The Congregator



From the Pastor's Desk

Pastor Dan's Doctorate Update

Many of you have been asking about Pastor Dan's doctorate. He has completed one of his six chapters for his thesis. He is spending a lot of time writing. He needs to have draft one of his complete thesis done by the end of January. For the month of January, pastoral care and preaching will be about the extent of his pastoral abilities as he will need to focus the majority of his time writing and editing. If you have questions about anything else, please direct them to the church office or our Moderator Christina Breen to allow Dan to focus on his paper. Mid-winter, probably around March, Pastor Dan will need to defend his thesis in front of the faculty and his colleagues via an online conference. Then, God-willing, Pastor Dan will graduate from Lancaster Theological Seminary with his Doctorate of Ministry on Saturday, May 4 in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Prayers for him to focus on his work are invited and appreciated.

Birthday Dinners

For the winter months, we will be celebrating our monthly birthday dinners after worship on the last Sunday of each month. So January birthdays will be celebrated on Sunday, January 28. Please bring a dish to pass or just join us during the coffee hour.

<u>Active Prayers</u>

Our elderly and homebound members.

Continual Prayers

George Drayton, Joan Edson, Helen Emelander, Jeanne Haynor, Paul Kunde, Alice Perrin, Delores Wheelock, & Al Wooton.

Church of the Month

Of our 23 UCC churches and agencies in our Grand West Association, we will pray this month for Lakeview UCC, northeast of Rockford. Let us remember their mission and ministry in our prayers for January.



MISSION UPDATES

Hand2Hand

Welcome to a new year! We ended 2023 on a strong note with our H2H children at South Elementary. Thanks to your generosity, our 42 children received bags of food each week for weekend consumption, birthday bags for Oct. Nov. and Dec., warm hats and mittens/gloves (on the first day of snow!) and extra snack bags for over the Christmas vacation. Thank you! We continue our mission to feed hungry children in this new year, but our shelves are looking a little bare. Please continue to think of us with your food and monetary donations. We always need the basics, and special needs are posted in the bulletin, Congregator, and on the dancing, sparkly star over the orange collection cart. We thank you in advance for your generosity. Hope you had a Blessed Christmas and are looking forward to a bright new year. Your Mission Board

Feeding America

Thanks to everyone who came out to help with Feeding America. We were able to feed many people in our community.

<u>Adopt a Family</u>

Thank you to everyone who signed up and bought gifts for our two adopt a families from Resilience and IOC.



Birthdays

Leif Hoezee - 1/2
Bill Tigelaar - 1/4
Ed Wolters - 1/4
Ron Sovereign - 1/10
Anita Hoezee - 1/12
Leo Graff - 1/13
Mary Slotegraaf - 1/15
Delores Wheelock - 1/15
Jenna Lee - 1/16
Dan Huisman - 1/18

Volunteer Schedule Offering Counters

January 7: Taliyn Merchant & Christina Breen January 14: Katrina Furman & David Bendert January 21: John Parker & Russ Broderick January 28: Sandy Lyon & Katrina Furman

Lay Readers

January 7: Sue Dykstra January 14: Jenna Lee January 21: Katrina Furman January 28: Angel Dannenberg

Greeters

January 7: January 14: January 21: January 28:



<u>A Moment in</u> <u>Church History</u>

by 1955 communication was taking place concerning uniting the Congregational churches with the Evangelical and Reformed churches to for the United Church of Christ. On May 21, 1961, the Hudsonville Congregational church voted 45 to 9 to accept the constitution of the United Church of Christ.

Birthdays

Rocky Stilwill - 1/18 Margaret Patmos - 1/19 Cory Boggs - 1/20 Drew Couturier 1/25

Anniversaries

Sue & Paul Lidgard - 1/19 Bill & Darlene Tigelaar - 1/24

January Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1 New Year's Day	2	3 5:30-8:30PM Basketball	4 3:30-6:00PM Pickleball 6:00-7:30PM Rangers FC 7:30-8:30PM FC	5	6 8:30-11: <u>00AM</u> Pickleball
7 Worship 10AM	8 6:00-8:00PM Rangers FC Finance Team 6:30PM	9 6:00-8:00PM Midwest Braves	10 5:30-8:30PM Basketball	11 6:00-7:30PM Rangers FC 7:30-8:30PM FC	12 Rental 4-9:00PM	13 8:30-11: <u>QQAM</u> Pickleball
14 Worship 10AM Council 11:15AM	15 Martin Luther King Jr Day 6:00-8:00PM Rangers FC	16 6:00-8:00PM Midwest Braves	17 5:30-8:30PM Basketball	18 6:00-7-30PM Rangers FC 7:30-8:30PM FC	19	20 8:30-11:00AM Pickleball OACPE 10AM-1PM
21 Worship 10AM	22 6:00-8:00PM Rangers FC	23 6:00-8:00PM Condo Assoc Meeting 6:00-8:00PM Midwest Braves	24 5:30-8:30PM Basketball	25 6:00-7:30PM Rangers FC 7:30-8:30PM FC	26	27 8:30-11:00AM Pickleball
28 Worship 10AM Birthday Dinner 11AM	29 6:00-8:00PM Rangers FC	30 6:00-8:00PM Midwest Braves	31 5:30-8:30PM Basketball			



