for setting up the tables and to our wonderful volunteers who drove the left-over items to the Arms of Love.
- **HOLIDAY BAZAAR is November 16th from 9-2. Volunteers still needed!** Please see any Board member to volunteer for a job! We also need baked goods of all kinds and your best cookies for the cookie walk. There will be crafters, a raffle, a kid's corner with crafts and face painting and we will have a visit from Santa and Mrs. Clause from 11-1! Lunch will also be served from 11-1 with the best lunch in town! To include hot beef sandwiches, soup, drinks, chips, etc. If you have items for the Raffle, please see Fran Gibbs.
- **VENDORS NEEDED** for the Holiday Bazaar! Call Chris at (616) 754-7464 to reserve a table and get more information. Deadline to register is Nov. 3rd.

FCC COFFEE HOUR NEWS

Coming in 2020 . . . A New Plan for Coffee Hour!
Many of you are aware of the struggle to keep up with coffee hour over the last couple of years. Besides the simple fact that our attendance is declining, several members have opted out of being on the coffee hour list - cost is a factor as are a variety of health issues and generally busy lives. While the comradery and fellowship coffee hour provides is very important, a significant part of Sunday services for some members, the fact is that roughly half the congregation on any given Sunday does not come down to the Fellowship Hall. As the deacon responsible for Mutual Ministry tasks, Deb D. has been feeling rather guilty assigning people to coffee hour twice a year (more often for some) when many of those people more typically head home after services. The Deacons are aware of the situation and have debated possible solutions for several months. Recently, we settled on a new set of guidelines for sponsoring coffee hour.

- Anyone can voluntarily sign up to sponsor a coffee hour & any Sunday can be your Sunday, unless we have a church function (i.e., a pre-planned potluck).
- More than one person can sign up to share a coffee hour, but we should not rely on the same people over and over again.
- The quantity or variety of snacks is completely up to the sponsor. However, a simple pot of coffee and something store-bought to munch on is more than sufficient. Unless it's a special occasion, let's keep it simple and small so that no one feels intimidated into spending a lot of time or money.
- As always, paper products, coffee, sugar and creamer are provided by the church (the Women's Fellowship, actually).
- Anyone who does sponsor coffee hour needs to be there to set up before service and clean up afterwards, as has always been the practice.
- If no one sponsors coffee hour, the Deacons will provide only coffee.
- For the remainder of 2019, we will follow the assignment calendar as it stands, however, if someone has to cancel or forgets, the Deacons will provide only coffee that Sunday.
- Sign-up sheets for 2020 will be posted on the main bulletin board outside the church office starting in mid-November for three months at a time. No one has to volunteer for coffee hour and should not feel obligated to do so. There will always be coffee and the space to sit together to visit and chat. That's what coffee hour is really about, isn't it?

Trustees of the Month: Karen Hulbert and Kurt Kreeger
Deacon of the Month: Bruce Beauvais

BOARD MEETINGS:

Deacons: Monday the 11th at 6:30pm
Trustees: Monday the 25th at 7:00pm

General Fund: Operating Budget Income

Sept 2018 YTD \$155,310.56 ♦ Sept 2019 YTD \$156,876.44
Overage YTD \$1,565.88

****PLEASE NOTE: the overage is due to the GACF interest.***

MUTUAL MINISTRY

**November 3 – Communion,
Remembrance Sunday, & Daylight
Savings Time Ends**

Greeters: Doug & Chris Dodd
Liturgist: Don Gibbs
Children's Message: Fran Gibbs
Ushers: Doug & Chris Dodd and Don Gibbs
Coffee Hour: **Potluck** (*bring a dish to pass
and table service*)
Sound Techs: Corey Norman

**November 10 – Volunteer Appreciation &
Veterans Sunday**

Greeters: Ted & Therese Bush
Liturgist: Katie Dillingham
Children's Message: **NEEDED**
Ushers: Ted & Therese Bush and
Larry Alman
Coffee Hour: Harry & Rose Riddle and
Jerry & Gloria McPherson
Sound Techs: Blake Rowland

November 17

Greeters: Larry & Karen Carbonelli
Liturgist: Chris Hubbard
Children's Message: **NEEDED**
Ushers: Larry & Karen Carbonelli and
Wilson Hoy
Coffee Hour: Bruce & Susan Beauvais and
Doug & Chris Dodd
Sound Techs: Blake Rowland

November 24 – Christ The King Sunday

Greeters: Michele Kocher and Janet Tuin
Liturgist: Blake Rowland
Children's Message: **NEEDED**
Ushers: Michele Kocher, Janet Tuin, and
Scott Rowland
Coffee Hour: Emily Suchowolec, Jane
Truesdell, and Greg Gardner
Sound Techs: Blake Rowland and
Corey Noman

December 1 – Communion Sunday

Greeters: The Stek Family
Liturgist: Linda Jones
Children's Message: Pastor Jason
Ushers: Doug & Lisa Stek and Don Gibbs
Coffee Hour: Carla Durdle, Carol Magoon, Michele Kocher,
and Roxy Rice
Sound Techs: **TBA**

December 8

Greeters: Corey Norman and Family
Liturgist: Don Gibbs
Children's Message: **NEEDED**
Ushers: Larry Alman, Corey Norman, and Patrick Lake
Coffee Hour: Larry & Karen Carbonelli and (*2 more needed*)
Sound Techs: **TBA**

December 15

Greeters: Anita Putnam and Darlene Petersen
Liturgist: Karen Hulbert
Children's Message: **NEEDED**
Ushers: Wilson Hoy, Darlene Petersen and Anita Putnam
Coffee Hour: Cheryl Flashaar, Patricia Butts, Marta Lores,
and Terri Merritt
Sound Techs: **TBA**

December 22

Greeters: Hollie Stephenson Family
Liturgist: Patrick Lake
Children's Message: **NEEDED**
Ushers: Hollie & Tom Stephenson and Scott Rowland
Coffee Hour: Paul & Kris Jager, Chris Hubbard, and Corey Norman
Sound Techs: **TBA**

December 24 – Christmas Eve Service (7p & 11p)

Greeters: **TBA**
Liturgist: Susan Beauvais
Ushers: **TBA**
Sound Techs: **TBA**

December 29

Greeters: Steve & Diane Roose
Liturgist: Sandra Tiffany
Children's Message: **NEEDED**
Ushers: Steve & Diane Roose and Greg Gardner
Coffee Hour: *Congregation's Leftover Christmas Cookies!*
Sound Techs: **TBA**