

Fruitport Congregational Church Celebrates 150 Years

by Pat Reynolds Stressman

In July 1869, a group of Christian laymen met to form a fellowship of worship and Christian service. The Fruitport Congregational Church thus became the first organized church in the Fruitport community. In 1887, the congregation, made up of many denominations, voted to become congregational.

On December 21, 1890, the new little white church on the corner of Park & 6th Street in Fruitport was completed. The Rev. Richard Lewis of Grand Haven conducted the service of dedication.

Fruitport Congregational Church continued to build a program of Christian service as the community grew. Soon the little white church, once very adequate, was bursting at the seams, and incapable of serving the full mission called for by the congregation.

On Easter Sunday, 1961, the congregation celebrated in its new brick home at the corner of Park & 8th Street. Although it was a little more than two blocks away, it was a great step forward in faith. The congregation, committed to celebrate the Resurrection of Christ that week, also celebrated the dedication of the new building and Christian education facilities.

Shortly after, the congregation voted to become a part of the United Church of Christ. Just recently, the congregation voted to part from the UCC as their views have not aligned with their commitment to the community.

On July 14, 2019, they will hold a special service at 10:00 am, using hymns from 1869 to the present compiled by Mike Scripps. An open house will follow from 11:30-2:00 in the Fellowship Hall with a luncheon and display of the church history. The celebration is being brought to us by a committee consisting of Joyce Tofil, Donna Pope, Mike Scripps, Diane Murphy, Heidi Tice and Art Aldridge. An invitation is extended to all residents of the area to attend.

Calvary Christian School in Fruitport alumnus Erica Mitchell wins National Chemistry Award!

from a Taylor University newspaper article



Congratulations to Class of 2016 Calvary Christian School graduate Erica Mitchell, who was one of 10 college students nationwide to receive the Women Chemists Committee (WCC) Eli Lilly Travel Award. Mitchell, a Chemistry Major with minors in Physics and Mathematics at Taylor University, traveled to Orlando, Florida to present her research at the National Meeting of the American Chemical Society.

Erica commented, "I am thankful for the people who encouraged and influenced me throughout my time at Calvary. I am truly thankful for all the positive support I have gotten for this." She was the 2016 CCS Salutatorian and was also a member of the 2015 and 2016 girls basketball conference and district championship teams.

Mitchell was chosen based on the "scientific merit of (her) research," according to the American Chemical Society's website. She was the first Taylor University student to ever receive the award, and has also competed research at the University of Mississippi. As part of her research, Mitchell studied the binding of a drug to a protein in human blood.

Congratulations, Erica!

5K Road Race: begins at 8:30 am. Check-in and day-of registration 7-8am at FHS football field. Parking at FMS. Online registration at <http://bit.ly/ofdrace>.



Fruitport Old Fashioned Days Run 2019

The Fruitport Old Fashioned Days Run 2019 is on Saturday May 25, 2019.

bit.ly

Muskegon Y's White Elephant Sale

The Muskegon Y's Club 56th Annual White Elephant Sale will be held on **Friday and Saturday, May 17 & 18**, at 1185 Third Street, corner of Merrill, in Muskegon. We will welcome drop-offs, and will schedule Blue Truck pick-ups beginning **May 1st**. Thank you for your past and continued support.

White Elephant Sale Committee | 231-727-9900 | 24/7 Answering Service



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