

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SAUGATUCK
BOARD OF MINISTRY
October 10, 2022

Call to order: Moderator Brockington at 6:35 pm.

Devotional: Pastor Sarah

Present: Rudich, Boyce, Raue, Brockington, T. Terlouw, Yff, Gentry, Rusieski

Absent: Kolev

Minutes: Motion to approve the September 12, 2022 minutes. (Yff/Boyce). Unanimous approval.

Public Comment: Thank you to the St. John's church for their donation of chimes and everything that goes with them to our church. Thank you to Pastor Sarah for cleaning up the gardens.

Treasurer Report: As of 9/30/22, there is \$19,907 in the general fund checking. The unrestricted Heritage fund balance is at \$50,312, which is down due to YTD losses & draws. YTD Money Market transfers are \$45,000. September budgeted expenses were \$11,914 and collections were \$11,042. Parking lot donations through July were \$11,312.

Moderator Report: The monarch festival was a success – all of the sixteen people who attended were from town.

Clerk Report: We added two members to our congregation – Jim & Nyla Hensley.

Delegate Report: A report regarding the WMACCC meeting on Saturday, September 17 in Greenville was included in the newsletter. MACCC meeting October 21-22 at Mayflower Congregational Church in Lansing and on Zoom.

Pastor's Report:

Looking Back: Tech Area – A time for Parkway Electric to come back to look at our Loop system will be scheduled.

Looking Around: Fall Book Study – the study of Diana Butler Bass's book Freeing Jesus will run from October 12 through November 9. Copies are available on the Welcome desk. Douglas Cove Programming – we will be returning to holding a once a month worship service at Douglas Cove, possibly the first Sunday of the month so we can offer communion. November/December Newsletter Articles – articles to include are nominating opportunities, MACCC meeting, Thanksgiving basket item, Heritage Sunday preview and Advent preview. Children, Youth & Vulnerable People Safety Policy – we are waiting for a call back from Church Mutual to consult on developing our safety policy.

Looking Ahead: Winter Ministry Ideas – Caroling at the nursing home, (December 18 after church), possibly march in the Christmas Parade, hanging of the greens (after church on November 27), ordering poinsettias. Advent Banner – preparation of banners will happen at an arts & crafts day sometime in mid-November. Christmas Eve/Christmas Day Plans – Christmas is on a Sunday so we will possibly be doing a lessons/carols/poems service. Christmas Eve candlelight service is also planned.

Christian Ed: Sunday School Duo's were started in September but haven't worked out for October.

Community Life: Sign up sheets are available for the chili cook-off & pumpkin carving contest. Heritage Sunday will be November 20, will put out potluck sign up sheets. Looking at including indigenous foods. Possibly having a church cookie exchange on December 18.

Worship Arts: Sign up sheets for weekly worship volunteers are filling up. Special music is being planned.

Stewardship & Missions: Our church participated in the crop Walk on September 18 – we had three walkers and raised around \$1,335. Christian Neighbors theme for this month is Souptober so they are looking for donations for soup. October 20 will be the annual Christian Neighbors meeting where we'll find out what we need to contribute to the Thanksgiving baskets.

Congregational Care: Received an email that Amory is resigning as a shepherd.

Building Updates: The elevator was serviced. The new welcome desk and stair railings will be stained.

Old Business:

Stained Glass Project: Richard Henley brought his drawings for three options for the stained glass art. We haven't received an invoice from him yet.

Student Ministries Candidates: We haven't had anyone apply. Will keep trying.

Capital Campaign Projects: Will be discussed in meeting tomorrow.

Visitor Cards: Pastor Sarah presented an idea for visitor cards.

Organ Repair: The person who could possibly repair the organ didn't work out.

New Business:

2023 Budget: Will get worksheets out.

Nominating Committee 2023 Board Positions: Officers and two captains will be up for election.

Fall Congregational Planning Meeting: October 24 at 7 pm.

Board of Ministry Retreat: November 12 in the afternoon.

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

Bible Study – Lectio Thursdays at 12:30

Wednesday Evenings – “Freeing Jesus” book discussion at 5:00 pm.

Sunday Service – every Sunday in person, rebroadcast online on Wednesdays.

Next Board of Ministry Meeting – November 14, 2022 at 6:30pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Janna Rudich, Clerk