

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SAUGATUCK**  
**BOARD OF MINISTRY**  
**December 12, 2022**

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

**Devotional:** Pastor Sarah

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

**Absent:** Kolev, Rusiecki

**Minutes:** Motion to approve the November 14, 2022 minutes. (Gentry/Boyce). Unanimous approval.

**Public Comment:** Reminder to include a picture of the chime choir when mailing the thank you card to the St. John's congregation. Janet Hanscom had a car accident.

**Treasurer Report:** As of 11/30/22, there is \$12,063 in the general fund checking. The unrestricted Heritage fund balance is \$89,096, which is down due to YTD losses & draws. YTD Money Market transfers are \$45,000. November budgeted expenses were \$12,009 and collections were \$7,425. Parking lot donations through November were \$11,524.

**Moderator Report:** Spoke to Cindy and she agreed to come back as building chair.

**Clerk Report:** There was a funeral on December 9 and a wedding on December 17.

**Delegate Report:** No report.

**Pastor's Report:**

**Looking Back:** The Whootville Christmas Parade went well; we had eight people who came out to march. We passed out 180 invitations to worship along with candy canes and flyers. Services at Douglas Cove started up again on December 11 with 15 residents joining in our worship. We started using YouTube for our worship service livestream platform which went well. Need to tweak the liturgist microphone because it is too soft.

**Looking Around:** Feedback on the two worship changes, pausing on passing the offering plate and the church connect cards. The pause on offering is going well except for some members waiting too long to leave the sanctuary until after the plate has been brought downstairs. Will make sure the signage is emphasized so that the offering can be put in before the service instead. No one has used the Church Connect cards yet but hopefully in the future. Upcoming Christmas services – Blue Christmas on December 14 at 7pm, Candlelight Christmas Eve on December 24 at 7pm and Christmas Day on December 25 at 10am.

**Looking Ahead:** Newsletter articles – notification of annual meeting, undocking the halls (after worship on January 8), giving envelopes, possible trivia event in February, Christmas offering to benefit Christian Neighbors. Outreach ideas – the Christmas parade went very well, prayer walk was meaningful.

**Missions:** Donations were brought to Christian Neighbors who will also be the recipient of the Christmas Eve offering.

**Congregational Care:** No report.

**Building Updates:** Hand towel dispenser was replaced, removed wallpaper, changed light bulbs and furnace filters, adjusted the outside light timer.

**Community Life:** Heritage Sunday Potluck was very successful. Advent banners created by members are on display. Whootville Christmas Parade was enjoyed by all who participated. Cookie exchange is planned for December 18 at which time cookie tins for military members will be assembled and mailed.

**Worship Arts:** Staying busy with all of the Advent activities and services.

**Christian Ed:** The ornament making event during Sunday School went over well.

#### **Old Business:**

**Stained Glass Project:** Studio offered to complete the window project for \$35,000 if it can be done this winter. Discussion regarding cost, options regarding design, donating it instead to someone for their own use.

**Capital Campaign Projects:** Much discussion regarding survey results for the 'wants' portion of the campaign. Ten votes for new carpet, five votes for the stained glass window project and four votes for landscaping. Decision to table the discussion until the next meeting.

**Roger Organ Donation:** Motion to accept the donation of the organ and approve the cost to move and install it not to exceed \$5,000 (Gentry/Boyce). Unanimous approval. Need to figure out what to do with the existing organ (possible recycle)

**Nominating Committee 2023 Board Positions:** Have most open board positions filled.

#### **New Business:**

**Year End Reports: The Board** looked over the year end reports that were presented.

**2023 Budget:** Phyllis went through all of the items on the proposed budget. Motion to present the 2023 budget to the congregation at the annual meeting on January 15 with income and expenses of \$198,563 (Gentry/Raue). Unanimous approval.

**Annual Meeting:** January 15, 2023

#### **Upcoming Dates to Remember:**

Bible Study – Lectio Thursdays at 12:30

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

**Next Board of Ministry Meeting – January 9, 2023 at 6:30pm**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.**

Janna Rudich, Clerk