

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
OF ST. CLAIR



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST



**“No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey,
you’re welcome here.”**

**300 Adams Street, St. Clair, MI 48079
810-329-4142**

**www.firstcongsc.org
firstcongsc@gmail.com**

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

November 5, 2023

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

† Those who are able, please stand.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Today's altar flowers are in memory of Richard O. Johnson from his family.

WELCOME

Welcome to First Congregational Church of Saint Clair, United Church of Christ, where no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey you're welcome here.

CHIMES

You Servants Of God

PRELUDE

Faith of the Martyrs

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Announcements are in the back of this bulletin.)

†HYMN

O Savior, For The Saints

NCH298 All

†CALLING ON GOD

Bonnie Landschoot

Give praise to God! Praise the Lord of hosts!

**From mountaintop and hillside, from ocean's depth and river's edge,
from factory and office;**

from doors and windows and websites, in song and in poem, prayer and hymn, praise the God who is eternal and infinite, near and far, beneath, above, below, behind and beside.

**Praise we now the God of Love, made known in and through Jesus,
God's Christ.**

Give praise to God! Praise the Lord of hosts!

†OPENING PRAYER

Bonnie Landschoot

Let us pray: Eternal God, without whom life has no meaning, but with whom there is always promise and hope, we worship you. Grant, we pray, that we would be renewed in spirit today.

Grant us renewal of faith and courage. Give to us fresh awareness of all we have been given, the heritage of those who went before us by whose countless sacrifices this church and nation have come to be ours.

Cleanse us, forgive us and make us strong, that we may be what you have made us to be:

your servants in the struggle for justice and peace; your children, members of one family forever, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

**The children are excused for Sunday School during
Yes, Jesus Loves Me.**

THE FIRST READING

Psalm 146, TEV

Bonnie Lanschoot

MUSICAL MEDITATION

Bring Many Names

THE SECOND READING

Matthew 22:34-40, TEV

Dr. Guerreno

SERMON

“Death”

Dr. Guerreno

†HYMN

For All The Saints

NCH299 vs 1, 3, 5

JOYS, CONCERNS, AND INVITATION TO PRAY

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven. Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY

How Lovely Is Your Dwelling

† OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Now Thank We All Our God

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices,
Who, from our parents' arms, has blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Great Giving God, Great Loving God, Holy One of creation: how is it you love us? How is it you make us in your image? How is it you call us to love each other, and find in love the essence and heart and mind and soul of you? Help us then, to give, to love. Help us, then, to give, to share. Help us to give, that in all of life we would know what you intend from us and for us, nothing more and nothing less than love that gives and gives. We pray in the name and spirit of your Son. Amen.

COMMUNION

Invitation

Sharing The Story

Blessing The Elements

The Meal Is Served

Thanksgiving After The Meal

†CLOSING HYMN

For All The Saints

NCH299 vs 1, 3, 5

†BENEDICTION

†POSTLUDE

Savior, Again To Your Dear Name

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One License #A720797

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS...

Harrietta Thourlby-Ryan & family, Cal Eschenburg, Diane & Doug Johnson & Family, Carol Carroll, Susan Couch, Bryce C. DeLand, Harrietta Ryan, Eric Fandrick, Matthew Pennewell, Emerson Stone, Jan Yager, Rachel O'Connor, Marge Guinther, Barb Jeffries, Ann Whittaker. Also, remember to pray for all who are serving in the military, first responders, medical personnel, and our elected officials.

TODAY'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

SUNDAY STEWARD: Tom Pennewell
SOUND AND LIVESTREAM: Tim Galvin, Jacie Sanders
MUSIC: Denise Gregg
USHERS: Randy Kling, Bob Rood
READER: Bonnie Landschoot
POWER POINT: Jody Skonieczny
COMMUNION: Kathy Cilluffo
COFFEE HOUR: Randy and Vicki Kling

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON

Sermon: "How Much Is Enough"
Acts 4:32-5:11, CEV Luke 21:1-4, Ruden

11/12/23 - NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

SUNDAY STEWARD: Tom Pennewell
SOUND AND LIVESTREAM: Tim Galvin, Kathy Cilluffo
MUSIC: Denise Gregg
USHERS: Dave Scheel, Tom Pennewell
READER: Rose Crowley
POWER POINT: Jacie Sanders
COFFEE HOUR: Don and Nancy Rice

