

***Sending**

Pastor Luke Schmalz

***Postlude**

Jack Brooks

Family and Friends,

Fall is nearly here! Kids are back in school. Pumpkin spice has infected every product you can imagine. And the nights are getting pleasantly cool. That means that we are rapidly approaching our annual meeting for First Congregational Church. This is an important event. We will vote on a budget and elect the officers and new members of the board and ministries. At FCC, we believe the church is run by the members. It is the people who carry out the mission of the church. That means we depend on each and every member and friend to accomplish our mission in Fremont. The nomination committee is asking everyone to pray about how they may serve. You can serve at First Congregational Church in a wide variety of ways as a deacon, trustee, technology ministry, Sunday School, Altar Committee, music ministry, as a greeter or usher, hosting coffee call, leading or hosting a small group, serving with men's or women's fellowship. Of course, throughout the year there will be a wide variety of events, programs, and projects to be part of. The nomination committee will be meeting soon and will begin finding nominees to fill the open positions. There are many positions needing to be filled, and there are many ways to serve. How can you serve this year?

Pastor Luke Schmalz

Deeply Rooted ~ Future Focused
151 years ~ 1875-2026

Pastor Luke Schmalz 920-428-0030

Office Hours - Call the church office

Please call the church office to meet with the Pastor

Keyboard/Organist Jack Brooks, David VandenBelt, Lorene Witte

Secretary Lorene Witte 924-4710

CCLI 1401200 (cell) 231-282-0515

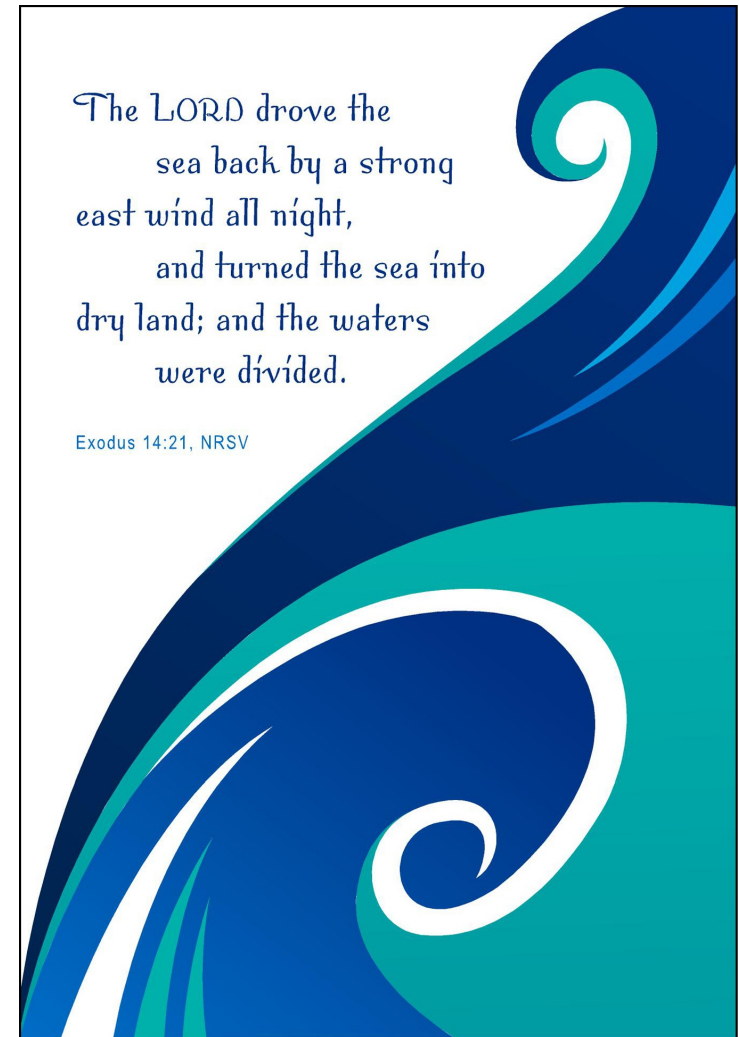
email: congo@fremontfcc.org Website: fremontfcc.org

Church: 231-924-4710 714 Hillcrest Drive - Fremont MI 49412

Offering plates are located in the narthex. Today's service will be available at our website - www.fremontfcc.org and also on Facebook and YouTube.

The First Congregational Church

Your Independent Worship Center



September 13, 2026

The Order of Worship
*please stand, if you are able

Prelude **Jack Brooks**

Announcements

Welcome

Call to Worship (Psalm 114)

Pastor: When Israel went forth from Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language, Judah became his sanctuary, Israel his dominion.

All: The sea looked and fled, Jordan turned back. The mountains skipped like rams, the hills like lambs.

