

# First Congregational United Church of Christ

218 W. Second St., Gaylord, Michigan 49735

[www.firstuccgaylord.org](http://www.firstuccgaylord.org)

August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017

*Our mission is to embrace people of every age and ability level and help them become the most loving version of themselves as possible.*



"Don't conform to the patterns of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your minds." - Romans 12:2

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Welcome to the First Congregational United Church of Christ. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

*\*Introit*

*Call to Worship:* (WL = Worship Leader, M = Ministers)

WL: We've come to worship and be with the God of the universe

**M: What a gift! What a privilege! To think that we are children of God, and this is what we are!**

WL: But far too often we forget who and Whose we are. Our minds play tricks on us and convince us that we are something less.

**M: We doubt ourselves, we criticize ourselves, and we get into ruts of negative thinking.**

WL: So we have also come here to transform our minds and to renew a right spirit within us.

**M: Take our minds, dear God. Take our every thought and turn it toward Christ, that we might reflect your glory. Amen!**

*\*Opening Hymn*

303 B – “Rejoice Give Thanks & Sing” (vs 1-3)

*Corporate Unison Prayer*

Gracious, forgiving, and merciful God, you have given us everything – life, breath, bodies, and minds. They are all gifts, and we are grateful for them. But we know, dear God, that our minds are rarely doing what you created them to do. Our thoughts run rampant through lists and complaints, fears and dreads, grudges and judgments, none of which glorify You or bring about Your will on earth. Our minds are in need of repair, of reprogramming. We long for the mind of Christ. Help us see with his eyes and think his thoughts. Help us think about the goodness and positive potential of each new day, of each encounter, and of each new challenge. Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable, whatever is excellent or praiseworthy, help us think about those things today and always. Amen.

*\*Gloria Patri (sung)*

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, Amen.**

*1<sup>st</sup> Scripture Reading*

Romans 12:1-2

**Response: Thank you, God, for the many ways you still speak to us**

*Children's Time*

“Jesus Loves the Children” – written by Rokko, sung by All  
***Jesus loves the children. He says, “Come unto me.”***  
***Lord, teach our hearts to open wide***  
***Thy Kingdom comes to those who like a child***  
***Come unto Thee***

*Offering*

Offertory Music - “The Night Inside Me” – Jackson Browne  
(Toby Jones)

*\*Doxology*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Scripture Reading*

II Corinthians 10:5

***Response: Thank you, God, for the many ways you still speak to us***

*Sermon*

“Transforming Our Minds”

*\*Sermon Hymn*

469 B – “O Grant Us Light”

*Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer (sung)*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom  
come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive  
our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

*\*Closing Hymn*

458 R – Take My Life & Let it Be

*Benediction*

*Sung Response: Take Our Minds and Let them Be*

***Take our minds and let them be, filled with gratitude to Thee***

***Take our thoughts and keep them right, bathed in Jesus' loving light***

***Bathed in Jesus' loving light***

\*You are invited to stand if you feel comfortable doing so.

**SUNDAY PARTICIPANTS:**

**Organist:** Sandra Soderberg

**Liturgist:** Louanne Spearman

**Ushers/Greeters:** Doreen Dobosy and Mardee Storing

**Youth:** Brenda Brummel

**Deacon:** Rokko Jans

**Flowers:** Evelyn Pratt

**Pastor:** Toby Jones

Office Hours: Tues. & Thurs.

10:00am-noon or by appt

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[pastor@firstuccgaylord.org](mailto:pastor@firstuccgaylord.org)

**Moderator:** Vicky Rigney

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**Communications Coordinator**

Maggie Henriksen

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Maggie's Upcoming Schedule:

Wednesday, August 30<sup>th</sup> – 9am-3pm

Friday, September 1<sup>st</sup> – 8-10:30am



**Following worship**, please join us in the Fellowship Hall where today's Coffee Hour will be hosted by Pete Amar and Mary Fox.