



# FCC PILGRIM PULSE

OCTOBER 2018

Pilgrim Pulse Volume 10 Issue 10

## *The Good News...*

It's hard to believe that September has already passed us by, but it has. It seems like only days ago that we were celebrating our Come Together Sunday with baptisms, and new members, and a busy Sunday School. It's so good to have so many souls back together again after a beautiful Michigan summer. Now it's all football games and family activities and studying. What a joy it is to have some new younger families joining as members or coming to worship with us regularly. What a joy it is to visit and partner with our long-time members for whom the activity that comes with children in the home is a fond memory. The weather may finally be cooling off, but it is wonderful and warm time to be in the family here at First Congregational.

If you haven't been able to join us on Sunday mornings, I hope you'll keep up through the weekly emails and the Good News messages uploaded on YouTube and Facebook. Our church website is a great place to keep connected too. Of course the best place is side by side with one another. We come together as a covenant community on Sunday mornings for study and worship. We come together on Wednesday evenings for Community Life or Beer & Bible (starting up again this month). We come together once a month at Castle Brewing for Beer & Hymns (totally different from Beer & Bible). We come together in helping Have Mercy, New Leaf, and the homeless & hungry in our community. We come together through Women's Circles and through the service we offer keeping both the building and the fellowship in good repair. Most of all, we come together in our love for one another which grows out of our love for Jesus and his love for us. I hope you're finding a place and group to stay connected. If not, or if you're feeling disconnected at all, I hope you'll give us a call or an email, and it will be our joy to connect with you!

Have you heard the news about our new Children's Choir Director? I'm sure that Katrina Nelson would probably shy away from the attention, but I hope you will extend a loving welcome to her as a new member and a new trainer of our children. I wish I could share with you the beautiful voice she has; especially as she shared it by singing "It Is Well" by Horatio Spafford on Sunday morning. Unfortunately, it's something you have to experience in the pews, I think. What a joy though, and what a remind of the beauty that is in each of us as we journey along this pilgrim path together. I am so grateful for you and so grateful for the unique gifts and personality that you bring to this fellowship of ours. May Christ, Our LORD, lead us onward and upward as we go now together, in peace, faith, and love. May it be so.

*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>Harry Riddle</i>	<i>Bonnie Braman</i>			

<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>Al Koett</i>	<i>-at Metron Greenville</i>
<i>Mary Lou Merritt</i>	<i>-at Green Acres Room #118</i>
<i>Corla Morgan</i>	<i>-at SHUM RNC Room #103</i>
<i>Kathie Sansom</i>	<i>-at SHUM RNC Room #108</i>
<i>Mary Crittenden</i>	<i>-at SHUM RNC Room #109</i>
<i>Norma Nicholas</i>	<i>-at Green Acres Room #201</i>
<i>Bob Dunn</i>	<i>-at Metron</i>
<i>Jelane Hamper</i>	<i>-at Green Acres Room #206</i>

### FAMILY AND FRIENDS

<i>Roy Wohlfert</i>	<i>Brother-in-law of Michele Kocher</i>
<i>David Crittenden</i>	<i>Son of Mary Crittenden</i>
<i>Dennis Snow</i>	<i>Brother of Larry Snow and Sandra Tiffany</i>
<i>Frank McLachlan</i>	<i>Father of Jenny and Ann McLachlan</i>
<i>Jasmine Luce</i>	<i>Friend of Candy Outman</i>
<i>Sarah Brygal</i>	<i>Friend of Candy Outman</i>
<i>Mason Selesky</i>	<i>Friend of Dale &amp; Judy Graham</i>
<i>Ann McLachlan-Brady</i>	<i>Daughter of Lucille McLachlan</i>
<i>Miranda Durham</i>	<i>Granddaughter of Sandra Tiffany</i>

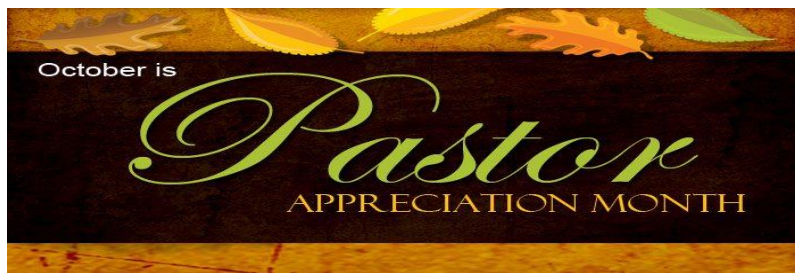


- **REMINDER** – People that are placed on our prayer list will remain on the list for 3 weeks. Please help us update the prayer list. If your loved one is doing well, or needs to be kept on, please let us know. Please remember when putting a name on the prayer list, **you must have permission to do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

**Congratulations to:** Proud Parents Dan & Trista Hanson and Grandparents Pete & Cindy Hanson – on the birth of their son and first grandson, David Arthur Hanson, born Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> (7lbs 11oz 19in).

