



*First Congregational United Church of Christ*

# 139th Annual Report

***Report for the Ministries of 2017***

1200 Clark Street, Rapid City, SD 57701

(605) 342-5787 [uccoffice@rushmore.com](mailto:uccoffice@rushmore.com) [www.rcfirstucc.com](http://www.rcfirstucc.com)

# Our 139th Annual Meeting

As we gather for our 139th Annual Meeting, we are aware that these reports are only a brief summary of some of the mission and ministries of our congregation. There is so much more that is accomplished by our members through their faithful witness to the Word and work of Jesus Christ than can be contained in the reports of Departments and Committees. But this report serves as a digest and official record of the events of this year.

Participation in the annual meeting is open to all members and it is easy. You can indicate your desire to speak by raising your hand or standing. You may be asked to use a microphone so that your voice can be heard by all. If you have trouble understanding a speaker, please ask to have the information repeated or clarified. Your voice is important to the life of our church.

## Contents

<b>The Year in Review .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Statistical Report.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Moderator Sheila Long .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Pastoral Relations and Personnel .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Capital Projects Phase II .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Senior Minister Ted Huffman.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Minister of Education Susan Huffman .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Minister of Disabilities Education and Advocacy .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Genesis Grant Report .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Proposed Covenant of Licensure.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Department of Worship .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Department of Education .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Department of Ministries .....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Department of Hospitality .....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Department of Building, Equipment and Grounds.....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Women’s Fellowship .....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Good Morning Circle .....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Good Evening Circle .....</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Altar Guild .....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Congregational Pilgrim Charitable Trust.....</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Nominations .....</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Treasurer Denise Webster .....</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Budget .....</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Agenda for the Annual Meeting.....</b>	<b>38</b>

# The Year in Review

2017 was a year of significant events in the life of our church. It was the third year of our Capital Campaign, but not a year of major projects. We did proceed with the construction of the Family Assist Bathroom, which involved significant volunteer participation and has produced a wonderful new room for our congregation's use. Allowing the funds to build up will enable the installation of the new boiler and other projects as the congregation directs. The end of the year saw the retirement of Rev. Kathleen Batchelder and a reconfiguration of staffing priorities. Many of the ministries for which she provided direct leadership continue with lay leadership. As usual we were busy with mission and ministry and outreach to our community and beyond. Here are just a few highlights of the year:

## JANUARY

- A Sanctuary Clean up Day was held January 7 to put away Christmas Decorations and prepare the sanctuary for Epiphany.
- On January 8, we commissioned Chuck and Sybil Rounds for their annual trip to our Sister Church in Los Guidos, Costa Rica for Vacation Bible School.
- The Spiritual Practices Group met regularly.
- Church Chat continued regular noontime meetings.
- The "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" program kicked off with a potluck on January 15.
- Our 138th Annual Meeting was held January 29.

## FEBRUARY

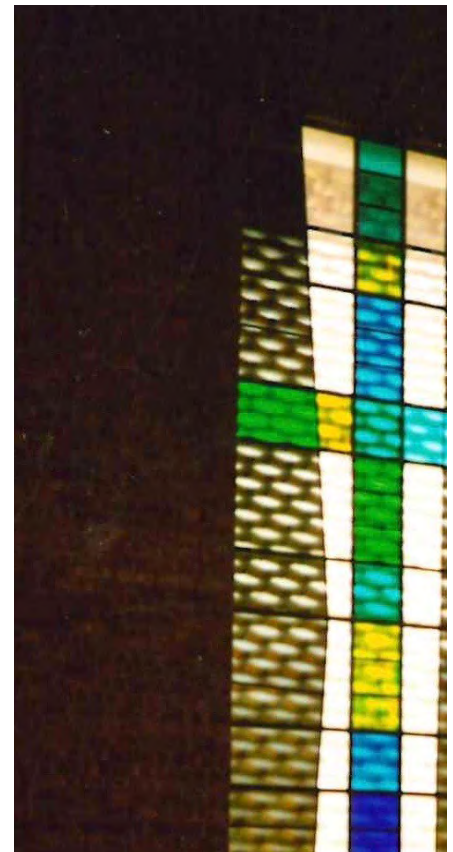
- Participants in the February Family First Night made Valentine's Cards to be delivered to shut-in members of the congregation.
- We celebrated our covenant with Break Through, Inc. On February 5. A special offering was received to support Break Through ministries.
- United Church Youth hosted the Souper Bowl of

Caring on February 5.

