



**First Congregational  
Church**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## CHURCH UPDATES

(Because sometimes a bulletin or newsletter just doesn't cut it!)

**SEPTEMBER 17-24, 2023**

### **Blood Pressure Clinic**

Nurse Jan, Parish Nurse, will be available on Sunday, September 17 after worship to offer Blood Pressure Clinic and any health screenings. Please see her in her office after morning worship.

### **Pictorial Directory (schedule your photography session now!)**

Schedule your professional photography session for our new church pictorial directory (1) when you stop by the sign-up table or (2) simply go online and follow the instructions below. We have a table to sign-up before and after church services until October 15th.

To schedule your photography appointment online, simply go to [www.ucdir.com](http://www.ucdir.com), click on photography appointment scheduling login on the right side, enter **mi1858** in the Church Code field and enter photos in the Church Password field. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. If you have 6 or more in your family please use 2 consecutive time slots. The online scheduling option is available Monday through Friday. Appointments fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time.

### **"Games on the Grass"** (see page 2)

Join us for some good, ole-fashioned, outdoor fun as we host a "Yard Game Night" on Saturday, September 23 from 3-5 p.m. Everyone's invited to bring their favorite yard game and meet on the tree lawn at church (weather-permitting)—come and go as you please, bring a friend, make some memories! There'll be snacks and plenty of fun to go around! For questions, contact the office!

### **Women's Bible Study**

On September 20, WBS will meet at 1 p.m. at church to continue its discussion on *Wake Up to Wonder* by Whitney Hople. Contact Kathryn Anderson ([zerler@sbcglobal.net](mailto:zerler@sbcglobal.net)) for info.

### **Men's Ministry**

Men's Ministry will meet on Saturday, September 23 at 8 a.m. in the Gathering Room. Breakfast first, then discussion! Contact John Bock (269.313.1093) for more info.

### **Women's Book Group**

The meeting for September is on Tuesday the 26th at 9:30 a.m. to discuss Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mocking Bird*. Contact Donna Dumke ([dfdumke@gmail.com](mailto:dfdumke@gmail.com)) for questions or more info.

**(see more announcements on page 3)**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23**

**3PM-5PM**



**GAMES  
ON THE GRASS**

**BRING A FAVORITE OUTDOOR GAME,  
A SNACK TO SHARE & A FEW FRIENDS!**

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



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**2001 NILES AVENUE  
ST. JOSEPH, MI  
(269) 983-5519**



(continued from page 1)

### **Taproom Hours**

Come on over and enjoy the start of fall by celebrating Taproom Hours on the Parsonage deck! Pastor Jeffrey and Carly want to invite everyone over on Thursday, September 28—stop by anytime between 5-7 p.m. We'll have some beverages and light snacks, but feel free to bring your own to pass. you have any questions, feel free to contact Pastor Jeffrey—otherwise, we'll see you on the 28th (weather-permitting)!

### **Rummage Sale**

The Fall Rummage Sale (see page 6) will take place on Thursday, October 5 (9 a.m.- 6 p.m.) and Friday, October 6 (9 a.m. - 2 p.m.). Sale set-up begins on Monday, September 25 at 9 a.m. Please check the September newsletter for the full schedule of set-up and donation times. Contact a member of the Rummage Leadership Team for any questions or more information: Roger Bertsch (rj\_bertsch@yahoo.com), Gordy Schreiber (gschreib3@sbcglobal.net), Nancy Bunker (nab75@sbcglobal.net), Patty Nordberg (pnordberg@comcast.net).

FCC is also partnering with Lakeland Care Network and offering a Flu Clinic on the first day of the sale, Thursday, October 5 from Noon - 6 p.m (see flyer on page 7). There will be a tent in the back of the parking lot - see either Nurse Jan or one of the Care attendants for registration.

### **Missions Updates**

Missions Board is collecting donations with Interfaith Action to support migrant families. Full list of donation items (see page 5) and collection bin is located in the church entry way. The items will be presented during the Celebration of the Harvest on Sunday, October 1 at 3 p.m. at Tabor Hill at an Interfaith service (Pastor Jeffrey will be participating) [see page 4 for flyer].

Missions also asks everyone interested in United Way of Southwest Michigan's Rake-a-Difference Day of Action for Seniors to mark their calendars for Thursday, November 9. Contact Ryan Cheevers (ryanwilliamcheevers@gmail.com) to sign up for the team or for more information. Sign-ups are due by October 13 in order to receive a t-shirt, but if you forget to sign-up, we'll still take all the help we can get on November 9th.

