

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

218 W. Second St., Gaylord, Michigan 49735

www.firstuccgaylord.org

August 26th, 2018

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!



Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

- Romans 5:3-5 New International Version (NIV)

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

Welcome Music & Sharing God's Presence
"Surely God is in this Place" – Stephen Iverson
Surely, God is in this place, holy ground
Surely, God is in this place, holy ground

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

WL: Today is the first day of the rest of our lives

M: Each new day is a gift, a reminder that the story of the world and the story of our lives are still being written.

WL: But we don't always treat our days as "new," nor do we think of today as a "gift."

M: We get trapped in bad habits and negative thought patterns, lumping each new today with all our yesterdays, robbing us of any hope for tomorrow.

WL: Yet one of the most important things Jesus said is, "Behold, I make all things new!"

M: Open our eyes, our minds, and our hearts, Dear Lord, to the gift that is today!

***Opening Hymn**

Opening Hymn: 46 B - "Hope of the World"

***Corporate Unison Prayer**

The Serenity Prayer

(Please stand, if able, and join hands)

*God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change,
the courage to change the things I can,
and the wisdom to know the difference.*

Living one day at a time, enjoying one moment at a time,

Accepting hardship as a pathway to peace;

Taking, as Jesus did, the sinful world as it is, not as I would have it;

*Trusting that You will make all things right
if I surrender to Your will;*

So that I may be reasonably happy in this life

And supremely happy with You forever in the next. 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.

Children's Time

Final Special Offering for Harbor Hall

"Jesus Loves the Children" –by Rokko Jans

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

1st Scripture Reading

Psalm 147:1-11

Offering

Offertory Music

*Doxology

2nd Scripture Reading

Romans 5: 1-8

Thank you, God, for the many ways You still speak to us.

****Sermon Hymn***

179 B – “We Yearn, O Christ, for Wholeness”

Sermon

“Remember to Hope”

Special Music

“One Day I Shall be Home” – Bruce Cockburne

Prayers of the People & Lord’s Prayer

****Closing Hymn***

403 B – “My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”

Benediction

****Sung Response***

“Day by Day” – from Godspell

Day by day, day by day, Oh, dear Lord, 3 things I pray

To see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, follow thee more nearly, day by day

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

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

SUNDAY'S PARTICIPANTS:

Music Director: Rokko Jans

Organist: Sandra Soderberg

School of Love: Does not meet during the summer

Kidz on a Mission: Brenda Brummel

Liturgist: Don Storing

Usher/Greeter: Mardee Storing

Pastor

Toby Jones

Office Hours: Tues. & Thurs.

10:00am-noon or by appt

Ch Phone: 989-732-5726

Cell: 231-881-6734

Email: pastor@firstuccgaylor.org

Communications Coordinator

Jessica Benoit

989-732-5726

E-mail: office@firstuccgaylor.org

Jessica's Upcoming Schedule:

Tuesday 08/28 8am-2:30pm

Wednesday: 08/29 9:00am-3:00pm

Moderator

Rokko Jans

E-mail: rokko@alaricjans.com



Following worship, please join us in the Fellowship Hall where today's coffee hour will be hosted by Vicky Rigney & Sandra Soderberg.