**Special Prayers for:** Michael Balars and Natalie Kilfoil.

**FCC Medical Equipment:** if you have borrowed a piece of medical equipment for you or a loved one, please return it to the church, as we are needing our it back to lend out to others in need! Thank you!



~ October 2018 ~

<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 5p Free Dinner 6p Group Study 6:30 Bethany 7p Boy Scouts 7:30 Men's BS	<b>4</b>  <b>11a GAMA</b>  9a Set-up for rummage sale  7:30 AA	<b>5</b> 11:30 AA  8-1 WF Fall Rummage Sale	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> <b>Communion</b> 9:30 Choir 9:30 Bible Study 11a Worship 12:45 CC  3p Venture	<b>8</b>  <i>Columbus Day</i>  5:30 CS 6:30 Deacons	<b>9</b>   5p HCA Potluck	<b>10</b> 10a PURLS  5p Free Dinner 6p Study Group 7p Boy Scouts 7:30 Men's BS	<b>11</b>   6:30 GS Leader Mtg. 7:30 AA	<b>12</b> 11:30 AA	<b>13</b>
<b>14 Pastor Appreciation Day</b> 9:30 Choir 9:30 Bible Study (final mtg.) 11a Worship -Preschool Sings 12:15 PF Youth 12:45 CC  3p Venture	<b>15</b>   5:30 CS	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 10a PURLS  5p Free Dinner 6p Study Group 7p Boy Scouts 7:30 Men's BC	<b>18</b>   5:45p F.A.N. 7:30 AA	<b>19</b> 11:30 AA	<b>20</b>  9-4 Clothing Swap
<b>21</b> 9:30 Choir 11a Worship 12:45 CC  3p Venture 7:30 Men's BS	<b>22</b>   5:30 CS 7p Trustees	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 10a PURLS  1p WF Board 5p Free Dinner 6p Study Group 7p Boy Scouts	<b>25</b>   7:30 AA	<b>26</b>  11:30 AA	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 9:30 Choir 11a Worship 12:15 PF Youth 12:45 CC  3p Venture	<b>29</b>   5:30 CS Pack Mtg.	<b>30</b> <b>Preschool Trunk-or-Treat</b>  7p Beer & Hymns	<b>31</b> <b>Preschool Trunk-or-treat</b>  5p Free Dinner 6p Study Group	CoA Events: • Ask the Lawyer Oct. 4 <sup>th</sup> at 10:30am or Oct. 11 <sup>th</sup> at 6pm. • Master Gardener Tea Oct. 10 <sup>th</sup> at 2pm. • Halloween Party Oct. 31 at noon • Exercise class every Tues. from 3-4 at Central Montcalm Comm. Church • Friendly Euchre: Mon., Oct. 29 <sup>th</sup> at 12:30 at CoA (989) 831-7476		

