

WRITERS WANTED

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First Congregational Church of Fruitport
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Pastor Mike Scott 231-865-1455

Communion
first Sunday
each month

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Sunday School
& Church at 10:30



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& Pick up angels at 12:00



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For more information please call Ann Ryke at
(616) 844-4161 or stop by Monday night 6 to 9 p.m. or
Wednesdays 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Regarding obituaries: Abbreviated listings of area deaths are provided as a free service by FAN staff. Those wishing to have a full obituary printed may submit the complete obituary and \$20. A photograph may be included with the obituary for an additional \$5. If you know of someone who has inadvertently been omitted, please tell us.

Mr. Cornelius 'Casey' Doornbos

Mr. Cornelius "Casey" Doornbos, 86, of Fruitport Township passed away Monday, May 25, 2009. He was born in Muskegon on July 21, 1922 to John and Hilje (Klooster) Doornbos and was a life-member of VFW Post #734. He married the former Angeline "Angie" Lintjer who survives him.

Mr. Gerald E. 'Jerry' Johnson

Mr. Gerald E. "Jerry" Johnson, age 79, of Fruitport Township, passed away Monday, May 25, 2009. He was born to Harry and Ruth (Walker) Johnson on April 27, 1930. In 1957, he married the former Bonnie Allers. She survives him.

Memorials: VFW Post 446.

Mr. Elio Lorenzo 'Leo' Marinelli

Mr. Elio Lorenzo "Leo" Marinelli, age 93, of Fruitport, passed away Wednesday, June 17, 2009. He was born November 14, 1915 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to Angelo and Silvia (Armellei) Marinelli and married the former Ann Tardani in 1946. She survives him.

Memorials: VNS Hospice or Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry.

Mrs. Eileen (Maki) McGonigle

Mrs. Eileen H. (Maki) McGonigle, age 77, of Fruitport, passed away Monday, May 11, 2009. She was born August 11, 1931 in Bear Lake Township to Toivo and Jennie (Hilliard) Maki. She married Richard McGonigle in 1956. He preceded her in death.

Memorials: American Diabetes Association or the American Heart Association.

Mr. Andrew M. Paffhausen

Mr. Andrew M. Paffhausen, age 38, of Fruitport, died Sunday, June 28, 2009. He was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan on January 21, 1971 to Marshall and Ingrid (Hohenhaus) Paffhausen, and married the former Desiree Lockhart in 2000. She survives him.

Memorials: Jonathan Paffhausen Education Fund.

Mr. Oscar A. Schultz

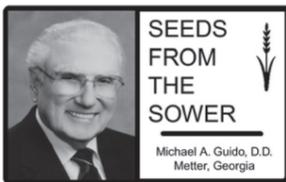
Mr. Oscar A. Schultz, age 83, of Fruitport, passed away Thursday, June 18, 2009. He was born in Fruitport on November 17, 1925 to Louie and Olga Schultz and married Irene Kubicek in 1948. She survives him.

Memorials: American Diabetes Association.

Mrs. Gloria E. TenBrink

Mrs. Gloria E. TenBrink, age 86, of Fruitport, passed away Thursday, June 18, 2009. She was born September 29, 1922 in Ottawa County to Mony and Pauline (Anderson) Johnson and lived in Fruitport most of her life. She married Ernest W. TenBrink who survives her.

Memorials: Alzheimer's Association or the Unity Reformed Church Memorial Fund.



A mother asked, "How can a God of love allow His children to suffer?"

"Do you remember," I asked, "when the doctor pulled a fishhook from your hand?"

"I do," she said, "for it hurt terribly."
"Wasn't your father there?" I asked. "He allowed it, even though he loved you."

"Are you saying," she wondered, "that because God loves me, He allows me to hurt?"

"Yes," I said. "The Bible says, 'We know that all things work together for good.' Not all things are good, but God makes all things work together for our good."

Suffering? Don't ask, "WHEN will I get out of this?" but "WHAT will I get out of this?"

Will miracles never cease?

by Millie Christiansen

Yes, God speaks to us even today. As I began reading II Kings, I marveled at how God reminds us of past and present miracles.

I was reminded of the Israelites marching across the Red Sea (Sea of Reeds) on dry land, all 622,350 of them plus the Egyptians who went with them, a miracle indeed; as well as how God fed them with manna and quail and kept that vast multitude in water, leading them by a cloud by day and fire by night on their way to the Promised Land.

God performed another miracle initiating Joshua's leadership following the death of Moses by allowing the nature he had created to miraculously part the water of the Jordan River (perhaps by an earthquake upstream) to allow God's people, the second generation of Israelites, to cross the river on dry land and then allow them to witness the river's return to its normal spring flooding.

But the miracles didn't stop there! In II Kings, I am brought up in shock as God allowed first Elijah, and then his successor, Elisha, again to cross the Jordan on dry ground (water rolling up to right and left) with fifty men standing by to witness.

But miracles never cease. People in our beloved United States of America anxiously awaited returns of the presidential election of 2004, almost divided half and half as to their desired outcome. My prayer, as I awaited the returns, was not for one or the other candidate to win, but that the Lord's hand be shown clearly as to the leadership we needed and the direction our nation should take in days to come. My prayer now is that our country may become united again in the direction that God will lead us.

May God's miraculous leadership never cease and may we as a nation have the gumption to allow it!•

Charity never faileth

by Rhonda Ison

"And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three: but the greatest of these is charity." I Corinthians 13:13.

Charity is the pure love of Christ out of his purest love and charity. Jesus Christ atoned for the sins of all mankind. He suffered and died but conquered death, and was resurrected so that we may all be resurrected and live again after physical death. Paul says that "Charity suffereth long and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself; is not puffed up; doth not behave itself unseemly; seeketh not her own; is not easily provoked; thinketh no evil; rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; beareth all things; believeth all things; hopeth all things; endureth all things. Charity never faileth." Paul also says that if we have all knowledge, understanding, faith to move mountains, but have not charity, we are nothing.

I think charity is something we should all work for and pray for every single day. As Christians, we cannot turn to the world for guidance and teaching and direction. We must set ourselves apart from the world and turn to the Lord in all things. We must fight against jealousy, worldliness, and false judgment of others. We must remember Christ in all things and in all places and strive to be like Him — to talk like Him — to react like Him — to forgive like Him — and to love like Him. Our Heavenly Father does not expect us to be perfect, but to perfect ourselves to become like our Savior. We must not let the things of the world rob us of heavenly blessings.

Each and every one of us can choose to become righteous disciples of Christ. We can begin every day choosing to emulate the Savior as best we can. Helping others along this treacherous journey of life can only bring us blessings of comfort and peace and make our daily walk more enlightening and Christlike. When I am going through rough times, I remind myself to look around me because there is always someone who is worse off than me. There is always someone who can use a smile or a kind word or a little patience.

Paul wrote to the saints in Colossae, "Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering: Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another. If any man have a quarrel against any, even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness." I Colossians 3:12-13.

I think the best way to prepare to give and receive charity is to begin every day with prayer and scripture study. Take a moment each morning to council with the Lord and receive direction from the Holy Ghost. I would never think of getting on the highway for a long trip without making sure I have a full tank of gas. I know I can also stop along the way to refill, but I liken each day to a long trip. I would not think of walking out into the "world" without a full tank of prayer and scripture study. I know I can stop during the day and refill, because we can pray anywhere and any time, and I take my scriptures almost everywhere I go. I encourage you all to embrace the blessings of Heaven every chance you get as you travel the highway of life.

"The highway of the upright is to depart from evil; he that keepeth his way preserveth his soul." Proverbs 16:17. •

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