11/19 - READER: Nancy Rice

OPEN AND AFFIRMING INCLUSIVE **CHURCH COVENANT**

The members of the First Congregational Church of St. Clair, United Church of Christ, declare that we are a fully inclusive, Open and Affirming Congregation. We affirm the life and teachings of Jesus Christ and believe that all people are children of God. As such, we welcome to the community of faith all people of diverse race, physical and mental abilities, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, and socio-economic status. We covenant to provide to all a safe, loving, nurturing and compassionate community.

~CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS~

WELCOME CHUCK GUERRENO

Chuck can be reached at the church 10:00 – 4:30 Thursday through Friday, 11:00 – 4:30 on Saturday, and 8:00 – noon on Sunday. Chuck can be reached at stclairinterim@gmail.com and (989) 980-0061.

SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Search Committee invited a prospective minister to tour St. Clair in October. The search committee members are Co-Chairs Avery Skonieczny & Don Rice, Rose Crowley, Mike Kennedy, Don O'Connor, Kathy Rood, Kathy Cilluffo, Sam Tricomo, Vicki Kling and Ash Currie. We are available for your questions and concerns regarding the pastoral search in person or email at firstconjsc@gmail.com.

CURIOUS ABOUT CHURCH MEMBERSHIP?

If you're wondering about becoming a church member, please speak with Pat O'Connor or Chuck to set up a time to chat. Your questions about the United Church of Christ and this church specifically will be answered.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday school has resumed. There is a nursery where parents may go with their younger children if they choose to. It's a comfortable room where children can play. There is a changing table in the bathroom in the lounge.

MISSIONS MEETING

We have received our list of adopted families for Thanksgiving and Christmas. We have 3 families, consisting of 5 adults and 6 children. We will send each family a gift card for Thanksgiving, and a gift card and presents for the children for Christmas. The Giving Tree is set up in the lounge, with tags for Christmas gifts for the children. Please remember to sign up on the white papers, corresponding to the number(s) of your tags. These gifts (wrapped, no blow, please) need to be returned to church by December 10, to the marked shelves in the elevator room. They will be delivered by Karen and Tim Galvin and the delivery team. Thank you for your generous spirit; any questions, please call Cathy Light, (810) 329-4875. The next Missions Meeting will be Wednesday, November 15, at 2 p.m.

PASTOR'S EMERGENCY FUND

Our Communion Offerings are usually placed in a Pastor's Emergency Fund. Those needing emergency assistance are screened and, when available, funds are provided.

LITTLE FOOD PANTRY

This small pantry is a community outreach program sponsored by The Mission Team of this church. It is stocked twice weekly with non perishable food. Donation requests may change but the need to feed does not.

On behalf of the Mission Team, I give my thanks for each and everyone of you who helps care for the hungry in our community by donating dollars or dropping off food for the pantry.

November changes
the world outside.
Change hunger's hold
with help we provide.

November pantry needs:

Cereal
Boxed Hot Chocolate Packets
Canned Fruit
Canned Pasta with Meat
Hearty Soups

Thanksgiving Extras For Pantry:

Mashed Potato Pouches
Boxed Stuffing
Canned Beans or Corn
Biscuit or Muffin Mix
Dessert Mix
Bagged or Boxed Cake or Cookies

Please leave donations in the elevator room on any one of the shelves labeled LITTLE RED FOOD PANTRY.

If you have questions, please call Nancy Kennedy (810-329-3790).

COFFEE HOUR

Coffee hour is each Sunday immediately following worship. There are several Sundays available to host coffee hour. Please be sure to check out the sign-up sheet on the back table of the sanctuary.

CHIME PRACTICE

Please join us for chime practice. You do not need to read music to play the chimes. Chime practice will be held each Sunday 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., beginning November 12 and will conclude November 26.

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BLUE CHRISTMAS

The annual Ecumenical Blue Christmas Service will be held at Holy Family Episcopal Church Sunday, December 17, at 2 p.m.