

Clare Congregational Church Newsletter

May 2021

Comments from Pastor Connie

Recently I had been questioned about people who worship in the same church with completely different feelings and opinions on faith and church procedures. How can a congregation grow if there is not unity?

I'd like to answer with a few thoughts and then offer some explanation from Dr. Billy Graham. Churches that practice loving one another and praying for one another tend to be less likely to see differences. My present beliefs have been modified over the years through the Holy Spirit and life experiences. God has helped me to broaden my horizons and try to be more loving and less judgmental. Dr. Billy Graham explains, "The Christian faith is something like a diamond with many facets and we see only a part of a diamond at one time. There are things about the Christian faith which are essential. There are others which are important in varying degrees but have no bearing on one's personal salvation." He continues to say, "Let me suggest that you will be wise to look, not at the differences in the church but at the things historic Christianity has always agreed; the deity of our Lord, His death for our sins, His resurrection and His coming again. If we agree on the things about which the Bible is very clear, we can agree to disagree on many minor points."

His answer speaks to my heart. The Bible teaches us "be of one accord." Nowhere do the Scriptures teach us it is necessary to be in total agreement. Jesus said, "Love one another as I have loved you." When each of us tries to be kind and love one another I'm certain we put a smile on God's heart. I know for certain, you put a smile on mine.

God's blessings,

Pastor Connie

A Word from Your Moderator

Spring has sprung, the birds are chirping and the trees are a poppin'.

What a great feeling as our church continues with our "Spring" growth.

Thanks to all of you who continue to give support as we move into our new season.

Blessings full of excitement,

Karen Jones



From the Office

I would like to thank everyone who stayed after church on the 11th of April to help take down all the Easter decorations. I very much appreciated all the helping hands.

I would also like to thank those who have worked on the Memorial Garden, the shed, trash and mowing. The church is looking better.

It takes a lot of hands to make our church a home.

Keep up the good work everyone . God bless you all.

Wanda

Church Information

Secretary: Wanda Agle

Phone: (989) 386-7582

Office hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday 10:00 am—2:00 pm

Web Site: clarecongregational.org

E-mail: office@clarecongregational.org



Ladies Lunch Bunch

Six ladies met for lunch and laughs. Two ladies joined us after lunch where it was agreed our next time together would be Wednesday May 26th at noon. The ladies are planning to decorate cookies. Lunch will be provided. All ladies are encouraged to attend and have fun. We have had taco soup, one month beef and noodles, and last month was chicken and rice. Each month someone has provided lunch for us. If you would like to provide us with lunch, just call Wanda. If you'd like to attend, you are more than welcome.

Baby Pantry

Thanks to all of those who continue to support the Clare County Baby Pantry. The diapers, applesauce and mac and cheese are greatly appreciated. If anyone finds any snow pants or boots at yard sales, the Baby Pantry is truly in need. I have funds to reimburse you for these items.

Pioneer Adult Education

Thanks to all who donate. The adult students continue to be fed and provided with beverages. Its great to have so many caring people in our congregation.

New Hope House

The girls at New Hope House in Mt. Pleasant continue to feel the love and encouragement they receive from Clare Congregational UCC. Thank you for generous givers who allow me to continue to share small gifts that put smiles on their faces and a sense of self worth.

-Mowers, Weeders, and Whackers -

Thanks for working on the church grounds. Your effort shows. You are appreciated. There is a schedule for mowing outside the office door. All help is appreciated, let's keep our church beautiful.

Mother's Day Brunch

The potluck for May will be in honor of Mother's Day, May 9th after service. Sandwiches salads dessert and punch will be served.

Council Meetings

Council meetings are the first Tuesday of every month at 12:15

(You are welcome to bring a sack lunch)

There was no April meeting. May 4th will be our next meeting.

A graphic with the text "Happy Mother's Day" in a colorful, cursive font. The word "Happy" is in red, "Mother's" is in blue, and "Day" is in orange. The text is set against a white background with a light gray border.

May Birthdays

| | |
|--------------------|-------|
| Marion Loll | 05/04 |
| John Bicknell II | 05/04 |
| Mary Ann Forsberg | 05/07 |
| Jennifer Nummerdor | 05/08 |
| Andrea Walls | 05/09 |
| Carly Wolfe | 05/20 |



May Anniversaries:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| John and Angie Allen | 05/07 |
| Chad and Jennifer Nummerdor | 05/21 |

Facts & Figures:

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Attendance</u> | <u>Offering</u> |
|-------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| April: 4 | 54 | \$ 1979. |
| 11 | 21 | \$ 715. |
| 18 | Closed | |
| 25 | 14 | \$ 1040. |

Serving this Month:

Officiating: Pastor Connie Bongard
Accompanist: LuAnne Humphrey
Liturgist (May 02) Bill Newkirk
May 9—30 Dr. Kurt Keppner
Ushering : Bob & Meredith List

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Truman Glenn: c/o Green Acres, 1805 E. Remus Rd., Mt. Pleasant MI 48858

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 | Rogan | |

Please help keep the prayer list current; if you know of changes, you may call the office (386-7582), leave

May 2021



| May | | | | | | | June | | | | | | |
|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa | Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
| | | | | | | 1 | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------|--------------|----------|
| 25 | 26 AA - 12PM | 27 AA 8PM | 28 AA 8PM AL-ANON 8PM | 29 | 30 AA 8PM | 5/1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 Council Meeting 12:15PM | 5 AL-ANON 8PM | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 Mother's Day Potluck ?? | 10 | 11 | 12 AL-ANON 8PM | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 AL-ANON 8PM | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 AL-ANON 8PM | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 Memorial (Big Coffee Hour) | 31 | 6/1 Council Meeting 12:15PM | 2 AL-ANON 8PM | 3 | 4 | 5 |