THE ALLEGAN CONGREGATIONALIST

AUGUST 2017

Prayers for members and friends of our church family:

Linda Barnes,
Kelly Callan,
Bill Carr,
Irene Gates,
Kylie Hawkins,
Bob Hoyt,
Jeff Ladd,
Ken Kent
Jennifer Miller,
Elizabeth Mohrland,
Diane Morton,
Donna Overmyer,
Sue Pumpkin,
Mark Ross,
Paul Shamblin,
Don Sieber,
Bob Thomas,
Linda Ware.

We are delighted to include the prayer needs submitted for our newsletter. However, we request that these needs be kept current and accurate. Please let us know if a name needs to be added or removed. Thank you.

Our Members & Friends in the Armed Forces:

Brendan Buck in Norfolk, VA,
Matt Cochran in Virginia Bech, VA,
Shane Coopmans in Hill Air Force Base in UT.,
Cody Davis in Iraq,
David DeZwaan in Afghanistan,
Aaron M. Gordon in New Port RI.,
Andrew Hodgson in New River, NC,
Tory Myers in Kuwit.
Christian Ofalla in Yuma
Alex Proskurnya in Fort Benning, GA,
Aaron Siegler in Battle Creek.

Our World: Our U. S. government and local leaders, for peace and justice in the Mideast.

Our Missionaries:

Will Dickerson in Hungary, the Frasers in Hungary, the Johnsons are in Indonesia, Mission Mazahua in Mexico.

Our Shut - ins:

Forrest Tiff.

Our College Students:

Quinten, Bader - WMU,
Trevor Faas-WMU,
Colton Fairbanks - MSU,
Alicia Olmstead - WMU,
Allie Siegler - NMU
(If you know of anyone else please let the office know.)

A PRAYER FOR AUGUST

These are the gifts I ask of thee, Spirit serene--Strength for the daily task; Courage to face the road; Good cheer to help me bear the traveler's load; And for the hours of rest that come between, An inward joy in all things heard and seen

Mission Statement

"Our church exists to introduce people to Jesus Christ and to train those who already know Him."

We would like to thank
Monte & Gloria Lane
for their generous gift, which
has made this edition of
The Allegan Congregationalist
possible. Thank you

Hospice Grief Support Service
Coping With Loss Meets the 2nd & 4th Tuesday each month
10:00 - 11:30 a.m. at
The First Congregational Church
Luncheon Support Group
meets the 1st Tues.
of every month at 11:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m.
in the Schuyler Room at AGH

NEW ADDRESS
Donna Overmyer
1532 - 34th St.
Allegan, MI 49010
Cell Phone 269-650-6789

A sign-up sheet can be found at the front entrance on the bulletin board to the right as you enter. We would appreciate it if you would take a look and sign-up for 1 week, 2 weeks, or 1 month at a time. The choice is yours. If you want more information please call Steve Mancuso at 269-680-5856.

While we are on the subject of sign-up sheets there is also one for the Coffee Hour. There are still several dates open this year. Please take a look. You know all you provide is the snack, everything else is there including the help from the Women's Fellowship.

Men's Breakfast
on August 12th, 8:00 am
All men are Invited

HEADING BACK TO SCHOOL

It's that time when our youth will be returning to school. Whether they are going to school or heading back to college, we want to pray for them. With our young people returing to college and away from home, PARENTS, PLEASE call the office with their new address, so we can keep in touch with them.

REMEMBER 1960 ! !

ON THE RISE ---

A new home was $11,900
Average income for that yr was $5,315
A gallon of gas was .31 per gallon
A new car cost $2,800
Men's shoes cost $13
Ladies swinging shift skirt was $5.
21' Tabletop Color TV was $495
Milk cost $1.05
A dozen eggs were .57
A postage stamp went up to .04
A ticket to a movie was .70

Just a reminder that the 1st Congregational Church of Allegan has a prayer team that meets every Wed. from 6:15 - 7:00 pm. They lift up the joys and concerns that are shared every Sunday and Thursday night. They are committed to lifting up your praises and requests. If you have a specific request that you would like prayer over but don't feel comfortable verbalizing it, or if you would like to keep it confidential, please write them down and place them in the white lock box. One is located at the front door, the other is located on the round table in the lounge.

