

NOVEMBER 2018
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

First News

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS



Fashion and Fellowship

Once again the creative, hard working ladies and gentlemen of FCC gave us a wonderful afternoon of fun, fashion and very delicious food. This all took place at our third annual Fashion Show, which was held on Saturday, September 29th, in the gym. Each table was decorated in lovely, bright colors, with matching place settings.

Thanks to *Chicos of Rochester* for the stylish outfits, and thanks to the ladies who wore them so well. I am told that 156 people were in attendance. After the food and fashion, we listened to an informative speech on the dangers of human trafficking, which is becoming a major problem in Michigan, even affecting the area in which we live.

It takes many people to put together an event such as this, and, as always, FCC did a marvelous job from start to finish. I am looking forward to next year's show, knowing that it will be just as entertaining as the first 3 shows have been. ■





The Pastor's Pen

Month of Thankfulness

The month of Thanksgiving is upon us; one of my favorite months of the year. Not only do we have Veterans Day, but we have Thanksgiving and Black Friday. I am not a shopper so Black Friday has no appeal to me; however to some people it's a marathon of fun. Every year I encourage people to honor the month by being thankful. The Bible is full of lessons on being thankful.

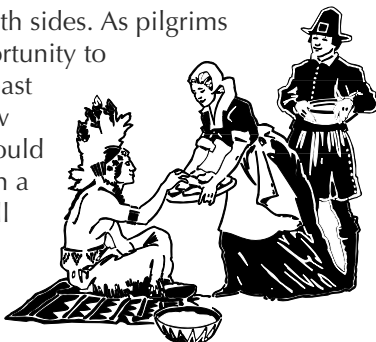
Colossians 3:15

And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful.

1 Thessalonians 5:18

Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.

We, of course, should be thankful all year long and it never hurts to focus a little more on it this month. With Veterans Day we are thankful to those who served our country and defended our freedom. Never forget that they sacrificed so we would not have to. Make it a goal to find a veteran every day and thank him or her. Another reason to be thankful is the election cycle will be over. If you are like me, you've had enough of the tiring constant commercials and attacks from both sides. As pilgrims we get an opportunity to reflect on our past and realize how thankful we should be to be born in a country that still has freedom of religion. The reason the



first Thanksgiving happened was the pilgrims were thankful for the Indians who helped them survive, but they wanted always to thank their God who they believed, and so do I, that God heard their prayers and sent them help. We all know of Squanto, the

Indian who spoke English, but what you may not know is he was kidnapped, taken to England, and sold into slavery. Fortunately Squanto's owner was a follower of Jesus

and was kind to him, made him part of his family and eventually returned him to America, so he could be with his own family. That act of kindness made Squanto not hate white people as did most of the Indians. When Squanto returned to America he learned that his entire tribe had been killed due to the plagues that ravished the Indians. Squanto once again found himself in slavery, but this time to another Indian village which actually wished to make a peace pact with the pilgrims, but had no way to communicate with the pilgrims. Well, as I mentioned earlier, Squanto was the answer to that problem and the rest is, as they say, history. The pilgrims recognized all that God did to bring Squanto to them as we should also be thanking God for all he does in our lives. Take this month and make it be a month of thankfulness. ■



Have a Happy Thanksgiving.

✠ Pastor Tim Chappell



Missions & More

Fundraising Progress!



CHURCH ROOF

MINISTRY CENTER

I just wanted to thank everyone who has generously given to the new church roof fund and Ministry Center fund. We are \$9,000.00 away from our goal for the roof and almost half the way to the Ministry Center. Both are very much needed for the church. Please continue to pray that we meet both goals.

Pastor Tim

I hate it when I see an old person and then realize that we went to high school together.



How can you honor our Veterans?

1. Pray for them all!
2. Tell a Veteran "thank you for your service" and shake their hand.
3. Attend a Veteran's Day event to show support.
4. Ask a Veteran about their time in the military and really listen to the answer.
5. Hang a flag in your yard.
6. Pay for their dinner.
7. Take flowers to a Veterans' memorial.
8. Teach someone (a child, a friend, a neighbor) what it means to be a Veteran.
9. Share your respect and gratitude on social media.
10. Honor a Vet when it's not Veterans Day.

Special Thanks...

