

THE CHURCH WINDOW



February 2021



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SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

Let's help the Grand Ledge Food Bank tackle hunger with our annual Souper Bowl of Caring on February 7, 2021! Please come to the church that day from 1-2 pm to make drive-by donations to the Food Bank. Our youth will be holding the soup pots at the front door.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Cheryl Mattson – 3rd
Virginia Schiefelbein – 4th
Gary Burt – 5th
Vicki McWilliams – 8th
John Paul Miller-Purrenhage – 4th
Jenna Kay Patrick – 13th
Mariah Cosper – 16th



Marcia (Kent) Walther – 20th
Tim Kent – 23rd
Ben Kent – 23rd
Vicki Hunter – 25th
Mary Lou Prevost – 26th
Gerry Arnold – 27th
Bethany Posey – 28th

If you would like your birthday included in the newsletter, please contact the office administrator at 627-2336 or office@grandledgeucc.org

February 2021 Sunday Schedule

Date	February 7th 5th Sunday after Epiphany Green	February 14th Transfiguration White or Green	February 21st 1st Sunday in Lent Violet	February 28th 2nd Sunday in Lent Violet
Text	Isaiah 40:21-31 Mark 1:29-39	2 Kings 2:1-12 Mark 9:2-9	Genesis 9:8-17 Mark 1:9-15	Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Mark 8:31-38
Head Usher	Leah Horn	Jane Gilson	Kathy Burt	Nate Oliver

March 2021 Sunday Schedule

Date	March 7th 3rd Sunday in Lent Violet	March 14th 4th Sunday in Lent Violet	March 21st 5th Sunday in Lent Violet	March 28th 6th Sunday in Lent Palm Sunday Violet
Text	Exodus 20:1-17 John 2:13-22	Numbers 21:4-9 John 3:14-21	Jeremiah 31:31-34 John 12:20-33	Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29 Mark 11:1-11
Head Usher	Tina Lamer	Jane Gilson	Karen Ramthun	Bruce Ramthun

**February's newsletter is condensed due to the 2020 Annual Report.
You will find more detailed information there. Thank you!**

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

The Board of Christian Education included the following active members: Marcia Kent, Thea Oatman, Virginia Schiefelbein, Leah Horn and Pastor Laura with significant contributions by Anita Calcagno who joined us in planning the fall activities.

On the Christian Education Board, we fondly recall the BC time (Before COVID) which seems a lifetime ago. In the early months of BC 2020, the Christian Education Board was going strong with in person Sunday school for the K-6 children using the Shine curriculum. Virginia Schiefelbein held in person seminars on different types of prayer and Marcia Kent held an in person “Depression and the Christian” sessions. Lynn Hart spearheaded the Souper Sunday collection for the Food Bank reminding us of the importance of our priorities. The congregation agreed to hire an in person Sunday school teacher and things looked great for the coming year.

Then COVID hit and all of our lives were flipped upside down with the lockdown and suspension of in person church gatherings. We did send out one packet of Shine Sunday school materials to the families with children, but our usual Christian Education efforts slowed down considerably. Without the ability to meet in person, members of the committee turned our efforts to some practical needs. Marcia Kent worked with other members of the congregation including, but not limited to Charlene Avery, Fay Schroeder and Anita Calcagno, to provide many cloth masks and materials to make them for the congregation that were distributed by pick up from bins behind the church. Additionally, working with the Pastor, we tried to assess the needs of our families where kids were largely isolated at home for school and many parents worked from home too. We recommended that Pastor Laura encourage the congregation to send notes and text messages to the children to help them feel part of the church in the COVID time. Our kids appreciated the notes and messages a great deal!

In the fall, we got a little braver and courageously held a Pumpkin Decorating event in early October that was well attended and enjoyed—outside, masked and socially distanced, of course. We decorated 41 pumpkins that were used to deck out the viewing path at the Trunk or Treat on 10/31/2020. We packed approximately 300+, including allergen free treat bags, in anticipation of a much larger crowd than the 54 kids whose families actually opted to drive through our COVID safe event. Trunk or Treat was on the most beautiful day that we have had in the past several years and was a bright spot to those who participated in this actual social event, a rare occasion in COVID times.

The pastor spearheaded the modified Christmas pageant and many of our families sent in videos with portions of the Christmas story acted out in some way. It was delightful.

Then, before we knew it, the difficult and unusual year of 2020 was finally over.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia Kent



FEBRUARY 2021



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	1	2	3 6pm AA 8pm AA	4	5 Office Closed	6 10am AA Women
7 5th Sunday after Epiphany 10:30am Worship Service Facebk 12-1:30pm New Member Class 1-2pm Souper Bowl of Caring	8	9	10 6pm AA 8pm AA	11	12 Office Closed	13 10am AA Women
14 Transfiguration 10:30am Worship Service Facebk 12-1:30pm New Member Class	15 President's Day Office Closed	16	17 Ash Wednesday 6-8pm Lenten Devotional with Trinity Episcopal 6pm AA 8pm AA	18	19 Office Closed	20 10am AA Women
21 1st Sunday in Lent 10:30am Worship Service Facebk 12:00pm Zoom Café Fellowship	22	23 6:30pm Exec Board Zoom Mtg	24 6-8pm Lenten Devotional with Trinity Episcopal 6pm AA 8pm AA	25	26 Office Closed	27 10am AA Women
28 2nd Sunday in Lent 10:30am Worship Service Facebk 12:00pm Zoom Café Fellowship						



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*Following Jesus, our mission is to serve God
by building an inclusive community
where uplifting worship and relevant messages deepen spirituality
and inspire acts of justice, service, and compassion.*

Mission Statement for First Congregational UCC

STAFF	EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS & BOARD CHAIRS
Rev. Dr. Laura Miller-Purrenhage Angela Spialek, Office Administrator Brandon Frost, Choir Director Darlene Banks, Bell Choir Director Judy Nielsen, Organist Chuck Byam, Choir Accompanist Sue Sackett, Custodian Nicole Finney, Nursery Care Provider Rev. John Baumgartner, Pastor Emeritus	Leah Horn, Moderator Karen Holcomb-Merrill, Vice Moderator Bil Turner, Clerk Fay Schroeder, Treasurer Lynn Hart, Financial Secretary Charlene Avery, Member-at-Large Kim Dible, Member-at-Large Lisa Reed, Member-at-Large TBD, Christian Education TBD, Congregational Life Chris Clark, Christian Outreach