Missions Board, in partnership with the Rummage Leadership Team, has sent off funding to aid ongoing, crisis situations throughout the world: \$2,000 to World Central Kitchen (aiding both Maui and hurricane relief in Florida and coastline), \$2,000 to UCC Disaster Relief (responding to request for aid in Maui), and \$1,000 to the Aid Centre in Warsaw Poland, supporting Ukrainian Refugees. Missions Board also donated \$3,000 from their own budget to add to the aid sent to Maui.

Following the Fall Sale, Missions and Rummage Leaders will collaborate further to determine where best to send aid, monitoring hurricane season and ongoing crises.

# CELEBRATION OF THE HARVEST AND HARVESTERS

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OCTOBER 1, 2023 @ 3 P.M.

Tabor Hill  
Vineyards  
Private Event  
Entrance  
333 Mount Tabor  
Road  
Buchanan, MI

Interfaith Action



# CELEBRATION OF THE HARVEST AND HARVESTERS



## ITEMS NEEDED

DRIED PINTO BEANS  
DRIED BLACK BEANS  
WHITE RICE  
TOOTHPASTE  
TOOTHBRUSHES  
SHAMPOO  
BAR SOAP  
ALEVE  
ASPIRIN  
ALKA SELTZER  
MEN'S BASEBALL HATS  
S & M T-SHIRTS  
LONG SLEEVE SHIRTS  
HOODED SWEAT SHIRTS

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

**FALL 2023**

**RUMMAGE SALE**

**Thursday, October 5 | 9am-6pm**

**Friday, October 6 | 9am-2pm**  
(HALF PRICE DAY)



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**2001 NILES AVENUE | ST. JOSEPH**  
**QUESTIONS? (269) 983-5519**



## Tips to Stay Healthy this Season

- Get your Flu Shot
- Wash your Hands
- Sleeve Sneeze
- Stay home when you're sick
- Wear your mask

# FLU CLINIC

**DATE:** 10/5/2023  
**TIME:** 12:00 – 6:00 PM  
**LOCATION:** 2001 NILES AVENUE  
ST. JOSEPH, MI 49085



## WHO WE ARE

### Our Vision

As believers in Jesus Christ, we will be a church of vibrant Christians.

### Our Mission

We welcome people to faith in Jesus Christ to:

*Discover God*

*Equip one another for life*

*Reach inward/outward to serve*

### Our Welcome

Because we believe each person is made in God's Image, we welcome *all* persons into the life and worship of this congregation. Regardless of age, ability, gender identity or sexual orientation, racial or ethnic background – *you* are welcome here!



## CONTACT

**Hours:** Mon-Thurs, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.  
**Phone:** (269) 983-5519  
**Website:** [www.fccstjoseph.org](http://www.fccstjoseph.org)  
**Facebook:** [facebook.com/FCCStJoseph](https://facebook.com/FCCStJoseph)  
**Email:** [office@fccstjoseph.org](mailto:office@fccstjoseph.org)  
**Address:** 2001 Niles Avenue  
St. Joseph, Michigan 49085



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## STAFF

Rev. Jeffrey Hubers, Minister  
Brenton Offenback, Music  
Carly Hubers, Youth  
Alison Achramowicz, Children  
Stephen Zork, Choir  
Jan Trapani, Parish Nurse  
Judy Hoffman, Office  
Nanci Fenrick, Bookkeeper  
Jim Dansfield, Maintenance  
Julie Ruple, Housekeeping

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday's

10:00 a.m. - Coffee Break

10:30 a.m. - Worship

11:30 a.m. - Fellowship

6:30 p.m. - Pastor Jeffrey's Bible Study

Tuesday's

9:30 a.m. - Soup Kitchen (third Tuesday of every month)

9:30 a.m. - Book Group (last Tuesday of every month)

Wednesday's

1:00 p.m. - Women's Bible Study (first and third Wednesday of every month)

5:30 p.m. - Jubilate Ringers (Sept-May)

6:45 p.m. - Chancel Choir (Sept-May)

Thursday's

5:00 p.m. - Taproom Hours (twice a month, March-October)

5:15 p.m. - Alleluia Ringers (Sept-May)

Saturday's

8:00 a.m. - Men's Ministry (second and fourth Saturday's, Sept-May)

**For full listing, check Events or Newsletter on website. You can also contact the church office for up-to-date activities.**