

**August
2018**

Still Speaking

Newsletter of First Congregational United Church of Christ of Alpena

A Word from our Minister: Schedules change during the summer

Rev. Dr. Paul A Lance III

While the schools are on their summer break, we are taking the opportunity to make a few changes to our calendar of programs.

Oh, yes, **Sunday morning worship** will still be at 10:00 a.m., and it will be followed by coffee hour fellowship time... as always. But that's about all that is the same this month and next!

The time slot for "Underground Church" (Sundays at 5 pm) has been dedicated to showing "Movies that make you think!"

On July 29 (for example), we'll watch the PBS film "C. S. Lewis: Through the Shadowlands", which is about the agonizing spiritual crisis the famous theologian went through when his wife (Joy) died from cancer. With so many of our own members aging and dealing with illness and grief, I felt this film would open a conversation about love, pain, and sorrow... with the hope that we, like C. S. Lewis, find a way to pick up the pieces as we move through the "shadowlands" of grief.

(See page 4 in this Newsletter for the full list of movies.)

I have also resumed Monday Midday Movies for the summer, giving it a definite "Bible" focus. At noon in Fellowship Hall, we will watch 90-minutes of classic, epic, Bible dramas from **Genesis**, in three versions. First John Huston's 1966 classic, then a re-make from 2000, and third a recent TV-mini series with modern special effects and script-writing (2012). Same stories, told three ways.

Third, I am following up on the joint Bible Study we did last month at Paul Mocerri's First Baptist Church. We will get behind the headlines and into **the reality of life in Israel and Palestine** on Tuesdays at 2:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. We'll use curricula and films.

Fourth, as we prepare for Alpena's "30 Days of Peace", I will show three films about Sept. 11, 2001, on Wednesdays at 5:30 pm.

Fifth, as part of the Library's "Community Read" project, I will host a book discussion of Tim O'Brien's "The Things They Carried" on Wed., Aug. 22, at 5:30 pm. (That will be after we return from our "Eating Outing" to Lewiston UCC & Atlanta UCC. Please sign up for that field trip... and the one to Cheboygan UCC on Sat., Aug. 4, too!)

There's a lot more going on in August — such as the Kids' "Wacky Week in Sillyville", and my theology class on Thursdays at 3 — which you can read about elsewhere in this Newsletter. Please come!

Board of Directors:

- **Dennis Artley**, *treasurer/ Secretary*
- **Blair Diamond**
- **Kathy Dempsey**
- **Boris Gerber**
- **Ann Gerow**, *vice chair*
- **Dottie Haase**
- **Vicky Lindsay**
- **Jim Mc Neil**, *chair*
- **Beth Petty**

Dates to Remember

4

Eating Outing to
Cheboygan UCC

5

Heifer Fair
(hotdogs after worship)

6

Friendship Room
and "Dinner 6 to 8"

10

Ladies Lunch at
Mandarin Garden

13

Board of Directors

13-16

"Wacky Week"

15

"No Frills" Book Club

22

Eating Outing to
Lewiston & Atlanta

27

Final "Dinner 6 to 8"

29

Wacky Wednesday
Kids' Club resumes

Ladies Lunch

Peggy DiNegro

The Ladies of First Congregational United Church of Christ met at the Mandarin Garden Family Restaurant on July 13th for an afternoon of fellowship. Please join us there again on August 10th . We would love to see you there. All women are welcome and feel free to bring along a friend.



Alpena County Fair

The Alpena County Fair will take place Sunday, August 6 to August 11. The Borke Family, who serve on the Fair Board, ask for your prayers for a successful year. Please keep them in prayer and come join in the festivities at the Alpena County Fair Grounds.



Celebrating Marriage Anniversaries this month



August 2:	Kristin and Nathan Barden	15 Years
August 14:	Ron & Lynn Borke	25 Years
August 16:	Gordon & Vernie Nethercut	65 Years
August 19:	Bill & Dottie Haase	58 Years
August 27:	Bob & Diana Kelly	58 Years
August 30:	Dan Kibbe & Lois Gibbs-Kibbe	32 Years



Celebrating the Birthdays of August



- August 1 Mary Davison
- August 1 James Stewart
- August 4 Carmen Grubaugh
- August 6 Ashley Wedge
- August 12 David Zeller
- August 14 Dixie Julian
- August 19 Priscilla Homola



Board of Directors July 2018 Meeting Highlights

Gerrie La Cross, Secretary

Meeting was called to order by chair, Jim McNeil. An opening prayer was offered by Rev. Paul Lance from the Chippewa tradition.

