

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SAUGATUCK
BOARD OF MINISTRY
July 12, 2021

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

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

Also Present: Pastor Sarah Terlouw

Absent: Rusieski

Minutes: Motion to approve the June 14, 2021 minutes (Gentry/Yff). Unanimous approval.

Public Comment: Thank you to the VanTassel's for leading the music at the church picnic service. Thank you to Fellinlove Farms for hosting our church picnic.

Treasurer Report: Received \$1,800 from the parking lot over the last two weekends.

Moderator Report: The ICF conference will be held virtually. Tom VanTassel will provide information on how to interact with the conference.

Clerk Report: Bonnie Raue's memorial was held on July 10, 2021. Two members transferred to Ganges UCC.

Delegate Report: The MACCC will be held in September and the WMACC will be held in October.

Pastor's Report:

Will be concentrating on delegating more of her responsibilities so she's not working too much.
Would like to schedule a Pastor's Relations meeting.

Building/Grounds Report: Still working on filling the hole in the wall where the drinking fountain used to be.

Christian Education Report: Averaging about three kids per Sunday although there were seven at the church picnic service. Kids will be working on the mural on the first Sunday of the month before communion. Reviewed Sunday School director job description and CE captain description. Will be gone in August but has Sunday School materials ready for those who will be leading Sunday School.

Community Life Report: Bake sales are going well, kids especially love the 'smile for licorice'. Should we be thinking about having sugar free options available? Need volunteers for the last couple of weeks. Out door service & picnic was very popular, wondering if Fellinlove Farm should become our annual location. Fellowship hour is starting up and moving inside again but need more volunteers to sign up. Should start to come up with ideas and plan for our next activities.

Congregational Care Report: No report.

Stewardship/Mission Report: We collected an additional \$162.00 at the church picnic for a total of \$528.00 that was donated to Fellinlove Farms.

Worship Arts Report: Looking for music at the August outdoor service. Working on a possible new hymn. The organ needs servicing, Bob Ruddy is putting together a report on what needs to be done.

Old Business:

Weekly Bake Sale Proceeds – Discussion regarding how to use the proceeds from the bake sale. After many different suggestions it was decided to give the proceeds to the Women's Fellowship to administer. Motion to assign the proceeds of the Music in the Park bake sales to the Women's Fellowship for them to administer. (Raue/Rudich). Unanimous approval.

New Sign Progress – The new sign is done and ready to be installed, possibly this week. The old sign has been removed and will be restored before being installed in its new position next to the historical marker.

Stained Glass Project – Nothing new, waiting on drawings and other details.

Ushers Training – There hasn't been any attendance noted since we've come back to in-person worship. We should ask the former head usher if he is willing to continue his job. Usher training is needed for when the church hosts larger gatherings. The first training session will be after the service on August 1.

New Business:

Fall Faith Development Retreat – Would like to schedule a weekend in the fall for the congregation to gather for a retreat that focuses on creative activities instead of business or planning activities. Several people will investigate options.

Sabbatical Ideas – Pastor Sarah has asked to be granted a sabbatical. She has several ideas of what she would like to spend the time on. There was much discussion regarding what comprises a sabbatical – how long the sabbatical would last, is it paid or non paid, does the time spent have to be on things religious in nature, who would fill in for pulpit supply, etc. The importance of a sabbatical to give the pastor some time away from her normal duties was stressed. The item will be tabled until next meeting to give time to gather comparable information from other churches & pastors regarding their experiences with sabbaticals.

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 – August 9, 2021 at 6:30pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:09 pm.

Janna Rudich, Clerk