

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SAUGATUCK**  
**BOARD OF MINISTRY**  
**January 9, 2023**

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

**Devotional:** Pastor Sarah

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

**Absent:** Kolev, Rusiecki

**Also Present:** Jewett, Plapp

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

**Public Comment:** Reminder to send a thank you card to the St John's Congregation for the chimes donation.

**Treasurer Report:** As of 12/31/22, there is \$14,650 in the general fund checking. The unrestricted Heritage fund balance is \$73,783, which is down due to YTD losses & draws. YTD Money Market transfers are \$45,000. December budgeted expenses were \$13,965 and collections were \$9,657. Parking lot donations through December were \$11,600.

**Moderator Report:** Invited two of the new BOM members to tonight's meeting.

**Clerk Report:** No report.

**Delegate Report:** No report.

**Pastor's Report**

**Looking Back:** Review of the Advent worship series titled 'From Generation to Generation'. People thought it went well and was very meaningful especially the poetry included with the series. No one has had issues with not passing the offering plate so will continue that for now.

**Looking Around:** Discussion regarding possible 2023 annual theme ideas. The one chosen is 'Imagine the Possibilities' based on Proverbs 16:3. This will be presented in the annual meeting.

**Looking Ahead:** Discussion regarding books for the Lenten Soup Supper. The one chosen is 'Witness at the Cross' by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine. Beginning at the BOM meeting in February, every board member will be given a couple of church policies that need to be created or revised. Examples are: kitchen rentals, tracking building needs and upkeep, shepherds Program, social media policy, responding to memorial gifts, children & youth safety policies, church covenant & member expectations, wedding cost and contact info and how-to guides for setting up various worship activities. Lent activities – Ash Wednesday on February 22, Lenten soup suppers on Wednesdays from March 1 through April 5. Easter on April 9.

**Missions:** Went over proposed mission projects for 2023: February would be collecting for a community fund which we could use to support various community projects as we are approached by groups from the community, Easter would be collecting for A Christian Ministry in the National Parks which is a student led ministry in the national parks, Summer would be collecting for Fellinlove Farm, Thanksgiving would be collecting for Christian Neighbors and Christmas Eve would be collecting for the Love Fund. Discussion regarding the crop walk – decision to keep the church involved but investigate some other options.

**Congregational Care:** Working on the service members wall.

**Building Updates:** Got the bill to repair the carpet by the front doors lowered. Liturgist microphone is soft on the online worship feed.

**Community Life:** Cookie exchange went very well, will be an annual event. Planning on a trivia event on February 18 – looking for ideas, possibly movie trivia.

**Worship Arts:** Thanks to those who helped with undocking the Christmas decorations. Working on pulpit supply.

**Christian Ed:** Kids had fun chalking the church doorways.

#### **Old Business:**

**Annual Meeting Format:** Discussion and decision to hold the annual meeting over Zoom.

**Capital Campaign Projects:** Fund raising for the capital campaign projects will run through September 1. The needs portion of the project include new furnaces & air conditioners, work on the front steps, signage for the outside of the building and benches for the sidewalk in front of church. After much discussion, the wants portion of the project will be new carpet for the sanctuary since that choice got the majority of congregational votes. Motion to approve replacement of carpet in the sanctuary as our capital campaign 'want'. (T. Terlouw/Yff). Unanimous approval. Discussion regarding the draft of campaign letter and pledge form. Going over the annual meeting agenda.

**Roger Organ Donation:** The organ is now in storage, will hopefully be installed in February. We'll need to clean out the speaker area before the organ comes.

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

#### **New Business:**

**Year End Reports:** BOM members are asked to have their annual reports in to the office by Tuesday, January 10.

**2023 Budget:** Went over the budget that was approved at the last BOM meeting.

**Annual Meeting:** January 15, 2023. BOM members asked to bring munchies.

#### **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 – February 13, 2023 at 6:30pm**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm.**

Janna Rudich, Clerk