Special thanks to Marilyn Fredericks for her tireless work in preparing and decorating the church grounds for the Annual Trunk or Treat. Hundreds of decorations were removed from storage and strategically placed around the Prayer Path. Her amazing effort and the help of others made this year's event a huge success. Thank You!





Chili Cook-Off & Pumpkin Carving

Culinary and Carving Skills

What a fun time was had by all on Sunday, October 21st, at FCC! After a wonderful sermon by Pastor Tim, focusing on the importance of Love in our daily lives, we assembled in Fellowship Hall to begin the festivities. One large table was set up along one wall, and held several steaming pots of chili, each one wafting the most delicious, delectable smells, and we could hardly wait to sample each and everyone of them! Believe me, none of us went away hungry, after this oh, so satisfying feast! We were then asked to vote on our favorite, and this was truly



a hard decision to make. They were all so good, so well seasoned, that I wanted to vote for all of them. However, there could be only one winner, and that winner was **Sue Aulgur**. Congratulations, Sue, and that might explain why Alan always looks so well fed! Ha! Just kidding, Alan.



After filling our tummies with chili, we were then asked to wander around the hall, and observe the different carvers as they worked so hard at carving their assorted pumpkins, from small to medium to very large. I think **Jacob**

Heykoop chose to work on the largest pumpkin available, and it was indeed, quite a challenge! Fortunately, others stepped in to give assistance, and all was good.



The different faces these carvers created showed a lot of talent, and I have to believe these carvers had previous experience, because, again, it was so hard to make a decision as to which one received our vote for number one. When the votes were counted, it was determined that **Nolan Haines**, the grandson of Keith Haines, was the winner. Congratulations, Nolan!

Many thanks to all who participated, and we look forward to making this an annual event here at FCC. ■



Bits & Pieces

Heritage Dinner



Tickets have been printed and are on sale for the Annual

Heritage Dinner to be held on Sunday, November 18, 2018. For \$10.00 you get turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy. It will be catered by *Royal Diner* as it was last year. Please bring a salad or dessert to share with everyone. This will be right after worship service. ■

Linda Atkins Contact Info

My temporary address will be at my Aunt Maxine's until further notice. As of Sunday, Oct 21st, I will be looking around in TN to see where I want to land!

My condo will be on the market as of Monday, Oct 22. Alan Augur Realtor can be reached at 248 535.2499.

Linda R. Atkins
c/o Maxine Elkins
310 Uhdali Place
Loudon, TN 37774

My cell phone is 248 563 8957

Aunt Mac's land line is
1 865 458 1984

Wheelchair Bag Workshop



Sharen Worden proudly displays one of several wheelchair bags that were lovingly made at the October workshop.

Our Saturday, Oct. 13, 2018 workshop to make wheelchair bags went well. Eleven people showed up throughout the day, some to offer words of encouragement, some to learn, others to apply their teaching or sewing skills. Whatever their intent, or interest, it was a lovely day of fellowship. And we appreciate everyone's input. (Lunch was pretty good too.) By Sunday morning we had four completed bags and by afternoon three had found new homes. There are several still in the process of being made so please let us know if you would like one for someone you know. Any extra will be taken to the VA Hospital in Ann Arbor.

Thanks to everyone who showed up! ■

Nancy Hill, Mickey Schwar, Sharen Worden

Choir Concert Coming

The choir is currently working on a Cantata, *A Song Unending* to be performed at First Congregational Church on December 16, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.

With all of their hard work, we need to support their efforts by attending these events. An afterglow will follow the performance. ■

Nancy Hill, First News

Fashions Galore

Once again, the Fashion Show was a huge success, with 156 people attending, and with my part of the show being the food, I would like to take this time to thank all the women who made the chicken salad, broccoli salad, and the cream Sicily fluff, a truly delicious lunch. To **Gale Wigner**, who got the men together to plate and serve the food, and to **Pastor Tim**, who was always there to help bring in the food, and to be of help wherever needed. I couldn't have asked for a better group of people to work with; they all did an excellent job. From the bottom of my heart, I thank you all. God Bless each and everyone of you. ■

Love, **Joan Millmine**



Church History

December 31, 1917 -
Reported in the Pontiac Press

SERVICE FLAG IS UNVEILED, 26 STARS ARE DISPLAYED

PASTOR SPEAKS ON PATRIOTIC SUBJECT.