# ~ November 2018 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
*Daylight savings ends Nov. 4 <sup>th</sup> – move clocks BACK one hour.				<b>1</b>  <b>11a GAMA</b>  7:30 AA	<b>2</b> 11:30 AA  <div>PF Fall Retreat to Lincoln Lake →</div>	<b>3</b>
<b>4 Communion, Remembrance Sunday &amp; Daylight Savings Ends</b> 9:30 Choir 11a Worship 12:45 CC  <div>PF Retreat →</div> 3p Venture	<b>5</b>  5:30 CS	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 10a PURLS  1p Winslow 5p Free Dinner 6p Group Study 6:30 Bethany 7p Boy Scouts 7:30 Men's BS	<b>8</b>  6:30 GS Leader Mtg. 7:30 AA	<b>9</b> 11:30 AA	<b>10</b>
<b>11 Veterans Day &amp; Volunteer Appreciation Day</b> 9:30 Choir 11a Worship 12:15 PF Youth 12:45 CC  3p Venture	<b>12</b>  5:30 CS 6:30 Deacons	<b>13</b>  5P HCA Potluck	<b>14</b> 10a PURLS  5p Free Dinner 6p Group Study 7p Boy Scouts	<b>15</b>  5:45p F.A.N. 7:30 AA	<b>16</b> 11:30 AA	<b>17</b>  9a WF Holiday Bazaar
<b>18</b> 9:30 Choir 11a Worship 12:45 CC  3p Venture	<b>19</b>  <b>Preschool Thanksgiving Feast</b>  <div>  </div> 5:30 CS	<b>20</b>  <b>Preschool Thanksgiving Feast</b>	<b>21</b> 10a PURLS  5p CLS Thanksgiving Dinner 7p Boy Scouts  <div>Thanksgiving Break →</div>	<b>22</b>  <div>  </div> <b>~OFFICE CLOSED~</b>	<b>23</b> 11:30 AA	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 9:30 Choir 11a Worship Church Potluck (hosted by Deacons) 12:15 PF Youth 12:45 CC  3p Venture	<b>26</b>  5:30 CS Pack Mtg. 7p Trustees	<b>27</b> 10a WF Deck the Halls & Board Mtg. to follow  7p Beer & Hymns	<b>28</b> 10a PURLS  5p Free Dinner 6p Group Study 7p Boy Scouts 7:30 Men's BS	<b>29</b>  7:30 AA	<b>30</b>	

# ~ FCC COMMITTEE NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS ~

## PASTORAL NEWS



**Community Life Service (CLS):** Please join us for a free dinner at 5pm & group study at 6pm. If you are interested in helping with set-up, clean-up, or donations towards the dinner, please contact Pastor Jason or Megan Dillingham.

**Pastor's Office Hours:** Our team is here for your spiritual & emotional care! 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). Home visits and evening meetings can also be scheduled by calling or emailing. You can also drop in during Pastor's open office hours on Mon., Wed., & Thurs. from 10am-2pm.

**Pastoral Care:** Our team is here for your spiritual & emotional care! If you'd like to schedule an appointment or visit please call, email, or text Pastor Jason at [pastor.dillingham@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.dillingham@gmail.com), or contact the church office. Pastor has open office hours Mon., Wed., & Thurs. (10am-2pm) and visits members on Tuesdays (& as needed). Evening meetings can also be scheduled.

**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 Monday or Wednesday, please contact the Pastoral Care Team.

**NOTICE:** Our Pastoral Care team will be gone for a conference and personal time October 18<sup>th</sup> through the 20<sup>th</sup>.

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

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

## TRUSTEE NEWS

The next meeting will be October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7pm in the upstairs conference room. Our Shortage YTD is **\$4,694.80**.

## CELEBRATIONS

**Happy Birthday!** To Deb House (10/4), Mike Weber (10/2), Elicia Weber (10/6), Diane Roose, (10/7), Lynn Wickerham (10/7), Ginger Weber (10/11), Jerry McPherson (10/12), Jim Ritzema (10/27), Roxy Rice (10/29), Mabel Tate (10/30), and Jeffrey Staffen (10/31). **Happy Anniversary!** To Rev. Jerry & Marilyn Jones (10/6/63) and Jerry & Gloria McPherson (10/12/58).



## DEACON NEWS

Deacons are hosting a potluck for coffee hour on the 25<sup>th</sup> of November. The next meeting will be October 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. all are welcome to attend!

## NEW MEMBERS

Thank you to all families who came to bear witness to those being baptized (Harry & Rose Riddle and Mary Snow) and to those pledging their lives to God & to all who have chosen their path as Congregationalist Members & become a part of our family! We again welcome you! We had a wonderful turn-out for service and were so glad for all who stayed after to enjoy a warm meal & fellowship with us! May we continue to gather & give thanks for our FCC Family through fellowship. We welcome: Michael Balars II, Irene Carper, Rev. Jason & Megan Dillingham, Josh & Kim Kruger, Charles (Ed) & Jenny Milam, Katrina Nelson, Nyma Newkirk-Davis, Harry & Rose Riddle, and Mary Snow.

## BIBLE STUDY GROUP

The Bible Study group has been meeting at 9:30am every Sunday. The class has two weeks left for the group study. The group continues to cover the same material covered in the spring. If you would like to be contacted for the next bible study, please contact the church office or contact Suzy Kreeger.

