

Clare Congregational Church Newsletter

August 2022

Comments from Pastor Connie

Ephesians 4:32 states, “be KIND to one another”. I’m asking everyone to intentionally do an act of kindness for someone. I have a chart with hearts on . When you have shared an act and told me about it, I want you to color a heart in. For every act of of kindness, I will put a dollar in a jar. When 100 dollars are collected, the money will be used to provide even more acts of kindness.

Recently I was impacted by the bowl Al White made and offered on social media to be bid on. The proceeds were to be donated to the Clare County Baby Pantry. Kim Kleinhardt and Tom Kunse were in a bidding war. The final bid was \$1,252.00 by Kim. Tom matched the bid and \$2504.00 was donated to the baby pantry. Amazing!

Reading about this local “Act of Kindness” inspired me to do more for others. There are numerous needs in our own area. Needs aren’t always costly. I thought about sending Kelly, Wanda, LuAnne, Dr. Kurt, Karen Jones, Don Jones, Jim Sutton, Dave Forsberg, Carol Colville, Dr. Allen, Ms. Kelsey, Darcel, Barb Kunse, Gwen Tisdale, Phyllis, Michelle, Jim Colville, Angie Allen, Bob List, Ron Kunse, Connie Johnson, Sharon Jackson, Meredith List, Dick Larson, John Andrews, Frank Bongard, Lynn and Steve Schumacher, Trudy Irwin, Teresa Mackie, Ryleigh Miller-Dougherty, Paula Newkirk, Terry Tisdale, Patty Wisely, Stephen Strnad, Kelly Strnad, Allie Strnad, Dee Lawens, Char Shaner, Marilyn Lawens, JD, Ruth Fretz, Stephen Newkirk, Alan Reiss, Bill Schepperly, Russ Miller, Jen Helsel, Tim Nicholas and Bill Newkirk a note of thanks for all the ways they make the Clare Congregational Church a special place to worship.

Many times , a text, phone call, note, smile, hug, KIND WORD makes all the difference in a person’s day. Thank you for being a doer of the scripture, “Be Kind to one another”! Kindness is contagious. Let’s all continue doing what God asks. Everyone wins!

God’s blessings,

Pastor Connie

From the Moderator's Desk

As the season changes, so does the opportunity for new ways to serve Christ. Exciting things are in the works as fall approaches!! The newsletter tells you about a lot of happenings coming up!!

Your Moderator,
Karen Jones

To contact church office:

office@clarecongregational.org 989-386-7582

Office Hours: Tuesday through Thursday, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

To contact Pastor Connie: 989-506-6659

Church website: clarecongregational.org

Church Facebook Page: Clare Congregational United Church of Christ

Potluck

Potluck Sunday is August 14. Come and enjoy. Bring your favorite dish to share.

Men's Breakfast

The next men's breakfast will be cancelled for the month of August. Hope to see you in September.

Church Picnic

The annual church picnic is on Sunday September 11th at Barb and Ron Kunse's house after worship service. Their address is 509 W Dunlop. They will be providing sloppy joes. Please bring a picnic dish to share. Plan to enjoy an afternoon with your church family.

Pasties for Sale

Pasties will be made again in September. Please keep that in mind. Orders will be taken during the month of August. The cost is \$6.00 each. Let Karen, Barb, Wanda, or Pastor Connie know if you wish to order any.

Christmas in July (extended)

School supplies are much cheaper this time of year. Pastor Connie wants to pack 110 gift bags to send home with the students from Three Lakes Academy where her daughter Sarah teaches. These students often have very little to receive on Christmas. Many of you have already been extremely generous. Sketch pads are needed. The Dollar Tree is an excellent place to purchase them. Markers, gel pens, are a great addition also. Pastor Connie will add some snacks. Also, if anyone has gift bags and tissue paper, that would be appreciated as well. Jim Colville is going to deliver the gifts.

Thank You Dinner

Sunday October 30th there will be a home cooked chicken dinner provided instead of a regular coffee hour. Pastor Connie wishes to recognize and thank everyone for all they do to keep the church doors open and make Clare and the world around us a better place to live. Please plan to attend. Let Wanda Know if you do plan to attend.

Sewing Machines

New sewing machines purchased with Memorial money was given in memory of Ila Schumacher. Two sewing machines, cutting boards, a quilter ruler and rotary cutter were also purchased. Angie said, "My Mom would be pleased." Ila participated in every sewing project the church offered to help others. Her Christmas stockings were beautiful. She also made fabric bags and pillowcases for outreach projects. Thank you to the Allen and Schumacher families.

Sewing Opportunities

Pillow cases are needed again this year. Fabric, patterns and machines are available at the church for anyone wishing to participate. See Pastor Connie for more details.