- On February 12, our partners from the Upper Cheyenne United Church of Christ shared their horse program with our congregation. They provided leadership for an afternoon "Circles of Understanding" program as well as presenting in worship.
- Departments met with and oriented new members to the year's work.
- The Department of Ministries served a Life INC Meal on February 16.
- The Congregational Connections group was recognized in worship on February 19.
- The Department of Hospitality hosted a Mardi Gras Potluck on February 26.
- We participated in Black Hills Area Habitat for Humanity's Builder's Breakfast on February 28.

## March

- An Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper was held for the Family First night on March 1
- We gathered for our traditional Ash Wednesday service with water, oil and ashes on March 1.
- Woodchucks delivered firewood to Wanblee on March 4.



# The Year in Review



- Caring Conversations explored critical life issues, meeting on March 5, 12 and 19.
- The Spring Rummage Sale was held on March 17 and 18.
- Pianist Calvin Jones presented a concert in our sanctuary on March 18.
- The Department of Hospitality hosted a St. Patrick's Day celebration with Irish music on March 19.
- The Church Chat group discussed *The Geography of Genius: Lessons from the World's Most Creative Places*.
- United Church Youth met at Pottery2Paint and decorated Empty Bowls in support of Feeding South Dakota on March 22.
- We participated in One Great Hour of Sharing on March 26.
- Exploring Religious Traditions hosted a presentation on Islam by Naveen Malik on March 26.
- The Department of Ministries served the Cornerstone meal on March 31.
- Extraordinary Eggs project.
- Holy Week began on April 9 with the Liturgy of the Palms at 9:30 and the Community Palm Sunday Parade at noon.
- We celebrated the liturgy of the passion on April 10 in a somber evening service.
- New Memorial Benches were installed near the front door of our church on April 11, arriving in time for Easter worship.
- Our "Sittin' With the Blues" concert on April 11 featured James Van Nuys, Jami Lynn, and other artists in an evening of music.
- The Christian Wake family meal and remembrance was held on April 12.
- Footwashing was offered on April 13.
- The Choir participated in providing leadership for a special Maundy Thursday worship service on April 13.
- We held a children's communion and our Journey to the Cross service on April 14.
- The Great Vigil of Easter was observed on April 15.
- Our Easter celebrations on April 16 began with a 6 am sunrise service at Main Street Square and continued with hot cross buns and a joyous celebration at our regular worship service.
- The Young Vocal Artists' Competition was held in our church on April 22.
- Guess Who's Coming to Dinner hosted a potluck on April 23.
- Construction began to remodel a former bathroom into a family access bathroom. Volunteers led the way with demolition and construction.
- On April 30 Wayne Gilbert spoke on Judaism in our Exploring Religious Traditions series.
- We hosted the Black Hills Association Spring Meeting on April 30.

## April



# The Year in Review

## May

- We celebrated Cradle Roll Sunday on May 14, honoring our youngest members.
- The Department of Hospitality hosted Muffins for Moms on May 14.
- A Sanctuary cleaning day was held on May 22.
- Work Camp was held at Placerville May 26—29.