## MUSICAL NEWS



We are excited to announce our new Children's Choir Director, Katrina Nelson! I'm sure many of you have heard Katrina's wonderful soprano voice in the chancel choir. Katrina was my student at MCC, taking all of the music classes there, and now she is at Grand Valley State University working on her Music Education major. She loves children and is very creative and knowledgeable in music. I'm sure she will give the children in the choir a great musical experience singing, playing and performing in church for all of you. Practices began in September, but children are always encouraged to join! The group meets on Sundays, from 12:45 to 1:15 in Fellowship Hall. All children ages 3 and up are welcome to join. Parents are asked to stay at practices if your child is under 8. Katrina can be reached at [kat.k.nelson@gmail.com](mailto:kat.k.nelson@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

~Valerie VanderMark



## BEER & BIBLE – MEN’S STUDY GROUP

Our Men’s Bible Study is returning on Wed., Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 pm. We’ll start meeting at John & Deb House’s home until the end of the year, then we’ll rotate to a new home location. Looking forward to joining you in Bible Study again!

## WOMEN’S FELLOWSHIP NEWS

- Winslow Circle will meet Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1pm. Hostesses are Nyma Newkirk-Davis and Gloria McPherson. Our program for the year is on *The Cup of Life* by author Joyce Rupp. Please join us!
- Bethany Circle will meet Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm. Books for the discussion are available in the church office.
- Order forms are available in the library, for the 2018 Terri Lynn Nut Sale. Proceeds go towards fixing the kitchen cabinets. Orders due by Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> and items will be delivered in November. Questions? Please contact Chris Hubbard.
- The fall rummage sale is Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> from 8-1. Bring in gently used (clean) clothes and items/gadgets (in working order) to fellowship hall. Workers needed Thurs. at 9am for sorting and set-up and we also need workers on the day of the sale; as well as helpers needed to box up left-over items and deliver to Arms of Love. If you have special needs or can help in any way, contact Mary Snow (616) 225-1533 or Rosel Eagles (616) 754-8618.
- Our Holiday Bazaar is Nov. 17 so plan on baking for then! We will have a cookie walk again this year as it was extremely successful, and you made such outstanding cookies!!! There is a luncheon and crafters galore. To volunteer for the luncheon, see Mary Snow. Crafter reservations will begin soon. Watch the bulletin for more info! While we won’t have a silent auction this year, we will have a continuous drawing during the event. Everyone gets a free ticket as they enter Nov. 17. There are still many jobs available – contact Chris Hubbard to help.

## PRESCHOOL NEWS

We are into the second month of school and have already taken a trip to Anderson’s orchard to enjoy the fall season! We were able to see animals, snack on cider & donuts, and enjoy time with friends! We still have spots left for anyone interested in sending their little one to a wonderful, loving, and Christian based school. Stop in for a packet! Questions? Call 754-7608 or find Ms. Candy on Facebook.



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

We had a great turnout for Sunday School on Come Together Sunday. We hope our new friends will come to church whenever they can. **New on October 7:** Children are invited to attend church even though it is Communion Sunday, your teachers will be sitting up front and you can join them if you wish. We will have some handouts that belong to our curriculum for you to complete if you wish and Pastor Jason will deliver the Children’s Sermon JUST FOR YOU! Our teachers get their spirits filled on Communion Sunday and that is why they remain in church. Please remember those food challenged in our county by donating non-perishable food items for the Ecumenical Food Pantry. Next meeting is Nov. 5 at 7PM in the church library. Anyone is welcome to attend. We have changed our date to be a week before the Deacons meet.

## PF YOUTH NEWS

Meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, at 12:15 in fellowship hall. There is a youth retreat Nov. 2-4 going to Lincoln Lake for grades 6-12. Cost is \$75 per person or \$60 for early registration by Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>. Check the church bulletin board for more youth news!

