



# 1st Congregational UCC

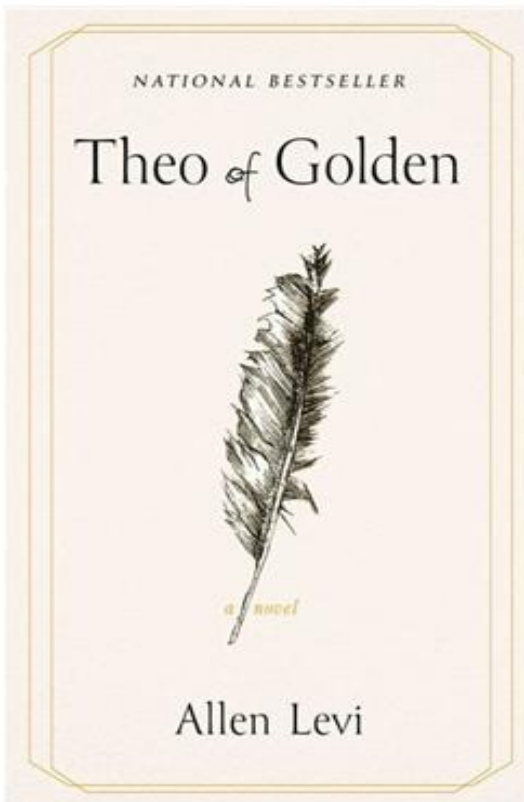
Opening the Doors of Possibility

An Open & Affirming Church



Sunday, June 21, 2026

*(May/June Reaching Out Focus: Community Youth)*



"The key to finding and dwelling in the present moment and all its freshness is in slowing down...Often when we are inconvenienced, we are being asked to slow down...we are being asked to open up and look around." -

From *The Book of Awakenings* by Mark Nepo

# Welcome to our church family!

## Gathering Music

**Tolling of the Bell** - our reminder to quiet ourselves inside *and* out for worship

Opening Song - "The Patient Kingdom" *by Sandra McCracken*

## Welcome

**Opening Hymn** - #35 "Morning Has Broken"

**1st Scripture Reading** - Luke 2:41-52 *offered by Suzanne Balter*

## Music for Reflection

**2nd Scripture Reading** - John 4:1-30, 39-41 *offered by Suzanne Balter*

**Morning Message** - "Lingering: The Most Important Spiritual Practice of All"  
*Offered by Toby Jones*

**Message Hymn** - #483 "Take Time to be Holy"

## Offering

### Offertory

### Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise Him all creatures here below,  
Praise Her above ye heavenly host,  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost, Amen*

**Morning Prayers** - Congregational Response:

***"Slow us down, Lord, that we may linger as Jesus did."***

**Closing Hymn** - #655 "Come Away from Rush and Hurry"

## Benediction

## Postlude

## *Crop Walk Sponsorship Sought*

1st Congregational UCC is seeking a volunteer to represent our congregation in the 22nd Annual Little Traverse CROP Hunger Walk on Saturday, June 27, 2026, in Bay View. For the past 21 years, this meaningful community event has brought people together to help fight hunger both locally and around the world.



Lucy Witthoef  
Cropwalk Recognition

Last year's three-mile walk welcomed more than 100 participants and raised over \$28,000. Twenty-five percent of funds raised support the Manna Food Project, serving Antrim, Charlevoix, and Emmet Counties, while the remaining proceeds support global hunger relief efforts through Church World Service.

In 2024, Lucy Witthoef, who faithfully represented the Charlevoix CROP Walk on behalf of our church for many years, accepted a CWS Legacy Congregation Award from Church World Service. We are deeply grateful for her dedication and commitment to this important ministry. As Lucy steps away from this role, we are hoping someone from our congregation will step up to continue this meaningful tradition.

If you would be interested in being a part of a team walking on behalf of our congregation, please contact the church office. This is a wonderful opportunity to be part of a generous and caring community working together to make a difference.

WALK. GIVE. CHANGE THE WORLD.

# *Little Traverse* **CROP HUNGER WALK**

JUNE 27, 2026

PETOSKEY, MICHIGAN

<https://www.bayviewassociation.org/events/crop-hunger-walk-2026>

Sunday 6/21	Mon 6/22	Tues 6/23	Wed 6/24	Thurs 6/25	Fri 6/26	Sat 6/27	Sunday 6/28
10:30a Worship  11:30a Coffee & Conversation Hour <i>Hosted by Judy Seibert, Patricia Dilworth, Ellen Zienert, Michelle Babcock, &amp; MaryAnn Borths</i>	10:30 a Celebration of Life for Kathy Krueger  6p Personal Pantry	11a-2p CMA Hours  10a Prayer Group	10:30 a Council Meeting  5:30p Uke Group Rehearsal	11a-2p CMA Hours  6:30p Choir Rehearsal			9a Trustees Meeting  10:30a Worship  11:30a Coffee & Conversation Hour <i>Hosted by Potluck Collaboration</i>

**Prayer Requests/  
Celebrations: To submit a  
Prayer Request  
please visit our website at  
chxuuc.org or call the office  
at 231-547-9122**

**Please be sure to get  
permission from the person  
needing prayers.**

Please continue to pray for Alice Pletz-Miller, who is recovering from surgery, the first step in her ongoing cancer treatment.

Please continue to pray for Delores Cain during this final phase of her journey.

Please continue to pray for Lual Deng Awan, for safe travel home from Uganda, and for all the healthcare workers tirelessly caring for the sick, and all those affected by the Ebola outbreak.

Please pray for the family of Kathy Krueger as they mourn her passing. We hope you will show your support by attending her celebration of life tomorrow at 10:30 a.m.



*Hosted by:*

*Judy Seibert, Patricia Dilworth, Ellen Zienert,  
Michelle Babcock, & MaryAnn Borths*

**An Open & Affirming Church**

*Toby Jones, Pastor \* Shelley Fisher, Music Minister  
Stacey Luoma, Office Manager  
Lynette Webb, Childcare Supervisor*

  
*Opening the Doors of Possibility  
1st Congregational Church*

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