## June

- The South Dakota Conference Annual Meeting was held in Brookings June 2—4.
- We celebrated Pentecost with worship for all ages and communion on June 4.
- We participated in the Strengthen the Church All Church Offering on June 4.
- Placerville Women's Camp and Shining Stars Camp were held June 5—9.
- Michael O'Connor presented a program on Buddhism for the Exploring Religious Traditions Series on June 11.
- Placerville Seekers Camp was held June 11—16.
- Faith Explorers Camp at Placerville was June 17—23.
- The Department of Hospitality hosted an All American

Potluck lunch to celebrate Father's Day on June 18.

- We hosted a group from Winona MN UCC on June 19—20. We hosted the same group again June 28—29.
- Placerville Grand Camp was June 23—25.
- We hosted a group from Fond du Lac, WI UCC June 24—26.
- The Department of Ministries served the Cornerstone Meal on June 30.

## July

- We hosted a visiting group from Grafton, WI UCC on July 8—9.
- Crossroads Camp was held at Placerville July 9—15.
- Placerville Family Camp was July 16—22.
- Vacation Bible School was held July 17—21 with the theme "Love One Another."
- Black Hills Playhouse Junior Performing Camp was held at Placerville July 23—29.

## August

- Volunteer shoppers assisted Love INC with the Clothes-A-Kid shopping on August 12 and 19.
- The Summer Rummage Sale was held August 18—19.
- Michael Myers was baptized by Rev. Ted Huffman in a special celebration held at 1st Baptist Church on August 24.
- The Adult Choir resumed rehearsals after summer break on August 30.

## September

- Our church was awarded a Genesis Grant to expand disability education and advocacy through the work of commissioned minister Ben Anderson. The grant working period began on September 1.
- 40 Days of Prayer for Children began on September 3.



# The Year in Review

- The Bell Choir resumed rehearsals after a summer break on September 6.
- Our annual Sunday School Kickoff Celebration was held September 10 with a bounce house and plenty of activities for children and adults.
- We had a Family Fun Day at Placerville Camp on September 17.
- The Department of Fellowship held an all-church birthday party on September 24.
- The Women's Fellowship held a kitchen cleaning day on September 25.

## October

- We participated in the Neighbors in Need All Church Offering on October 1.
- A special meeting of the congregation, held on October 1, approved the granting of a utility easement and the sale of a narrow strip of land along Fulton Street to the City of Rapid City for the Fulton Street reconstruction project.
- Guess Who's Coming to Dinner? Held a potluck lunch on October 1.
- The Black Hills Association met in Belle Fourche on October 1.
- Retired Clergy of the United Church of Christ met with Rev. Gordon Rankin on October 2.
- The October 4 Family Night expanded on the Summer Vacation Bible School theme, "Love One Another."
- Aparna and Arjun Ayyangar gave a presentation on Hinduism for the Exploring Religious Traditions Series on October 8.
- Our church hosted the annual Women's Retreat at Placerville Camp on October 13 and 14.
- Rev. Brigit Stevens was elected Conference Minister of the new Tri-Conference at special meetings of the



Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota Conferences. The South Dakota vote was held at a special meeting in Chamberlain held on October 14.

- We celebrated Children's Sabbath on October 15.
- An informal conversation about the decoration of the church parlor and the parlor kitchenette was held on October 29.
- Rev. Kathleen Batchelder retired from her position as Minister of Christian Nurture at the end of October. A celebration of Kathleen's ministry was held on October 14.

## November

- A Craft and Art Sale was held in the Fellowship Hall on the Sundays of November. Proceeds benefitted the Capital Projects and other special projects in the church.
- The Woodchucks delivered firewood to Bridger on November 4.
- The Kerygma Bible Study group began a study of Walter Brueggemann's study of the Prophets on November 8.
- Youth from our church participated in the Fall Youth Event at Placerville Camp November 10—12.

# The Year in Review



- Stewardship dedication Sunday was November 12.
- We received new members on November 12.
- Members of our congregation attended the Diwali Celebration at SDSM&T on November 18.
- Our church and choir participated in the Community Thanksgiving Service held this year at 1st Methodist Church on November 21.