## COMMUNITY & OTHER NEWS

- Clothing swap is Oct. 20 from 9-4. Please bring in set(s) of clothes to swap out! This is a free event for all, that allows families to bring in gently used & clean clothes to trade for “new” clothes.
- Grief Support & Education is offered through Specturm Health. Classes are free & geared towards adults who have had a loss within the past year. For more info, call Kelly at 616-486-2833.
- **ASK THE LAWYER:** Thurs., Oct. 4 at 10:30am or Thurs., Oct. 11 at 6pm – CoA in Stanton is hosting an Attourney to answer questions about Estate Planning, Elder Law, etc. Question or to RSVP, call (989) 831-7476, option 4.
- Putting the Pieces Toghether: tips & tricks for medical & financial information organization with Lori Hull. Friday, Oct. 5 at 12:45 at CoA in Stnaton. Cost is \$2 per person.
- Master Gardener Tea – Growing and caring for Iris: Sat., Oct. 13 at 2pm at United Methodist Church in Carson City. Tickets \$15. Join the group for tea, sweet treats, camaraderie, and everything you neber knew about Iris.
- **Check out the CoA website for more important news & upcoming events at:**  
[www.montcalmcountymissioning.org](http://www.montcalmcountymissioning.org)

**BOARD MEETINGS:**

Deacons: Monday the 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm  
 Trustees: Monday the 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00pm

**General Fund: Operating Budget Income**

July 2017 YTD \$145,246.02 ♦ July 2017 YTD \$140,551.22  
 Shortage YTD \$4694.80

**Trustees of the Month:** Kirk Faber and Karen Hulbert  
**Deacons of the Month:** Corey Norman

**MUTUAL MINISTRY****October 7 – Communion**

Greeters: Carol Magoon and Carla Durdle  
Liturgist: Duane Putnam  
Children's Message: Pastor Jason  
Ushers: Don Gibbs, Carolyn Foster, and Darlene Petersen  
Coffee Hour: Kirk & Celeste Faber, Carolyn Coles, and Terri Merritt  
Sound Techs: Bruce Beauvais and Corey Norman

**October 14 – Pastor Appreciation Day**

Greeters: Patrice Fulton-Peacock and Carolyn Coles  
Liturgist: Karen Hulbert  
Children's Message: Ed Milam  
Ushers: Jack & Ann Corner and Larry Alman  
Coffee Hour: Steve & Diane Roose, Hollie Stephenson, and Cindy Hanson  
Sound Techs: *Bruce Beauvais and Blake Rowland*

**October 21**

Greeters: PF Youth  
Liturgist: Jack Corner  
Children's Message: **NEEDED**  
Ushers: PF Youth  
Coffee Hour: Ed & Jenny Milam and Doug & Lisa Stek  
Sound Techs: Corey Norman and Joe Suchowolec

**October 28**

Greeters: John & Deb House  
Liturgist: Brianna Rowland  
Children's Message: **NEEDED**  
Ushers: Ed & Jenny Milam and Carolyn Coles  
Coffee Hour: Jack & Ann Corner, Greg Gardner, and Larry Alman  
Sound Techs: Blake Rowland and Joe Suchowolec

**November 4 – Communion, Remembrance Sunday, and Daylight Savings (fall back 1 hour)**

Greeters: Larry & Karen Carbonelli  
Liturgist: Ed Milam  
Children's Message: Pastor Jason  
Ushers: Bonnie Braman, Carolyn Coles, and Darlene Petersen  
Coffee Hour: Peter & Roxanne Faber, Hollie Stephenson, and Nyma Newkirk-Davis  
Sound Techs: Bruce Beauvais and Blake Rowland

**November 11 – Veterans Day & Volunteer Appreciation Day**

Greeters: Ed & Jenny Milam  
Liturgist: Katie Dillingham  
Children's Message: **NEEDED**  
Ushers: Doug & Chris Dodd and Karen Hulbert  
Coffee Hour: Harry & Rose Riddle and Jerry & Gloria McPherson  
Sound Techs: Corey Norman and Blake Rowland

**November 18**

Greeters: Doug & Chris Dodd  
Liturgist: Chris Hubbard  
Children's Message: **NEEDED**  
Ushers: Anita Putnam, Terri Merritt, and Don Gibbs  
Coffee Hour: Jack & Ann Corner, Roxy Rice, and Mary Snow  
Sound Techs: Corey Norman and Joe Suchowolec

**November 25**

Greeters: Cap & Janet Tower  
Liturgist: Blake Rowland  
Children's Message: **NEEDED**  
Ushers: Jerry McPherson, Larry Alman, and Bonnie Braman  
Coffee Hour: Potluck hosted by Deacons  
Sound Techs: Blake Rowland and Joe Suchowolec