FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

MINUTES OF THE BOARD

August 16, 2022

Moderator Chuck Rounds called the regular meeting of the Board to order at 7:05 p.m. Those present were Chuck Rounds, Eileen Rossow, Patti Arneson, Cam Miller, Harold Miller, Alicia Sutliff-Benusis, Bonnie Edwards, Becky Fisher, Sheila Long, Carol Boyles, Pat Lebrun, and Dave Ledford.

Patti Arneson gave devotions on the Grateful Heart.

There was one addition to the agenda. Patti Arneson added the Black Hills Chamber Music Society.

The minutes of the July 19, 2022 board meeting were approved with a motion by Pat Lebrun and a second by Cam Miller.

The sign-up sheet for money counters was passed.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. Buildings and Grounds Dave Ledford reported that they are working on the boiler vent and some additional electrical work for the boiler.
2. Stewardship and Budget Pat Lebrun reported that the financials are good and within budgeted parameters. It was requested that Patti talk to the Stradinger children about adding the rest of the Stradinger gift (about $11,000) to the cost of the boiler. During the time that we do not have a full time permanent pastor, S & B is going to add $1,500 a month to the Fire Suppression system fund. With the Trust matching funds, we currently have about $50,000 committed to the Fire Suppression project. They are going to ask Kenny Putnam to come up with a Pledge Theme for the coming year.
3. Education Patti Arneson reported that their committee will meet later this month and plan programs for the fall.
4. Hospitality Cam Miller reported that we will have an Ice Cream Sundae Social on the last Sunday in August for a “Celebration of Us” event (honoring all those who volunteer for the church).
5. Ministries Sheila Long reported that the ONA Committee is planning to have an anniversary celebration this fall. Because of lack of support the Church Response program will be ending.
6. Worship Bonnie Edwards reported that the department is functioning smoothly.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Pastoral Search Committee. Eileen Rossow reported that we currently have no candidates. There was discussion that possibly we should change our profile and delete the statement that our congregation is aging.
2. Covid Procedures. Covid procedures for the next month were discussed.
3. Masks will be optional for the next month including the choir loft.
4. Fellowship hour will be held with coffee and cookies.
5. Outside groups will be allowed.
6. It was decided that The Call will be suspended until further notice.
7. The Tri-Conference meeting is October 9 – 11 in Sioux City.
8. Chuck Rounds reported that we are negotiating with Erin Erickson about working full time as our contract pastor for a six month period.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Black Hills Habitat would like to use the church on November 4, 2022 for a retreat. It was agreed that this should be allowed. Harold Miller volunteered to facilitate the opening and closing of the church for the event.
2. It was agreed that the church should send flowers to the funeral of Ivan Loy (Mark Lee’s husband). It was suggested that $100 would be an appropriate amount to spend.
3. There was discussion concerning having greeters and a guest book attendant. Laura is working on having greeters for the months of September and October. Cam Miller volunteered to be the guest book attendant.
4. It was agreed that the Black Hills Chamber should be allowed to use the sanctuary for the five performances for the coming season. It was requested that Patti Arneson find out how much they will donate. Eileen Rossow volunteered to host (open and close the church) for the first event on October 23rd.

Devotions will be given by Cam Miller for the September meeting.

The next Board meeting will be September 20, 2022.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Eileen Rossow

Clerk