

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
MINUTES OF THE BOARD
December 20, 2022

Moderator Chuck Rounds called the regular meeting of the Board to order at 5:04 p.m. Those present were Chuck Rounds, Eileen Rossow, Patti Arneson, Carol Boyles, Pat Lebrun, Susan Kelts, Cam Miller, Becky Fisher, Denise Webster, and Dave Ledford.

Chuck Rounds gave devotions from the book by Lynn Hinton, Meditations for Walking based on Micah 6:8.

The minutes of the November 14, 2022 board meeting were approved with a motion by Pat Lebrun and a second by Susan Kelts.

The sign-up sheet for money counters was passed.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. Buildings and Grounds Dave Ledford reported that we have had three heat related incidents recently. Two were specifically problems with the air handlers. He believes that it is necessary to install an alarm thermostat in the building to monitor temperatures which will identify problems when no one is around. He is meeting with the lighting maintenance people on Thursday to talk about replacement of outside lights and installation of motion detectors on the front of the building.
2. Stewardship and Budget Pat Lebrun reported that our financials are good with the help that expenses are under budget. The ornament fundraiser for the fire suppression system has raised \$1,513. We have invested in 90 day T-bills and they are earning the church some added revenue. The final bill for the boiler in the approximate amount of \$82,300. has been received.
3. Education Patti Arneson reported that the Advent Art program went well and that the children will be participating in the Christmas Eve services on Saturday.
4. Hospitality Cam Miller is resigning from the committee and she has three names of people who would be interested in working on the Hospitality committee. There was discussion about membership requirements for committee participation.
5. Ministries No Report.
6. Worship No Report.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. Infection Control Procedures. Susan Kelts suggested that our signs should indicate that if a person is showing symptoms, a mask should be worn. Susan will work with Patti to come up with wording for the sign.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Patti Arneson reported that the new telephone system will be installed on December 30th.
2. Eileen Rossow reported on the church bell operation. I.T. Verdin has been contacted and they have submitted a proposal for the fabrication and updating of the bell equipment. Cost estimates are \$23,316.00. This does not include removal and shipment of the bell, electrical wiring, equipment for removal and reinstallation of the bell, and any licenses or permits. It was decided that further investigation would be necessary including the utilization of a local electrician to determine if less expensive alternatives are available.
3. The Annual Meeting will be held on January 29th, 2023.

4. The Nominating Committee consists of the three Church Board Representatives and is chaired by the Past Moderator. Many of the departments have already been working on acquiring new members. It was agreed that each department should keep the Nominating Committee informed of any new members to their departments.
5. Eileen Rossow reported that the Pastoral Search Committee has interviewed Erin Erickson for the position of Designated Term Minister. This would be a full time position with an annual review and renewal. This would continue until Erin is fully ordained, which could take from one to three years. The committee has voted to recommend to the board that an invitation for a candidating weekend be extended to Erin. The candidating weekend would include a reception, Sunday morning services where Erin would give the sermon, and then a formal congregational meeting where the members would vote to extend a call to the position. A two-thirds majority vote is required. If Erin is called and accepts the call, the Pastoral Search Committee would remove the search profile from publication and would disband. Pat Lebrun moved that the Board approve the invitation for a candidating weekend to Erin Erickson. Dave Ledford seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Devotions will be given by Susan Kelts for the January meeting.

The next Board meeting will be January 17, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Eileen Rossow
Clerk