## December

- We had a sanctuary decorating party on December 2.
- We received special gifts for the Angels of los Guido in partnership with our Costa Rica Sister Church during December.
- We hosted the Bells of the Hills Christmas Concert on December 3.
- Winter weather and slippery roads forced the postponement of the St. Nicholas Party and Christmas Caroling set for December 6. Families from our church went Caroling at Peaceful Pines on December 13.
- Our Bell Choir, Adult Choir, and Children's Choir

presented a special musical celebration of Advent and Christmas on December 17.

- We held our annual Blue Christmas service on December 17.
- Our children led us in worship with a Christmas pageant for the morning service on December 24.
- We participated in the Veterans of the Cross/ Christmas Fund All Church Offering on December 24.
- Our 7 pm Christmas Eve Service featured a new set, designed and constructed by Scott and Colleen Schuft.
- Our 11:30 Christmas Eve Service featured Ryan Webster on Vocals and Justin Speck on the piano.

This brief summary does not include the regular meetings of book and Bible study groups, of Women's Fellowship circles, Altar Guild and other program groups. It does not report the regular meetings of the memoir writing group, the craft group or the stained glass group. It doesn't list regular meetings of Survivors of Suicide Support Group or the Spiritual Practices Group.. It doesn't mention bell choir and vocal choir rehearsals or their contributions to worship. It doesn't list funerals and weddings and baptisms. It does not mention Board and Department meetings. Our church is alive with many activities and events every day of the year.



# Statistical Report

Membership beginning 2017 .....	582	Baptisms celebrated in 2017 .....	5
Deaths .....	7	Weddings celebrated in 2017.....	4
Transfers out .....	1	Funerals in 2017 .....	9
New Members .....	4	Average attendance in 2017.....	138
Membership end of 2017.....	578		

## Moderator Sheila Long

Your church board is the governing body overseeing and coordinating church operations and activities. We meet monthly in regular session, except for summer. Board members include the Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Past Moderator, Clerk of the Board, Department Chairpersons, Congregational Representatives and Ministers. The meetings are also open to anyone in the congregation who would like to observe.

This past year I had the opportunity to work with a wonderful group of people on the church board. Most of our time and discussion has been on the Phase 2 Capital Improvement Projects and fundraising. The bathroom moves along with hard work from our volunteers, and research is

underway for the next projects. Just like any long-term plan, there tend to be unexpected hurdles to navigate. The committee is working hard to do just this and will have further information to share soon.

The six departments of this church are where a lot of the work of this church happens. They take care of our visitors, our children, our building and our money. They continue to do a great job and the nominating committee worked hard to recruit great people to join these wonderful groups. These nominees are listed in this annual report and their approval by the congregation will happen during the annual meeting on January 28, 2018.





# Pastoral Relations and Personnel

This is a standing committee of the Church Board. Members include the Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Past Moderator (chairperson), Clerk of the Board and others as appointed by the Moderator. Committee members for 2017 were Sheila Long, Rob Burton, Gerry Boehrs, Dona Leavens and Cindy Ledford.

The committee's primary responsibility is to actively promote communication and feedback among the congregation, the Church Board and the ministerial staff supported by the Congregational Representatives. The committee also meets annually with each minister to review past year events and plans for the next year.

Most of our work this year has been aimed at developing a plan for the upcoming transition, through retirement of the entire ministerial staff, an extra task assigned to the committee by the Board. Our investigation has included multiple discussions with ministerial and lay staff mem-

bers, feedback from the congregation, and meeting with Conference Minister Gordon Rankin. Most recently we have met with Pastors Ted and Susan regarding their specific retirement plans, and the work required by them and by the congregation to effect a smooth transition.

Rev. Kathleen Batchelder announced her retirement effective the end of October of 2017. The committee recommended, and the Board approved, that her position not be replaced at this time, and that the salary budgeted be retained in the budget for future use. Pastor Ted has reorganized his work time to accommodate this, mostly by increasing his personal congregational visits.

