

First Congregational United Church of Christ

218 W. Second St., Gaylord, Michigan 49735

www.firstuccgaylord.org

May 29, 2022

Based on Richard Rohr *Breathing Under Water*, An Unexpected Postscript

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!



Our mission is to embrace people of every age and stage of life and help them become the most loving version of themselves possible.

Words of Welcome

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.

Congregational Response: *You are welcome to journey together with us!*

****Call to Worship***

Know God: Service Prayers for Easter 7C was written by Michael Anthony Howard, who serves as Minister of Faith in Action for the Living Water Association, Ohio NorthEast, of the Heartland Conference, United Church of Christ. Worship Ways: United Church of Christ

One: We have been invited to know God

Many: Let us enter the knowledge of God

One: We have been invited to bear God's justice

Many: Let us enter the justice of God

One: We have been invited to enter God's truth

Many: Let us enter the truth of God

One: We have been invited to enter God's unity

Many: Let us enter the unity of God

****Gloria Patri***

Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit:
three in one!

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be
world without end. Amen. Amen.

Invocation

by Michael Anthony Howard, Worship Ways: United Church of Christ

One: Holy Healing One, Righteous Restorer— We come as standard-bearers of your love, offering our disconnected lives in return for your unity. May we know you in this place, not as lone individuals but as faithful fragments seeking to be made whole again. Amen

Education Moment

Faithful Resilience: Stories from Georgia

**Hymn*

B.495 “Called as Partner’s in Christ’s Service” (vv 1, 2, 4)

Confession

by Michael Anthony Howard, Worship Ways: United Church of Christ

One: Creating God, In selfishness and insecurity, We have traded your healing for our hatred, Your calling for our comfort, Your truth for our traditions, Your covenant for our conventions, Your faithfulness for our fragmentation, Your care and our convenience, Your solidarity for our self-righteousness, Your promise for our praise. Forgive us, we pray. Speak to us again of your love, That we may know you, And by knowing you, We may once again be made whole. Amen.

Assurance

by Michael Anthony Howard, Worship Ways: United Church of Christ

One: Beloved of God, hear the good news. God’s love never fails us. Even in our division and despair, God desires to be made known.

Many: We are forgiven. We are welcome. We are one.

All: Amen.

Scripture Lesson

Romans 8:18-27

Introduction to Offering

**Doxology*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God for all that Love has done
Creator, Christ and Spirit, One

Prayer of Dedication

by Michael Anthony Howard, Worship Ways: United Church of Christ

One: May these gifts be used to build the Beloved Community through our unity, in the power of the Holy Spirit, and in the name of Jesus, our Messiah. Amen.

A Time for Prayer

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, the power, and the glory forever.
Amen.

Scripture Lesson

John 17: 20-26

****Hymn***

B. 539 “Won’t You Let Me Be Your Servant” (vv 1-4, 1)

Message

“A Love that is Greater”

Special Music

“Piccolo Americano” by James Christensen
Performed by Rebecca Reynolds on piccolo

Blessing

From 1 Thessalonians 5: 23

One: May the God of peace make you whole and holy, may you
be kept safe in body, heart, and mind, and thus ready for
the presence. God has called you and will not fail you.

Please note that we have two hymnals, one is red (R), the other is
black (B).

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

SUNDAY PARTICIPANTS:

Worship Leader: Rev. Greg Watling

Liturgist: Maggie Wallin

Greeter: Chuck Falk

Flowers: Bill and Maxine Dely

Music Director: Rokko Jans

Altar & Banner Design: Helen Mate

Music Videos: Brenda Brummel

Production: Mary Fox

Coffee Hour:

Lawn Mowing This Week: TBD

Pastor

Rev. Greg Watling

989-732-5726

920-472-9172

Tuesday: 8:00am – 12:00pm

Thursday: 12:00pm – 4:00pm

Or by appointment

Email: pastorg@firstuccgaylord.org

Communications Coordinator

Jessica Benoit

989-732-5726

Tuesday: 8:00am – 11:00pm

Thursday: 10:30am – 2:00pm

E-mail:

office@firstuccgaylord.org

Moderator

Margaret Wallin

margaretwallin@msn.com

~ *In Our Prayers* ~

During the month of June, the UNA is holding the Clare Congregational church in prayer.

Laura Bantens and her partner, Chris – as Chris is experiencing health issues and they are both encountering major life changes.

Sandra Soderberg – as she is experiencing trauma with one eye.

Maxine Dely – as she deals with ongoing balance issues.

John Hellenberg – as he moves into AspenRidge.

Gloria House's granddaughter, Madison Crawford – as she suffers from cataplexy in narcolepsy along with other neurological struggles. She is at home and adjusting to new medication which seems to be helping but is still in need of prayers.

Brad Derenzy—as he has continuing health struggles.

Ariah House – as she is finally home but still in need of prayers. She will be traveling to Grand Rapids for monthly infusions.

Mardee Storing's daughter, Lori Lane

All of those working on the frontline to fight COVID-19, those that are considered essential workers, those without jobs, those ill, and those affected by this pandemic in anyway.



Prayer Requests

Prayer requests are received by the church office. Names will appear on the list for two months; please let the office know if this time needs to be extended, or if it is time to remove a name.

June Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

4 Jenna English
6 Jim Boughner
7 Vicky Rigney
9 Katie Amar-Fox
11 Kynzie House
17 Erin Rigney
21 Meredith Anderson
23 Mary Fox

Anniversaries

3 Rod & Sallie Anderson
9 Pastor Greg Watling &
Cindy Goller
10 Aaron & Laura
Hotelling
21 Steve & Lori Ferguson
23 Terry & Diane House
30 George & Judy Dunn

- ANNOUNCEMENTS -

Strengthen the Church – offering will be moved to July. We will begin a special offering for tornado response on June 5th instead.

Congratulations to Community Meal – as they are one of the grant recipients of the Otsego Community Foundation’s “100 Women Who Care” event. Well done and well deserved!

Bible Study – for the time being, will go back to meeting virtually as our county CV-19 transmission rate has risen to HIGH again.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84612895017>

Blanket Sunday – will be honored throughout the month of May. Please contact the office if you have any questions.

Salad Luncheon – Will now be on May 31st at 11:30am.

BOOK STUDY – “Breathing Under Water” by Richard Rohr Meeting via Zoom Thursdays 7pm. Last meet is Thursday, June 2nd for wrap-up and postscript. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89372092567>

First Sundays –On the first Sunday of each month, all students from K-12 will be meeting together for a special project. This may involve a field trip on a related subject. A permission slip will be required for the field trips. ***The class will meet at 10:00am*** and end at 11:00 unless otherwise notified. Students are encouraged to bring friends. If you have any questions, please contact Brenda Brummel (brendabrummel@ me.com) or 810-623-1691 (call or text.)

Name Tags – if you are in need of a name tag, please let Jessica in office know.

Happenings at Church

For the week of May 29th, 2022

Sunday: Sunday Worship, 10am

Monday: Happy Memorial Day!
Office Closed

Tuesday: Salad Luncheon, 11:30am
Special Office Hours 8am-12pm

Thursday: Bible Study, 11am
Book Study, 7pm

Friday: Community Meal, 4pm

*Our meetings are open to all. If you have input for any of our teams and cannot make the meeting time, please email us your ideas at office@firstuccgaylord.org. Thanks!

Upcoming Book Study Dates:
June 2 Chapter 12 and Postscript