Received correspondence from Dottie Haase regarding **Vote411**; a program proposal from Vernie Nethercut; an informational sheet regarding Enbridge Line 5 meeting on August 1; and an email from Gerald Saunders from Kentucky who reads Rev. Lance's sermons from our church's webpage.

Finances are in good order.

Board reviewed and approved the new board Committee appointments. Thank you all for your service to the church and community.

Property Committee reports the new LED lights have been installed in the sanctuary. Discussion regarding installing air conditioning versus have more windows to open. Board wants to pursue the option of more windows able to be opened in the sanctuary. Jake Reeble has done trimming around the church grounds. He will return in the fall to check on any other maintenance.

Elevator roof leak was checked.

Pastor's Report: Second "strategic planning" to take place on July 29 with a third on Sun., Aug. 26th.

"Underground Church" is called off until after Rev. Lance returns from Sabbatical. In its place, we will show feature films on **Sundays @ 5:00pm** in Fellowship Hall from July 29th through Aug 26th. We call them "Movies that make you think", and they will be advertised for the general public (no cost).

Mondays @ Noon: Bible Movies will be shown in Fellowship Hall starting July 23 through Aug. 27.

Tuesdays @ 2:00 "Quest for Peace in Israel & Palestine" classes & films from July 24 thru Sept 18.

Wednesdays (Aug 15 & 29 and Sept 5) in preparation for Alpena's "30 Days of Peace", which opens on Tuesday, Sept 11 with a 7 pm service here at First Congregational led by Rev. Keith Titus, we will show movies related to the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks (at 5:30 pm upstairs in Fellowship Hall).

Thursdays: Theology @ 3:00 A Great Course: "Jewish Influences on Jesus" from Aug 2 thru Sept 6.

The Board is looking for a replacement childcare provider for Shelby Sexton, who leaves for Dartmouth College after August 19, her last Sunday with us.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45pm.

Feed a Family

Bill Haase, Coordinator

Feed a Family: Items needed are apple, orange, cranberry or fruit juice; **Potatoes:** mashed or Au Gratin (box or bag); **Spaghetti Sauce** (canned preferred); **Hamburger Helper;** & **pasta/rice-a-roni** (box or bag)

Anything you can provide will be muchly appreciated.



What's New for the months of August and September

Sunday “Movies that make you think!” Feature Films at 5:00 p.m. upstairs in Fellowship Hall.

July 29: “C. S. Lewis through the SHADOWLANDS” (90 min, BBC), reflecting on grief and faith
August 5: “Whale Rider” (100 min, 2002) a Maori chief’s daughter may become their next leader
August 12: “Zorba, the Greek” (1964, black & white) Anthony Quinn’s eccentric, exuberant role
August 19: “Brother Sun, Sister Moon” (1973) Zeffirelli’s film about young St. Francis of Assisi
August 26: Mitch Albom’s “Have a Little Faith” (2011) restoration of a Detroit church & a Rabbi

Monday “Bible Movies” at Noon

July 23 & 30: (1966) Dino de Laurentis / John Huston classic old-style epic “The Bible”.
August 6 & 13: (2000) Martin Landau’s re-make “The Bible: In the Beginning”
August 20 & 27: (2012) Mark Burnett & Roma Downey’s TV mini-series (parts 1-4) “The Bible”

Tuesdays at Two: “Quest for Peace in Israel & Palestine” (a class with subtitled films)