Recommended next steps are agreement on a firm retirement date and an action plan for the transition. The committee also recommends consideration of an Interim Minister to succeed the Senior Minister for a time to prepare the congregation for the next called Senior Minister.



## Capital Projects Phase II

This program was authorized by the congregation in a special meeting in May of 2015. Phase II includes six important projects for major repair and improvement of the church building, including roof replacement, boiler replacement, a lift for choir loft access, de-stratification fans, air conditioning and a family bathroom. Total investment for Phase II was estimated at \$631,637, and a successful fund drive was completed in 2015 to provide the funding over a five year period. 2017 marks the third year of fund raising.

Our plan was to complete urgently needed roof replacement as soon as possible, and then to address other projects as funding and priorities dictate. Roof replacement was completed as planned in 2015. No project work was done in 2016 as funds were gathered and as the urgency of boiler replacement was investigated. The family bathroom has been the only project initiated in 2017 and is now nearly complete, providing much improved access and service for family and special needs.

Two projects have received a great deal of preliminary work this year. We had hoped to initiate work on the lift for the choir loft this year, but preparation revealed construction complications and cost issues that must be fully understood before we can move forward. Also, problems of boiler equipment and software have grown worse, and we must consider addressing boiler replacement in 2018.

Fund raising has been largely as expected through 2017. With two years remaining in our five year plan, we have collected \$457,482.78, and the fund balance stands at approximately \$192,685.35. We believe this is sufficient



to fund boiler replacement, and we may recommend moving forward with other projects, as well. Your continued support is important and appreciated.

We continue to gather information regarding project details and costs, and plan to hold a special meeting of the congregation in March to present updates for all aspects of Phase II Capital Projects, and to recommend a revised action plan for congregational approval.

Gerry Boehrs, Rob Burton and Sheila Long

**A Special Meeting of the Congregation will be held Sunday, March 4, 2018 following worship for an update on the Capital Funds Phase II Projects and consideration of options for completion of projects.**

## Senior Minister Rev. Ted Huffman



Worship lies at the core of my leadership style. I believe that teaching and learning, spiritual direction, and even church organization all originate in worship. We become the people we are called to be by engaging in genuine Christian community. I have always made thoughtful, innovative, biblical preaching a high priority of my ministry and, looking back, I am pleased with the significant moments of worship we have shared. We literally began 2016 with worship, gathering at 9:30 a.m. on New Year's Day. It set the mood for the year to come. We ended the year with worship as well, with Becky Fleming preaching on December 31 in front of the wonderful Christmas set designed, constructed and painted by Scott and Colleen Schuft. Preaching has been especially challenging this year, in part due to the heightened polarization of our political life. With what seems like a fresh scandal every week in the realm of politics, it has been good to preserve worship as a place of peace and balance in our life together. I have

worked hard at preaching, and even made a small technology upgrade by switching to a tablet computer for worship notes. At times, I have at times felt a little rushed as I "commute" to and from the choir loft, but the effect has been meaningful and the feedback from the congregation has been strongly supportive of our worship.

I'm not one to place much value in rumors, but I do know that a pastor needs to keep in touch with what is going on in the congregation. I listen to folks a lot and I've gotten pretty good at sensing the general mood of the congregation. This is especially critical in a congregation that is as complex as ours. We are a really diverse group of people. And 2017 was a year of an extraordinary amount of careful listening for me. Not since I was serving two rural congregations at the height of the Farm Crisis back in the 1980's have I spent so much time with people who were questioning the direction of their lives. It has been a hard year for a lot of the folk in our church. Having said that, like those North Dakota farmers, we are a resilient lot. I have also witnessed great examples of courage and hope in my listening to the congregation this year.

