

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SAUGATUCK
BOARD OF MINISTRY
March 8, 2021

This month's meeting was held via Zoom.

Call to order: Moderator Brockington at 6:37 pm. Devotions by Pastor Terlouw.

Present: Rudich, Escott, Yff, Raue, Rusiecki, Boyce, Brockington, T. Terlouw

Absent: Gentry

Also Present: Pastor Terlouw

Minutes: Motion to approve the February 8, 2021 minutes (Yff/Escott). unanimous approval.

Public Comment: Thank you to Janna Rudich for getting a new monitor for the office, to Cindy for replacing the office light bulb, to Doris for setting up the new printer. Discussion regarding reinstalling a carillon system for the church bells but making sure that the noise isn't disruptive to neighbors. Discussion regarding offering the use of the bell tower as a cell phone tower which would bring in some income.

Pastor's Report:

Church Staff News

Office Manager Doris Hicks submitted her resignation letter due to her time being needed to care for her mother. She will stay on until Mid-May and even later than that if she is needed. Work has begun on creating a job description with possible job posting around the 20th of March.

Holy Week/Easter Worship

Palms have been ordered for Palm Sunday some of which might possibly be dropped off along with goody bags to the congregation. Drop-in Stations of the Cross are going to be set up around the church property during Holy Week. There will be a drop-in Maundy Thursday service during which communion will be offered. Discussion regarding the Easter worship service – having the service at a different time than the usual, having a drive-in service, having a virtual service. We can only have 50% occupancy at that time but don't think that will be an issue. Pastor Sarah is working on the Holy Humor service – thinking about a VH1 Pop-up Video style service.

Regathering

Discussion regarding re-opening for in-person worship on Pentecost which is May 23. Hoping that enough people will be vaccinated by that time for them to be comfortable coming to worship. Discussion regarding Fellowship Hour – possibly setting up round tables outside for people to sit at either in the parking spaces in front of the church or by blocking off part of the parking lot. It would be good to have both in person worship and virtual worship available.

Church Director-Photographer

Pastor Sarah is still working on collecting directory photos. She has also interviewed local photographers and has found someone who would be available. The plan is to do three sessions with Emily Varley – one at the end of March for staff photos and photos around the church building, one at an in person fellowship event this summer for photos of the congregation and one at an in person worship service this fall. Each of these events would cost \$300/event. It would be good to come up with a list of photos that would capture our mission statement of Loving God, loving each other and serving the community.

Short Range/Long Range Plans

Pastor Sarah has contacted five people to be on the task team for short range/long range planning. They would meet a couple of times over the next couple of months when the task team is assembled.

Treasurer Report: Balance in the checkbook was \$7,007 at the end of February. Balance in the unrestricted Heritage Fund was \$145,952 at the end of January. Working on PPP Forgiveness application,

Clerk Report: No report.

Delegate Report: The NACCC meetings on June 19-20 will be online this year. There will also be two speakers along with the business meeting. Our Sunday service on June 20 will be the NACCC Sunday service. The MACCC & WMACCC might be in person but not sure yet.

Moderator Report: All of the captains are encouraged to listen to one of the speakers at the NACCC this year.

Building/Grounds Report: Smoke detectors and CO2 detectors were installed. A plumber was contacted to replace five toilets and remove the drinking fountain. Looking for memorial benches for outside the church. Yard clean up on March 27 at 10am. The sign approval is on the agenda at the Historical Commission. We will wait on bark delivery.

Christian Education Report: Touched base with kids. Kids will get post card, High School kids will get a card and prayer square. College kids will get something in May. Will look at last year's leftover stuff to see if anything can be reused. Working on Sunday School director job description. Possible Youth Sunday in June. Seven parents participated in survey. Sunday School director will have mostly middle schoolers. Finals week care package for college students.

Community Life Report: Looking into parking lot coffee hour.

Congregational Care Report: Could Shepherds be involved in collecting directory photos.

Stewardship/Mission Report: Mission brochure completed. Revamping donation corner at church. Contacting Christ in the Villages.

Worship Arts Report: Special music is lined up for the next couple of weeks. Working on music for Easter.

Congregational Way:

Old Business:

Sunday School Director open position search will be postponed until results of the survey are in.

New Sign Bid – Going to present the sign to the historical commission at their March meeting.

Stained Glass – No activity until the builder Myrna found gets back from Florida in April.

Action Items:

We need to work on an energy audit.

Taking suggestions for Easter services as to in-person and/or online.

COVID vaccination help is ongoing and former members will be contacted to see they require help.

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

Bible Study – Lectio Thursdays at 12:30

Sunday Service – every Sunday online

Lenten Book Study – 7 pm, starting February 17 on Zoom “Faith after Doubt”

Zoom or in person Next Board of Ministry meeting –February 8, 2021 6:30pm

Next Board of Ministry Meeting –April 12, 2021 at 6:30pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Janna Rudich, Clerk