**"GOLDEN STAR TO BE ADDED TO BANNER
IN MEMORY OF CAPTAIN D. L. KIMBALL"**

A new banner hangs between the two national flags of the United States in the Congregational Church, the new service flag of that church. Last evening before a large crowd, the flag was unveiled with appropriate ceremony and whenever a man who is a member of the church leaves for military service, a star will be added to the flag, in their honor. There are now 26 stars on the flag.

After an anthem by the choir, Perc Carr sang a war song, entitled "The Young Warrior." In announcing the program, Rev Milo J. Sweet said: "There are four boys whose names were omitted, but who are connected with this church in some way, either by their relatives being members of this church, or by their attendance at this church or Sunday School, for whom stars have been placed in this flag and I shall read those four names first." He then read the honor roll, as already published, the first four names which were: Howard Mortimer, Howard Lockwood, Harry Parker and John Austin. As he finished the roll of honor, which contained 26 names,

Rev. Sweet said, "A golden star will be added to this flag in honor of Captain D.L. Kimball, who died while on the field of duty."

A bugle call was then given by Basil Kimball, Captain Kimball's son, formerly a cadet in West Point. As the audience arose, the flag was unfurled.

The response to roll call was made by Albert Griggs, who has a son in Camp Custer. His talk in part was as follows: "In such a time as this, I believe it is the duty of man whom called upon to stand upon his feet and at least proclaim that he is an American citizen." He gave an apt description of an American citizen, and the way he shows his patriotism. Mr. Griggs told of a southern soldier who was heard to say that "Abraham Lincoln was the best friend the south ever had," and pointed out that even as George Washington and Abraham Lincoln were needed to protect the union of the United States, so now it is the opportunity of the United States to protect the freedom of the world, and he closed his response with the declaration that there would be "No north - no south- no west - no east; one grand united nation; and every nation upon earth shall be free to go in liberty."

Rev. Sweet announced at the beginning of his sermon that the service flag was given by a friend of the church and a vote of thanks was given by the congregation. The pastor said that his sermon was especially for those who have relatives or friends in the service of the United States. He spoke of Mary, the mother of Jesus, and of her hopes and aspirations for

her Son as he lay in a manger. "It is yours to glory in that flag, mothers and fathers, for you are offering that which is most dear to you, that the precious things in life, such as liberty of the world, may be saved."

A description of Mary as she bade her Son leave her and go out in the world was given in the sermon.

The emotions of the good things in life still sway the people as ever, with the exception of Germany, but the pity of it is that Germany sought self and thought of power until even the glory of the angels faded before them. The time will come when the nations will sing the song of triumph, which may be purchased with your kinsman's or your own life.

"I once thought that the things which we read concerning the cruelties in Armenia, Belgium and France might not be true, but now I know that the worst has not been told."

Speaking of the Patriotic League he said, "There is good in thoughts, but thoughts unuttered fall back dead. Just to feel patriotic for the soldiers is not enough and therefore Oakland County is going out asking the people to give."

He spoke of his visit to Camp Custer and of a drafted man who said: "I didn't like to come up here but now I think that camp life will make a man out of a fellow, if he has a speck of manhood in him." ■

Taken from 'Minutes of First Congregational Church - January 21, 1917 to January 9, 1925.'

Nancy Hill, FCC Historian



Trunk or Treat

HAPPY HALLOWEEN



The chilly, wet weather couldn't dampen the spirits of the nearly 500 people that attended our annual Trunk or Treat on Friday, November 26th. Twenty decorated trunks awaited the treaters as well as hot dogs, chips, cookies, desserts and hot chocolate. Our guests enjoyed a hayride, a witches story room and a spooky forest walk. The creative costumes and the

decorated trunks get better every year. One little trick or treaters was overheard telling her dad as they were leaving, "Thank you dad, this was the best night ever!" This event seems to be making a good impression on our community, so a big thank you to all who helped make this year's Trunk or Treat a big success. ■



From The Editor

The Pumpkin Patch

Recently, I mentioned to my daughter that I needed to do some decorating in my front yard to dress it up for the fall season.

A very large tree shades my yard, and the roof overhang on the front porch makes my front entrance rather dark, since very little sunlight penetrates this area. The front of my house also faces north east, which contributes to this shaded area.

My daughter said we needed to make a trip to the Oakland County Farmer's Market, where we would find everything needed to brighten up this rather gloomy approach to my front entrance.