We've known for some time that the day would come when Rev. Kathleen Batchelder would retire. After seven wonderful years of pastoral leadership that date came at the end of October. It has been an absolute delight to work with her. She came to our church with enthusiasm, fresh ideas, and a particular sensitivity to the spiritual needs and desire for growth of our people. She has served diligently and exceeded all of my expectations. I knew that her retirement would require restructuring how I invest my time. Even with that anticipation, the transition has been a significant challenge. I have enjoyed increased pastoral calling and a renewed sense of being face to face with some of our congregation's older members. It helps me keep my perspective on this wonderful congregation.

It is, as I said, a very complex congregation. We have members who are new to being a part of a church, or who have returned after a significant break. We also have members who have been active in the church for five decades and



# Senior Minister Rev. Ted Huffman

more. And we have every level of experience in between. Sometimes more experienced members don't understand some of our newer members and the decisions they make about worship attendance and participation in the church. Sometimes our newer members don't understand the traditions of the church and have no memory of why "we've always done it that way." Sometimes the role of the pastor is simply introducing people to one another. The tables in the fellowship hall are usually abuzz with good fellowship, but they don't often mix. Some folks don't even know the names of those who sit across the room from their usual locations.

I mentioned rumors because I've been thinking of an especially pernicious rumor that I've heard from several different sources. Like I said, I don't put too much value in rumors, but I'll pass this one on. I heard that our senior pastor is going to turn 65 in 2018 and that he's thinking about retirement. Like most rumors, there is a grain of truth in this one. I will turn 65 in 2018. On the other hand, I do not intend to retire at 65 and retirement at that age has not been my plan. Actually, I intend to submit a plan for a sabbatical in 2018 and our policy states that taking a sabbatical includes the commitment to serve for at least a complete year following the end of that sabbatical. So, I will be around for a while. It is, however, very appropriate for our congregation through the Pastoral Relations and Personnel Committee to be thinking about leadership transition in our congregation.

On that front, I have some very good news. God is continuing to call ministers forth from the church. It has been a delight, in recent months to work with our Lay Minister, Becky Fleming. Becky has completed her coursework and has been eligible for licensure as a minister for several years and now the time has come to complete that process. She will still need to work full time at her regular job, but she will be authorized for the ministry of Word and sacrament and will begin to explore God's call to her to ministry in new ways. I also have enjoyed working with one of our newer members, Rob Ward. Rob will be entering the McMasters Divinity College in Hamilton, Ontario

this fall to pursue biblical studies. While his initial focus will be on academic bible studies, he is honestly and actively engaged in discerning a call to ordained ministry. Rob is a direct descendent of Joseph Ward, founder of Yankton College and one of the pioneers of faith in South Dakota. And, I have been working with Erin Erickson, who is completing her Master's Degree at United Theological Seminary. Erin is the coordinator of The Well, a group that meets weekly in our building to explore faith and community. Erin, too, is experiencing God's call to ministry. Indeed, God is still speaking.

In the meantime, I am deeply engaged in the business of being a 21<sup>st</sup> Century pastor in Rapid City. We have been growing our social media presence, and exploring new ways to communicate with our people. We will soon be increasing our email presence with weekly updates of news and notes from our congregation for our members. The year to come will include additional technology expansions within our church operations and our administrative colleagues are well set to continue to employ those tools to expand our church's work.

My main impression of 2017 is one of gratitude. I am deeply grateful for our dedicated church leadership team. Our musicians and administrative colleagues are dedicated and faithful. We have a long tradition of strong leaders in these positions and that leadership continues. I am deeply grateful for the dedication of our volunteers. The bathroom project, the maintenance of our yard and building, our Board and Departments, Congregational Connections, the work of the craft group and the Woodchucks are all places where I weekly witness extraordinary commitment and dedication. I am so grateful for the faithfulness of these people.

2018 is a year of God's promise. It will be a year like no other. I'm excited to be along for the journey.

And, if you happen to hear any rumors, feel free to let me know. I'm always interested in what our people are talking about.