July 24: “Israel, Birth of a Nation” — The History Channel’s 1997 documentary (100 minutes)
July 31: Sessions 1 & 2 (pages 1-14) in “Steadfast Hope”: Jewish and Palestinian stories
August 7: Sessions 3 & 8 (pages 17-31): Living with Military Occupation, Hardship & Hope
August 14: Film: “Lemon Tree” (in Hebrew, English sub-titles): a West Bank lemon grove boundary
August 21: Sessions 4 & 5 (pages 15-16, 33-35): Who profits? Who tells the story?
August 28: Film: “The Other Son” (in French, English sub-titles): inadvertently switched at birth
Sept. 4: Sessions 6, 7, & 9 (pages 36-43): Response, Uprisings, & Looking Ahead
Sept 11: Film: “Paradise Now” (in Arabic with English sub-titles): two friends are suicide bombers
Sept 18: Film: “The Attack” (in Arabic and Hebrew, with English sub-titles) a bombing in Tel Aviv

Wednesdays at 5:30 pm: three feature films about the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks

Aug. 15: Oliver Stone’s film “World Trade Center” with Nicolas Cage and Michael Pena (2006)
Aug 29: The movie “United 93” about the airliner that crashed in Pennsylvania (rated “R”) (2006)
Sept 5: A 90-minute film dramatizing and discussing “The 9/11 Commission Report” (2006)

Thursday Theology at Three (a DVD-based class in Fellowship Hall at 3:00 pm)

One of the “Great Courses” curricula: “Jewish Influences on Jesus” (August 2 through September 6)

Heifer Animal Fair – Sunday, August 5

Immediately following the Sunday worship service,
together with fellowship hour, outside on our church lawn!

Come see a few animals from the Borke family & the County Fair.

Fun for adults, children, & grandchildren!

Here's a bit of the Heifer International Story...



Almost 73 years ago, Dan West herded 17 heifers onto a boat in Mobile, Alabama, and shipped them to Puerto Rico, where they were given to families whose children had never before tasted milk. This was the beginning of Heifer International, a relief organization that from the beginning has been about giving the world's rural poor what is necessary for them to support themselves rather than making them dependent upon short-term relief. Heifers are young cows that haven't yet given birth, with a long life ahead of them to supply their owners with milk and calves.



When Heifer International gives a family a heifer, it comes with the obligation on that family to make a gift of the first female calf to another family. Since 1944, when the first boatload of heifers were shipped, more than 12 million families in 125 countries have received livestock through the network of giving that Heifer International has built up.

And it is more than cows. Heifer International gives poor rural families in the developing world pigs, goats, sheep, geese, llamas, water buffaloes, chickens, rabbits, and beehives, all with the requirement that the first offspring of these animals be donated to neighbors. And if the know-how to care for these animals is lacking, Heifer International ensures that the families are trained and provided with the necessary equipment to raise and make use of the animals it gives.

Help Heifer International
end poverty and hunger.



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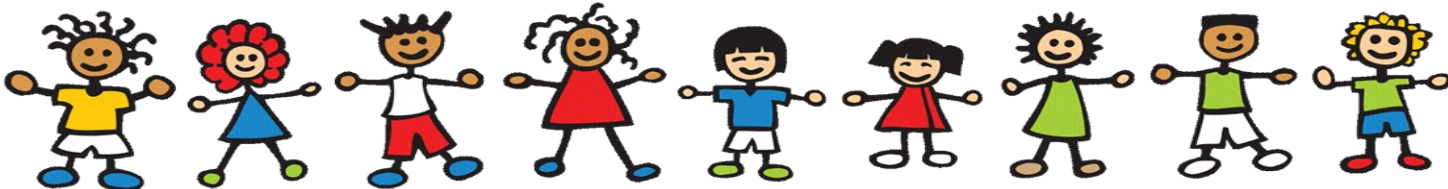
Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.

Minister: Rev. Dr. Paul A. Lance III
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. H. Robert Case
Choir Director & Music: Kat Tomaszewski
Treasurer: Denise Fusina
Secretary: Gerrie La Cross
Custodian: Mike LaMarre

*Whoever you are, and
wherever you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here!*

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“Wacky Week in Sillyville @ First Congregational”

When: Mon. Aug 13th - Thurs. Aug 16th (9:30 AM - NOON)

Who: Children in First through 5th Grade (Teenagers may help)

What: A fun time with friends! *Singing and Dancing!*
*Stories... Snacks... Crafts... Games... and **FUN** !!*

Cost: **Free... and open to the public!**

Contact: Jeffrey Mindock (Thunder Bay Theatre) or Rev. Paul Lance 356-1795

Please **register** in advance! www.uccalpena.org