

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SAUGATUCK
BOARD OF MINISTRY
June 14, 2021

Call to order: Moderator Brockington at 6:36 pm.

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

Absent: T. Terlouw, Rusieski

Minutes: Motion to approve the May 10, 2021 minutes (Raue/Escott). Unanimous approval.

Public Comment:

Pastor's Report:

Center for Parish Development

Our partnership with the Center for Parish Development was put on hold during the pandemic. We had held a leadership retreat to identify areas of focus for our church community and we had completed two studies from their curriculum exploring the topic of renewal/new creation in the church. We also had plans underway to invite a round table of community leaders together to help define our reality in Saugatuck. At this time, the CPD has invited our church to a Zoom meeting with several other NA sister churches. The Zoom meeting is on June 15th at 1pm. Board members were encouraged to attend if they were able.

MCSC Event – Saturday July 24th, 10-4 pm

Michigan Congregational Summer camp has been canceled this year. However, they are inviting MCSC and MiPF students to a one-day rally event at Potters Park Zoo in Lansing. The event will include worship, carnival activities, scavenger hunt and lunch from a food truck. Linda will contact parents of the church kids who are eligible to attend. Phyllis will put the invitation in the weekly newsletter. The church will provide scholarships from the PF funds for those wanting to attend to pay for their admission fee.

Sabbatical Ideas

This was tabled until the next meeting.

Fall Faith Development Retreat

Pastor Sarah would like to possibly organize a creative retreat for the congregation. We could do some activities and spend some time in each other's company. Discussion regarding attendees, would it just be the BOM members?

Treasurer Report: The general fund checking account balance is \$7,031 and the Unrestricted Heritage Fund balance is \$183,985. The collections for May were greater than the budgeted expenses.

Clerk Report: No report

Delegate Report: This weekend is the NACCC annual meeting. Board members were encouraged to choose at least one of the sessions to listen to. Sunday at around 1:00 there will be an all-denomination worship service.

Moderator Report: Very much enjoyed the hymn sing that Kristyn organized last Sunday.

Building/Grounds Report: The ADHD toilets have been installed and the drinking fountain has been removed. Raue will work on repairing the wall. Also, the front steps have been painted.

Christian Education Report: Students are being encouraged to use their Bibles during Sunday School. The students will be creating a mural with various lids to be dedicated in September to the memory of Miss Diana. A noisy offering was collected on June 13 totaling over \$500. Students are remaining in church on the first Sunday of the month. They are given a bulletin to complete during the service which when they turn it in, will receive a prize. It has been hard to get parents or anyone to sign up to lead Sunday School. Justine Kolev has volunteered to fill in as needed. Keeping parents informed on Sunday School with limited responses. No official job description for the CE director has been submitted so will be tabled until it is received.

Community Life Report: Planning and signups for baking and setup/working are starting for the bake sales during Music in the Park. An announcement will be made in the weekly newsletter. Will need a cash box put together. It might be nice to have a container to collect pop cans to donate to one of our missions. Getting set up early is helpful since there is easier access to parking before it becomes too crowded. There was much discussion on deciding what to do with the money we collect from the bake sales. The church has been approached by both community and charity organizations regarding projects that need contributions. We also have a lot of building projects around the church that need to be accomplished and with the Women's Fellowship not able to help as they have in the past, some of the money collected could be set aside for those projects. We could donate a portion of the proceeds to our Summer Missions although our first of the year and end of the year Missions would not receive anything. We could also tithe a portion of the proceeds for use towards any mission project and then use the balance for church projects. The feeling seemed to be that we would be more open to donating the bake sale funds to non-profit's rather than more of a community project. It also helps to have a specific project in mind when asked at the bake sale where the funds donated will be used. A motion was made to use the first two bake sale funds toward the cost of the church picnic at Fellinlove Farms and the use the rest of the bake sale funds will be determined at a later time. Raue motioned and Rudich seconded with unanimous approval.

Congregational Care Report: No report.

Stewardship/Mission Report: Eighth Day Farm was contacted and John spoke at the June 13th service explaining their mission. Noisy offering of over \$500 was collected. Christ of the Villages has confirmed they received our Easter donation of \$475. Cereal boxes continue to be donated and brought to Christian Neighbors. Discussion earlier in the Community Life report regarding using bake sale money for the church picnic. The director of Fellinlove Farm will hopefully be speaking at one of our services in July.

Worship Arts Report: Wendy & Tom VanTassell will be leading the music at the church picnic. Michael Hewlett will possibly be back in August to perform at the outdoor service.

Old Business:

New Sign Bid – No information received prior to the BOM meeting so will be tabled for now.

Stained Glass Project – A report was received from Myrna Dornan regarding the stained glass project. She met with Jerry Burnink at the church to discuss repurposing a stained glass window that has been stored for a number of years. Mr. Burnink's plan would be to reframe the window into a box that could be lit from within. However, since it will be very heavy, it would have to be secured through the cement block wall with bolts that would show on the inside of the wall in the sanctuary. There was a lot of discussion regarding the project. It was determined that \$4,000 had been allocated for this project from the Memorial Fund. Questions included: need detailed plans that show the placement of the window and how it would be bolted, would the money allocated cover everything associated with reframing and hanging the window, how would the window be moved and put into place after it's ready to be hung, how would the lighting be changed behind the window after it's bolted into the wall, could the window be broken up into smaller pieces and hung around the church to eliminate the need for bolts, could the stained glass window be put into the window behind the piano instead which would help with it being too bright for anyone playing the piano. It was decided that since there are many unanswered questions,

we would ask Myrna to come to the next Board of Ministry meeting to clarify the concerns the board has with this project before moving ahead with it.

New Business:

Mask Policy Enforcement – Yff & Raue will enforce the mask policy on the last two Sundays in June that the state mandate is in place.

Collection Counters Sign Up – addressed earlier in the meeting.

Usher Training – would like to have some type of usher training especially for services/events that will draw a lot of people into the church.

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 – July 12, 2021 at 6:30pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 pm.

Janna Rudich, Clerk