We consider it a privilege to go before our Lord with all things.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.
Philippians 4:6

Quarterly Report - July 2017

Again, I want to begin by directing our attention to the mission statement of First Congregational Church… ***Our church exists to introduce people to Jesus Christ and to train those who already know him.*** We are slowly but surely going in this direction. While slow doesn't always seem like the best, it is a sign patience, and the willingness to get things done correctly.

In May, I had spoke of starting an Evangelism Training Program this summer. Unfortunately, we didn't get there. The Couple's Bible Study took more weeks than I had anticipated, and I haven't been able to set up a structured program as of yet. Yet I am thankful for the Couple's Bible Study, for I felt that all those involved grew from their experience and I pray that their marriages will benefit. I still plan on having an Evangelism Training Program, but it will probably have to wait until the Fall.

I also spoke of getting more active in the youth program here. With Vacation Bible School, I was able to do this. I was very pleased to see the involvement both from the students and the volunteers. VBS was done well and the Gospel was proclaimed to all of the children.

The Christian Education Committee is also in the process of introducing the New City Catechism this Fall. This is a newly created catechism which holds to the historic doctrines of the faith, yet is written in today's vocabulary. We feel that this will be a great tool for strengthening the faith of our children (and adults if they so choose); allowing them "*to know what they believe and why they believe it*" - Micheal Horton.

Other things that are on the horizon are membership classes, men's and women's bible studies and a group for those who are interested in learning how to teach or preach God's Word. With the Evangelism Training Program, we'll see if we can pull all of this off. I am not under the impression that they can all be done simultaneously, yet some of these will be shorter courses, (roughly four weeks in length) and can be staggered throughout the year.

Also of note, the Worship Planning Committee met for the first time last Sunday. The goal of this committee is ***to establish a clear and biblical plan going forward of what Sunday worship at First Congregational Church of Allegan in 2017 and beyond will look like.*** This was a productive first meeting, and we will continue to meet every Sunday evening until we achieve our set goal.

Finally, we will be having baptisms in September. I look forward to celebrating this joyous occasion with all of you.

Let's continue to keep our mission statement in mind as we go about these tasks… ***Our church exists to introduce people to Jesus Christ and to train those who already know him.***

Thank you,

Pastor Cory

First Congregational is faced with a huge financial burden with the failing of our boiler and chimney. We are currently investigating other options but so far they are extremely expensive, somewhere between $30 - 40,000. The Trustees have hope that we will be able to bring down the cost as much as possible but will still need additional help from the congregation and others. If you are able to donate to this heat plant issue it will be much appreciated and will solve the problem for years to come. Your donation can be put in the offering pouch with a boiler designation or can be turned in to the office or to any Trustee. For more specific information contact Mark Lovett at 269-941-3640. Your prayer are also greatly appreciated!

With heart felt thanks to everyone who sent cards, their loving prayers, food, visits, and contributions to the Congregational Kitchen. It will not be forgotten. It was appreciated more then you will ever know. Your thoughts and visits have helped so much. THANK YOU AGAIN!

Donna Overmyer and family

In June the Missions Committee sent $575 support checks to our four missions groups. Mission Mazahua, The Johnsons in Indonesia, The Frasers and Will Dickerson in Hungary.

Current information for the Frasers about the English Camps that they are sponsoring this summer is posted on our church website.

Will Dickerson married Julia on June 18th in Virginia. Julia is in the process of taking OMS (One Missionary Society) training and orientation in Indiana at the OMS headquarters. They plan on traveling back to Hungary in late August before the school year begins. Will teaches at a local Budapest high school and leads an English club, as well. We (Jan, Cory, Joanie and Dennis) purchased and sent an Amazon gift card as a wedding gift for the Dickersons.

Please continue to pray for our missionaries and thank you for your generous donations. God has given us the privilege of support them in their work of expanding His Kingdom.