# Minister of Education Rev. Susan Huffman

*The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ...* Ephesians 4: 11-12

As I reflect on my role as pastor and teacher of this strong and faithful congregation in 2017, I ask myself, "How have I equipped the saints for the work of ministry? What tools have I given to parishioners so that we may continue the work of ministry, serving as Christ's disciples?" The tools for faith development come from worshipping, conversing, studying, serving and growing together.

**Worship strengthens faith.** In a world that seems troubled and increasingly secular, where do we find God? We find God in worship. Worship binds us together as God's people and offers hope. This year, I have regularly shared the Sacrament of Communion with young children in the nursery and preschool. I have officiated at wonderful times of worship--baptisms, funerals and weddings--including our first opportunity to officiate at a Christian-Muslim ceremony. These special services have been unique and joyful celebrations of God's love. Holy Week worship has grown into a meaningful week of worship for all, including children and families. Although the Wednesday evening dinner and "Wake" and the Friday morning Children's Service attracted the largest number of children and families, others attended services throughout the week, finding meaning in one of another or these powerful worship services. This year, the Sunday School classes returned to using *the*

*Seasons of the Spirit* lectionary-based curriculum. This is the material that we used for about ten years prior to 2012. Using a lectionary-based curriculum will provide more opportunity to connect worship and education.

**Faith grows as we face challenges and doubts.** 2017 was a year of deep conversations and profound moments, a time of many pastoral needs. Ted and I agree that not since the Farm Crisis of the '80s, have we spent so many hours listening to parishioners struggling with issues of faith in the midst of day-to-day life. "How are you?" I asked a young father in our congregation over lunch one day. "To tell you truth," he replied, "my faith hit rock bottom... And it was a scary place to be." Similar conversations have been repeated throughout the year, often with young adults seeking to discover what the Church can offer to their busy lives. Additionally, I have spent more of my youth ministry time this year working with youth facing significant challenges--in family, school and society. I am grateful that our church can offer a safe and welcoming environment for young people. Although it is a challenge to speak words of faith in the midst of struggle, it is also a privilege to walk through the dark times and share the words of hope.

**Learning about our neighbors decreases fear and misunderstanding.** The Adult Discussion series on "Exploring Religious Traditions" stands out as one of the highlights of 2017. In exploring other religious traditions of the world, we have learned not only to better understand our neighbors, but also to understand our own faith more deeply. Although our congregation has welcomed speakers from other faith traditions in previous years, we had not done so recently. It seemed that the time was right. Our first speaker was Naveen Malik, a young Muslim woman whose parents had come from Pakistan. Naveen spoke about her family's religious practices, as well as the beliefs of Islam. The meeting drew a large crowd, with about 20 people from outside our congregation attending, in addition to many of our own members. Wayne Gilbert, a former president of the Synagogue of the Hills, was the second speaker in the series, speaking about Judaism. In the final session



# Minister of Education Rev. Susan Huffman

of the spring, Michael O'Connor introduced the principles of Buddhism. In the fall, Arjun and Aparna Ayyangar presented a power point and talk on Hinduism. Jeri Behringer, one of the pastors in our congregation, told Arjun and Aparna that she learned more about Hinduism from them than she had learned in her class on World Religions at Yale! Following that presentation, some of us attended the observance of Diwali at SDSM&T in November.

**Studying the Bible reminds us that we are not alone.** This year's Bible studies have been very stimulating. The spring study focused on Ruth. Through this familiar, yet fascinating, story, we explored the roles of women in Old Testament times and the reactions of Israelites to the foreigner. When the final session was held in the spring, the group did not want to stop meeting! So, we added an extra session on women in the Bible. This fall, the Wednesday morning Bible study class delved into "Embracing the Prophets in Contemporary Culture." This study included video lectures by Walter Brueggemann, arguably America's leading Old Testament scholar and theologian. His presentations opened the door to compelling conversations on the message of the prophets for contemporary society. While we do not always have answers, I am impressed by those who are willing to engage the scriptures at such depth. Next up: a study of the prophet Isaiah, which I am sure will also lead to great discussions!

