

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.

***Sending**

Pastor Luke Schmalz

***Postlude**

Jack Brooks

Family and Friends,

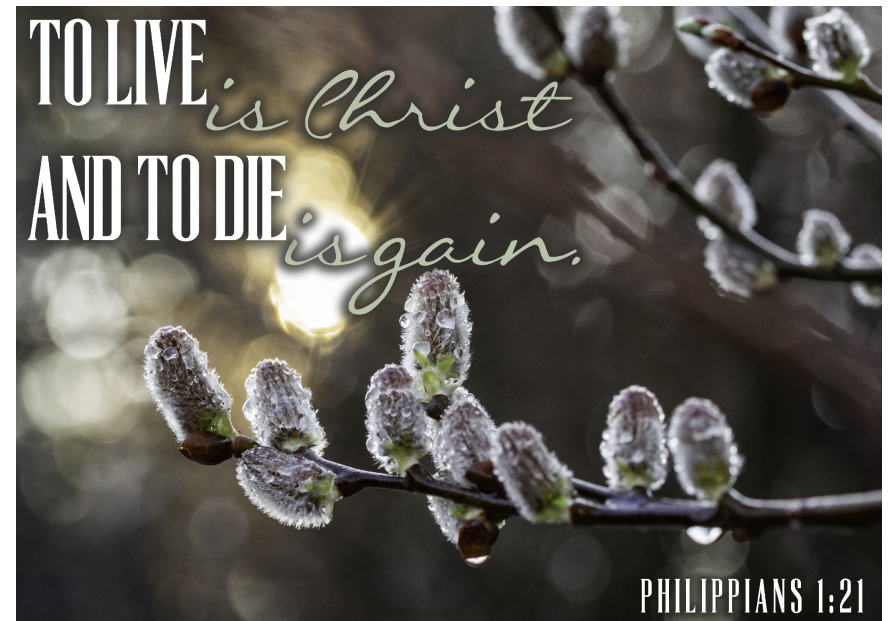
Fall is nearly here! Kids are back in school. Pumpkin spice has infected every product you can imagine. And the nights are getting pleasantly cool. That means that we are rapidly approaching our annual meeting for First Congregational Church. This is an important event. We will vote on a budget and elect 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

The First Congregational Church

Your Independent Worship Center



September 20, 2026

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

Prelude

Jack Brooks

Announcements

Welcome

Call to Worship (Psalm 105)

Pastor: O give thanks to the LORD; call on his name; make known his deeds among the peoples. Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works. Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice. Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually. They asked, and he brought quails and gave them food from heaven in abundance.

All: Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles and the judgments he has uttered,

Pastor: He opened the rock, and water gushed out; it flowed through the desert like a river. For he remembered his holy promise and Abraham, his servant. So he brought his people out with joy, his chosen ones with singing.

All: He gave them the lands of the nations, and they took possession of the wealth of the peoples, that they might keep his statute and observe his laws. Praise the LORD!

Opening Prayer

***Opening Hymn-** “All Creatures of our God and King”- **Blue Hymnal #63**
vs 1,2,3,5

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 16:2-15, Philippians 1:21-30, Matthew 20:1-16

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Message: “To Live is Christ, to Die is Gain” **Pastor Luke Schmalz**

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

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**

***Song of Preparation - “Come to the Table” - Blue Hymnal #464**

Sacrament of Holy Communion (words projected)

Communion Music - “Just As I Am” - Voices of Six

***Sending Hymn - “My Life Is in You, Lord ” - Blue Hymnal #542**

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

Almighty God, we have gathered here today to worship you.

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Altar Rep: Mary Butterick

Greeting us today: Ted Caris

Next Sunday: Luke & Karla Pfeiffer

Song Leader: Voices of Six

Scripture Reader:

Next Sunday:

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

Happy Birthday to ~

Brad Church, John Cooper (20), Nancy Lindner (23)

Happy Anniversary to ~

Pete & Nancy Lindner (23)

This Weeks Calendar

Sunday, September 20

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

11:15 a.m. Fellowship Hour - Fellowship Hall

Monday, September 21

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. Executive Council - Library

Tuesday, September 22 - *Church Office Closed*

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

Wednesday, September 23

9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Fellowship Hall

10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open - when two or three are gathered

Thursday, September 24 - *Church Office Closed*

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

10:00 a.m. Christmas Crafters - Fellowship Hall

4:00 p.m. - ? Harvest Parade Line up - Parking Lot

Friday, September 25

9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Fellowship Hall

10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open - when two or three are gathered

Saturday, September 26

Sunday, September 27

10:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary

Noisy Offering for CROP Walk

Our Church News

With warm hearts and hands, we welcome all who have come to worship the Lord. May this be a time of encouragement and inspiration for us all.

ANNUAL REPORTS - please have your report turned in to the church office **no later** than Sunday, September 27 (that's next Sunday).

The Trustees are still accepting your pledge card for 2027. Please turn them into the church office as soon as possible so they can prepare the budget for 2027. Extra cards are located on the table in the narthex.

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 to communicate with the church office so your event can be scheduled.

Women's Bible Study will not meet on Wednesday, Sept 23. The next meeting will be Wednesday, Sept 30 and we will be changing the time back to 4:00 p.m. so you can get home in the light. All women are invited.

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

The Board of Christian Ed is considering a Trunk or Treat event for Halloween Hours (Oct 31). In order to accomplish this we would need 7-10 volunteers willing to decorate and open their "trunks" to pass out candy. Would you be willing? Contact Crystal and let her know so she can begin planning. Candy donations will also be needed.

The Harvest Parade will once again be using our parking lot for the staging area on Thursday, September 24. 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 23.

CROP Walk Sunday is October 4. We will be having our **Noisy Offering** next 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. Our speaker will be Dean Morehouse Dean's message has relevance to everyone, not just athletic coaches. "We All Coach"!

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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](mailto:congo@fremontfcc.org) Website:

[fremontfcc.org](http://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](http://www.fremontfcc.org) and also on Facebook  
and YouTube.