Submitted by
Joanie Townsend, Chair

HAPPY AUGUST BIRTHDAY

03	Don Lucas
	Ivy Belden
04	Janet Melvin
07	Monte Lane
	Ray Harris
08	Randy Stickley
11	Al Letts
12	Judy Ewing
13	Judy Gavan
15	Brian Porctor
17	Eric Erickson
	Sue Belden
21	Marilyn Cook
23	Jim Jackson
	Aiden Letts
26	Jet Klein
28	Elaina Wittemore
31	Vanessa Hedberg

If your birthday was not listed and you want it listed please call the office. 673-3139

Ushers and Greeters:
Stella Vahue & Eric Erickson

Liturgist:
Ann Carns 6th & 13th
Randy Sneller 20th & 27th

Coffee Hour:

06	OPEN
13	OPEN
20	OPEN
27	OPEN

Nursery Volunteer

06	OPEN
13	OPEN
20	OPEN
27	OPEN

ANNIVERSARIES

04	John & Amanda Jackson
16	Steve & Debbie Mancuso
18	Jim & Grace Richardson
19	Gene & Patty Furst
26	Monte & Gloria Lane
29	Tom & Gwen Calkins

"We Are All Role Models"

You should be an example to the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith in purity. I Timothy 4:12

Whether we like it or not, all of us are role models. Our friends and family members watch our actions and often pattern their responses or even their lives accordingly. As the old saying goes, "Example is a language anyone can read."

What kind of example are you? Are you the kind of person whose life serves as a genuine example of righteousness? Are you the kind of person whose actions, day in and day out, are based on kindness, faithfulness, and generosity? If so, you're not only blessed by God, you're also a powerful force for good in a world that desperately needs positive influences such as yours.

"For the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved me..." John 16:27

When you are feeling unloved or unappreciated, as we all are from time to time, remember that God's love for you is constant, unwavering, everlasting. You are special, unique and worthy in His sight, so don't despair. Instead, reach out to others who are feeling low and show them the love you have found in Him. Sharing His love increases your own ability to love.

First Congregational Ch.
323 Cutler Street
Allegan, MI 49010

AUGUST 2017

Ch. Phone 673-3139 - Fax Ph. - 269-355-1509
e-mail firstcongchurch@first congchurch.org

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Usher & Greeter: Stella Vahue & Eric Erickson **Liturgist:** Ann Carns & Randy Sneller		1 6:00 pm Women's Fellowship	2 6:15 pm Prayer meeting 7:pm N/A meeting	3 9:am & 12:30 pm warehouse 6:00 pm Dinner	4	5
6 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 6:00 pm Worship Planing Committee meeting	7	8 10:00 am Hospice 6:30 pm Diaconate	9 6:15 pm Prayer meeting 7:pm N/A	10 9:am & 12:30 pm warehouse 6:00 pm Dinner	11	12 8:am Men's Breakfast
13 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 12:00 pm Trustees meeting 6:00 pm Worship Planing Committee meeting	14	15	16 6:15 pm Prayer meeting 7:pm N/A	17 9:am & 12:30 pm warehouse 6:00 pm Dinner	18	19
20 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:30 am Worship/Communion 12:00 pm C.E. meeting 6:00 pm Worship Planing Committee meeting	21	22 10:00 am Hospice	23 6:15 pm Prayer meeting 7:00 pm N/A	24 9:am & 12:30 pm warehouse 6:00 pm Dinner	25	26 WHITE CAPS GAME
27 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 6:00 pm Worship Planing Committee meeting	28	29	30 6:15 pm Prayer meeting 7:00 pm N/A	31 9:am & 12:30pm Food Warehouse 6:00 pm Dinner		

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
323 Cutler St. Allegan, MI 49010
Church Phone - 673-3139
Fax Phone - 269-355-1509
Pastor Cory J.Klein 269-615-0605
email: firstcongchurch@firstcongchurch.org
Web-site fccofallegan.weebly.com
Office Hours Mon-Sat. 9:00a.m - 1:00p.m.
Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

Address Service Requested

SPONSORS FOR THE NEWSLETTER:
Our newsletters are brought to you through the generosity of the following:

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If you would like to contribute, you may send your check to The Church or place it in the offering on any Sunday. Please designate this amount for "NEWSLETTER". $25.00 covers the cost of one mailing.