Pizza Party

Thank you for generous people who donate snacks for the girls at New Hope. Shampoo is being given every month. Money was also given so the girls could have a pizza party. They are thankful and are very appreciative.

Pioneer School

Dave Forsberg is checking on needs at Pioneer School for fall. Pastor Connie received a call asking if the church would be involved again this year. She was told the outreach makes a difference in the students lives. The faculty and staff also are very grateful for our effort.

Teacher Bags

Eighteen bags filled with snacks, teaching supplies and notes of encouragement will be delivered to the teachers in Curtis in August. Jim Colville has volunteered to take the snack packs and bags to help the teachers at Three Lakes Academy be encouraged as they return to the classroom.

Healing Moment

Tim Nicholas is battling stage 4 cancer. The cancer has been located in 5 sources of his body. He is fighting with everything he has. He is thankful to everyone who has been praying for him and his lovely wife Darcel. On Sunday July 24th he asked to be anointed with oil and follow the words of James 5:13-15. Everyone in worship that day came and laid hands on Tim. He wants to thank all who participated., and everyone who has been encouraging him.

Walkers Needed

September 25th is the CROP walk. Money is donated to the Clare County Baby Pantry and other nonprofit groups in Clare County. The registration is at 1:00. The walk is at 1:30. Walkers meet at St. Cecelia's Catholic Church. Please let Pastor Connie know if you are interested.

Women's Meeting

Women's meetings are on the last Thursday of the month at noon. We have lots of things happening, and great fellowship. Please try to attend.

Rada

New catalogs are ordered and should be in by the end of the month. If you'd like to pick up a new catalog, or place an order, please contact Wanda at the office.

Men's Breakfast

The Men's breakfast is usually held the third Sunday of each month. The August breakfast has been cancelled. So we hope to see you in September.

Christmas

December 2nd will be our annual Christmas Party. Please mark your calendars. Great food and entertainment. The decorations throughout the church will be spectacular. I can hardly wait. Please let Wanda know if you plan on attending. There is no charge, just donations. But we do need to know early, how many plan on attending.

Mowing and Landscaping

Thank you to everyone who mows, weeds, mulches and spruces up the grass and flowers. Many people walk and drive by the church. Keeping the grounds lovely makes a good impression and shows the pride we have in our church.

To Our Congregation

Please! If you know of anyone in our congregation who is suffering for any reason and needs our help or prayers, please inform us or reach out to Pastor Connie. We cannot help if we don't know there's a problem, and no one should suffer alone. We are a family and families help each other.

Rummage Sale

Thursday, Friday and Saturday

August 10th—11th—12th

Clare United Methodist Women's Sale

9:00am—5:00pm—Thursday and Friday

9:00am—1:00pm—Saturday

Proceeds go for Missions, Community and Church Projects

Located at 105 E 7th St.

Education building basement

Farwell United Methodist Women's Salad Buffet

We have been invited to the Women's buffet and a program
after at the

Farwell United Methodist Church. The date is Thursday August
4th at 6:00. Please contact Pastor Connie or Wanda if you are
able to attend.

It is great for Women's groups to support each other.



August Birthdays

Phyllis Carrigan 08/01
 Bridget Forsberg 08/01
 Lily Forsberg 08/04
 Byron Schunk 08/21
 Morgan Jones 08/22

August Anniversaries

Bob & Meredith List 08/05
 Matthew & Bridget Forsberg 08/09
 Richard & Kathy Maxwell 08/17
 Byron & Jennifer Schunk 08/18
 Justin & Caitlin Walls 08/18

Facts & Figures: Month of August

Date	Attendance	Offering
July 3	28	\$ 1187 .00
10	22	\$ 1016. 00
17	23	\$ 981. 00
24	32	\$ 1445 .00

Serving: Month of August

Officiating:	Pastor Connie Bongard
Accompanist:	LuAnne Humphrey
Liturgist:	Dr. Kurt Keppner
Ushering :	John and Angie Allen

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Dick Snyder: 401 Orchard Ave. Clare MI. 48617

Health/Healing & Other Needs:

Bill Franklin	Tom Johnson	Christopher Jackson	Sean Gallagher
Patty (Humphrey) Hazen	Scott Taube	Mike Humphrey	Dave Stevens
Naja Budreau	Holly Kwiatkowski	Dan Finney	Jim Bertley
Becky Evans	David Jackson	Matthew Fretz	Mike Moore
Lee Agle	Ruth Fretz	Tim Nicholas	

Please help keep the prayer list current; if you know of changes, you may call the office (386-7582), leave a note for the secretary, or send an email (office@clarecongregational.org)