Since I go to this market every spring and find all of the annuals I need for color and variety, I agreed this sounded like a good idea, so the following Saturday morning, she picked me up, and we headed off. I had never been there during the fall season, and wasn't sure how much we would find for actual decorating. WOW!! What a pleasant surprise! I had no idea that there were so many different varieties of pumpkins!! Colors, sizes, shapes, textures, it was amazing to see this beautiful bounty of goods, and such a great quantity available for purchase. Since most of the market is outdoors, the vendors are able to really spread out, and the displays were so colorful and enticing, it was hard to know even where to begin.

We probably spent at least 45 minutes just choosing a variety of pumpkins, some for stacking, and several others for lining my

sidewalk, and encircling a smaller tree in my yard. What fun it was to arrange the stacks right there, making changes as we figured out which groupings worked best together, and then loading my goodies into the bed of her pick up truck.

But we weren't finished yet, since the market also had stalls and more stalls, full of the most delectable vegetables, crisp apples, and gorgeous fall flowers, as well as decorative crafts, and flower arrangements for every

location in and out of your home. I had my eye on a lovely outdoor wreath, but decided against it, since we didn't feel it was bright enough to show up on my front porch.

However, I did pick out a great assortment of vegetables, including the most delicious heirloom tomatoes, romaine lettuce, celery, red, yellow, green and orange peppers, and a fresh bunch of dill.

This turned out to be such a fun and pleasurable way to spend a couple of hours on a sunny, but rather nippy, Saturday morning with my daughter. Then, of course, after loading all of our purchases into her truck, we decided coffee and breakfast would be our next stop, and then home to place all of those bright pumpkins, one stack by the garage door, another on a small table on my porch, and the rest lining the sidewalk to the porch, with enough left over to encircle a smaller tree in the yard. Perfect!! Just the way we planned it. ■

God's Peace be with you.

Jeri Sawyer, *editor*





FCC Classifieds


This section of your newsletter is for you to advertise your business, hobby, miscellaneous items for sale, personals (such as births, memorials, announcements), items or services wanted, etc. Distribution is to the FCC mailing list. A small charge will be established to help offset printing and mailing costs. Contact:

Jeri Sawyer jjsaw7@aol.com 248-421-2582 **or**
Ron wagner winston5wt@comcast.net 248-625-5561

DONATIONS NEEDED

Just a gentle reminder that **Kids Kloset** is happy to accept donations of CHILDRENS clothes – new and gently used (newborn to size 14), toys, children's books, and food. NO ADULT clothes, thank you.


If you have any questions regarding what we accept, please contact **Carol Moore** or **Mary Haney**.



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First Congregational Church

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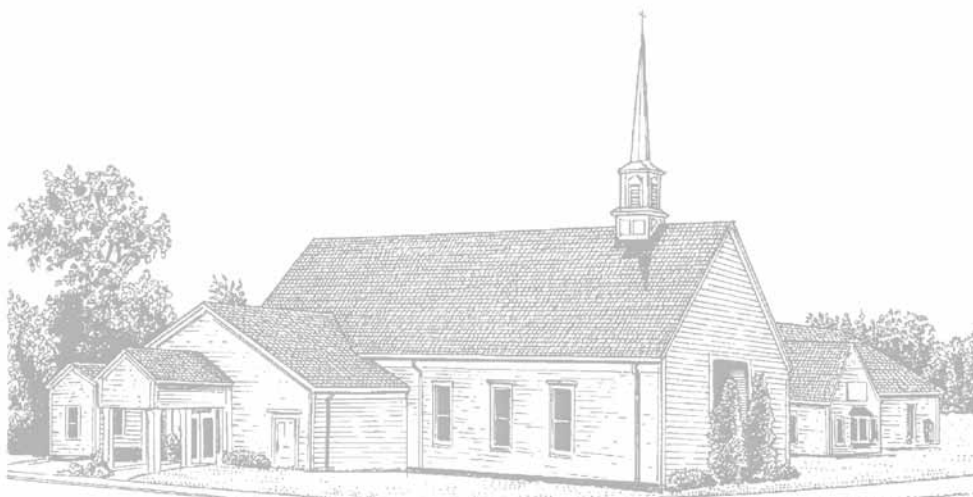
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First Congregational Church

5449 Clarkston Road

Clarkston, Michigan 48348



First Congregational Church of Clarkston

Founded 1831

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

(Communion Worship is the 1st Sunday of month)

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