Pastor: What ails you, O sea, that you flee? O Jordan, that you turn back? O mountains, that you skip like rams? O hills, like lambs?

All: Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob, who turns the rock into a pool of water, the flint into a spring of water.

Opening Prayer

***Opening Hymn-** “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”- **Blue Hymnal #210**

Prayer of Confession

All: Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Prayer

Pastor: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Pastor: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God’s love toward us. In the name of

Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Glory to God. Amen.**

***Response - Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost,
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.

JeLy Bell! All kids are invited to go to the JeLy Room for JeLy Church!
(JeLy ~ Jesus Loves You)

Scripture: Exodus 14:19-31, Matthew 18:21-35

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Message: “Through the Red Sea” **Pastor Luke Schmalz**

***The Apostle’s Creed** (words projected)

***Hymn - “How Firm a Foundation” - Blue Hymnal #408**

Prayers of the Congregation

The Lord’s Prayer (words projected)

***Doxology** (As the offering is brought forward)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Sending Hymn - “He Keeps Me Singing” - Blue Hymnal #746** vs1,2,4,5

***Dismissal Prayer for Revival** (words projected - unison)

Almighty God, we have gathered here today to worship you. As we prepare to leave we ask you to breathe new life into our church. May a renewed passion be kindled within us, a fervent desire to spread the message of hope and salvation to our community. Ignite the fires of revival within our Church. Help us to deepen our love for you and love for our neighbors. Empower us with the Holy Spirit, filling us with the strength, wisdom, and courage to proclaim your gospel with clarity and conviction. May we long for our community’s salvation as you do and help us to shine as beacons of hope to our community. Amen.

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Altar Rep: Mary Butterick

Greeting us today: Barb Clark

Next Sunday: Ted Caris

Song Leader: Bill Black

Scripture Reader: Ruth Cowles

Next Sunday:

Tech Booth - Robin, Kendra, April, Carrie, Jeff

Happy Birthday to ~

Betty Dougan(19)

This Weeks Calendar

Sunday, September 13

10:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
11:15 a.m. Fellowship Hour - Fellowship Hall
11:30 a.m. Deacon's Meeting - Library

Monday, September 14

9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Fellowship Hall
10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open - when two or three are gathered
6:30 p.m. Technology Meeting - Library

Tuesday, September 15 - *Church Office Closed*

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Harmony Hybrid - Upstairs

Wednesday, September 16

9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Fellowship Hall
10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open - when two or three are gathered
1:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting - Library

Thursday, September 17 - *Church Office Closed*

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Harmony Hybrid - Upstairs
10:00 a.m. Christmas Crafters - Fellowship Hall
1:00 p.m. Nominating Committee - Library

Friday, September 18

9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Fellowship Hall
10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open - when two or three are gathered

Saturday, September 19

Sunday, September 20

10:00 a.m. Worship with communion - Sanctuary

Our Church News

Welcome, friends! On this marvelous Sunday, let us open our spirits to the loving presence of God that we may be spiritually fed and renewed by his grace.

Please turn your pledge cards in today if you haven't done so already so our trustees can begin work on the budget for 2027.

ANNUAL REPORTS - please have your report turned in to the church office no later than Sunday, September 27. Thank you!

Is your board or ministry meeting? Are you having a meeting at church? Are you using a room at church? We want to be sure events are on the church calendar. Be sure communicate with the church office so your event can be scheduled.

The Christian Ed Department would like your empty cardboard egg cartons. Please drop them off in the Jelly Room.

The Harvest Parade will once again be using our parking lot for the staging area on Thursday, September 25. We would like to offer homemade or bakery cookies to the participants. If you are willing to donate please bring them to church by Wednesday, September 24.

CROP Walk Sunday is October 4. We will be having our **Noisy Offering** on the last Sunday of September the 27th and that offering will be donated to the CROP walk. On October 4, Woman's Fellowship will be serving an **All You Can Eat Soup Luncheon** (Make a Meal Soup) for a donation to CROP Walk. If you would like to make a donation to CROP Walk - envelopes are available on the table in the narthex. Please make your check payable to CWS/CROP. Thank you for your Support!!

Members and Friends - Men's Fellowship will hold their monthly lunch on Wednesday, October 7 at 12:00 in Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome. A light lunch will be served. Please contact Bill Black (black815@comcast.net) so enough food is prepared. A donation is appreciated. Our speaker for October is Dean Morehouse. Dean's message has relevance to everyone, not just athletic coaches. "We All Coach"! You taught your child to ride a bike or helped them learn to read. You helped a new fellow employee, coached little league or taught someone learn how to bake. All coaching.

Coffee Hosts volunteers are needed - would you be willing to make and serve coffee following worship on occasion? Please sign the sheet on the counter in Fellowship Hall.



