

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SAUGATUCK
BOARD OF MINISTRY
August 9, 2021

Call to order: Moderator Brockington at 6:39 pm.

Present: Rudich, Escott, Gentry, Raue, Boyce, Brockington, Yff, Terlouw, Rusiecki

Also Present: Pastor Sarah Terlouw

Absent: None

Minutes: Motion to approve the July 12, 2021 minutes (Gentry/Yff). Unanimous approval.

Public Comment: The Women's Fellowship has agreed to take over the bake sales. They've decided that half of the proceeds will go towards new outside church doors and the other half will be divided among the Boys/Girls Club, Douglas Park Project and Hazardous Waste Day. Thank you to Russ Davis who will be donating a baby grand piano to the church. Thank you to Dan Mayer for all his work with music during the service.

Treasurer Report: The General Fund is slowly decreasing but we've not had to take any draws from the Endowment Fund. The Unrestricted Heritage Fund Balance is \$195,545 at the end of June. Parking lot donations through July 31 are \$4,044 which is almost double from last year. Motion to accept and file the Treasurer's report (Escott/Gentry). Unanimous approval.

Moderator Report: Russ Davis is going to be donating his late wife Janelle's baby grand piano to the church. This piano will replace the one that is now in the chapel and the piano now in the chapel will be moved to Kristyn's house. Two moving companies were contacted and both quotes were around \$500.00. Both are very busy so the move might not happen until the end of August. Russ will need to be contacted to ask when the piano will need to be moved since he is in the process of selling his house. Motion to approve an estimate of \$500.00 to move one piano from Russ Davis' house to the church and then move one piano from the church to Kristyn's house (Raue/Rusiecki). Unanimous approval.

Clerk Report: No report.

Delegate Report: The MACCC meeting is in September in Greenville.

Pastor's Report:

Online Worship/Sanctuary Audio

Parkway Electric was called to look into issues people have been having with the Loop system. He determined that our Loop receiver was a first-generation model which might be part of the problem. He installed an upgraded receiver and many of the Loop system issues were resolved. He left the new receiver in place so that we could try it out at the August 15th worship service. He also suggested updating the sound mixer which might improve the sound quality we're having with the livestream. Discussion regarding the possibility of the service being able to be heard in the nursery/fellowship room again if upgraded and is there a difference between an analog and a digital system. We should also possibly look in to buying new microphones and cords. We need a specific list of items that are needed to upgrade to an analog/digital system. Motion to purchase a new loop system if the trial one that's been installed works out and that it would work with an updated analog/digital system (Raue, Terlouw). Unanimous approval. Motion to investigate and formulate a list of needs to upgrade our sound system (Rusiecki/Escott). Unanimous approval.

Upcoming Time Away

Pastor Sarah will be gone to a conference in North Carolina from August 31st through September 7th. Kristyn will look in to getting pulpit supply.

Building/Grounds Report: A new screen for the sanctuary window was installed. Picked up panel for covering the hole where the drinking fountain was. Thinking about installing bricks next to the new sign to help people when they change the sign letters. The old sign is waiting to dry out before being restored and placed in its new location.

Christian Education Report: Bible navigation practice is continuing. Work on the mural is continuing and it should be done before September's Homecoming Sunday. The kids are doing a good job working on it and being responsible with clean up when working by themselves. Sunday School is staffed through August. Cindy Raue will be acting Christian Education Captain while Linda is gone from August 14-24. Bibles to give to Sunday School kids entering middle school are ready but need to make sure that the families can be present to receive them. They are usually given on the last Sunday in August.

Community Life Report: Women's Fellowship will be taking over the bake sales as discussed earlier in the meeting. Music in the Park will be extended into September so we need to determine if the bake sales should continue as well. Fellowship Hour volunteers are set through August. Need to start thinking of ideas for our next event.

Congregational Care Report: Pastor Sarah talked to the director at Grace of Douglas regarding resuming our church services that used to be held on the 2nd Sunday. The first service was scheduled for September 12. Shepherds' lists are out.

Stewardship/Mission Report: Brought 59 boxes of cereal to Christian Neighbors. Reached out to area churches regarding the Crop Walk and it seems only our church and UCC of Douglas are interested in putting it on. The walk will be on September 12. Ads will go out and donations are mostly done online now.

Worship Arts Report: Wendy VanTassel will cover the September 5 service and Tom VanTassel will cover the October 31 service.

Old Business:

Weekly Bake Sale Proceeds – covered earlier in the meeting.

New Sign Progress – covered earlier in the meeting.

Stained Glass Project – Myrna sent an update letter. The window will not fit above the planter but it could possibly go in the sanctuary instead. We still need a budget and a scale drawing. Should we still consider separating the window into separate pieces if it doesn't work to hang the whole window?

Ushers Training – Usher training went well. We need to schedule AED training.

Fall Faith Development Retreat – We need ideas for a retreat. We could possibly rent a room at the Community Church.

Sabbatical Ideas – A committee of Cathy Brockington, Phyllis Yff and Cindy Raue has been formed to come up with language concerning a sabbatical to put into the contract letter.

New Business:

Covid Resurge Ideas – due to the upswing in COVID cases, we might have to revisit the mask policy soon.

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 – September 13, 2021 at 6:30pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm.

Janna Rudich, Clerk