**Active discipleship brings faith to life.** Vacation Bible School is always fun, but this year the theme of "Love One Another" took on special meaning with the incorporation of a Mission Center into the week's activities. The children worked on projects to show their care to others. For example, after learning about the boy who shared his lunch, the children assembled treat bags for the children at the Cornerstone Women and Children's House. 100 treat bags, plus 8 bags of fresh fruit were delivered to them! Another example of a successful outreach project was the First Wednesday Family Night caroling party. A group of 37 kids and adults went to Peaceful Pines Senior Living Community to share Christmas joy and music. The kids were great and their music was well-received! I also arranged service projects for the youth this year. Some examples include painting Empty Bowls to support Feeding South Dakota and packing "care packages" for college kids and those in the military.

**We share together, strengthening one another and building each other up in the Body of Christ.** This is the third year of offering consistent First Wednesday Family Nights. I have worked hard to help this gathering become a community of children, youth and adults who know one another and work together. The friendship, mutual support and cohesiveness of this group has grown this year. Other times of fellowship and community building are also strengthening bonds among the families of the church. In





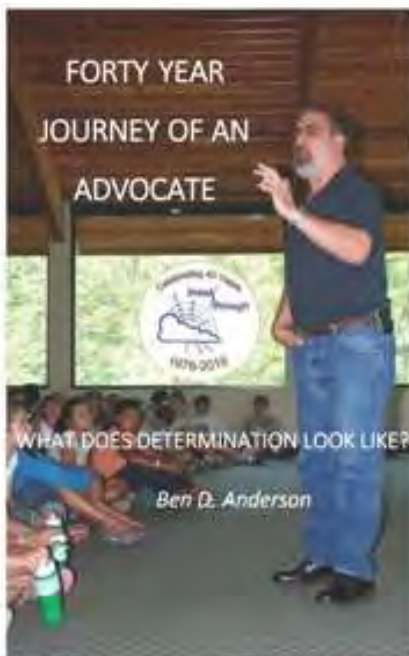
# Minister of Education Rev. Susan Huffman

September, 68 people headed out to Placerville Camp for lunch, fellowship and activities. After a cool morning, the day warmed up and we had a beautiful day enjoying God's creation

I confess that I always find it hard to condense a year's worth of tears, laughter, singing, praying, struggling, rejoicing and questioning to a few paragraphs. I want to tell you about the profound conversations, to share the delightful moments with our children, the flashes of insight with our youth, and oh, so much more. But I trust that you also have experiences of God at work in our midst--that you also know what it means to "be the Church." I trust that we will continue to work together, sharing our joys and tribulations and serving faithfully as God calls us to be the Church in this time and place.



# Minister of Disabilities Education and Advocacy Ben Anderson



Two thousand seven-enteen was an interesting year for me and my wife Dee. We had the privilege of being involved with two UCC state annual conferences; The South Dakota Annual Conference held June 4-6 in Brookings, SD . That Sunday I had the privilege of providing the Sunday sermon

Gathering. I was able to address the Nebraska conference and talk about Break Through and the Genesis Grant.

I had the privilege once again to do a presentation at the Indian University of North American at Crazy Horse, SD. This was my third year speaking to the students and I look forward to being with them again this year. I was invited to Custer Community UCC for a Sunday evening meal and was able to share my story and have great fellowship. I attended the Center for Disabilities Symposium at the university in September in Sioux Falls as I am council member and I was involved with a consumer panel.

In October, I was invited to First Congregational Church in Sioux Falls and was able to have an adult forum and that evening had great conversations with youth at their weekly meeting. The following Sunday I preached at First UCC in Pierre.

at Spirit of Peace UCC in Sioux Falls. A week later we were at Doane University in Crete, NE for the Nebraska Annual

# Genesis Grant Report

In 2017, First Congregational United Church of Christ was awarded a grant from the Genesis Fund of the United Church of Christ. This is the third time that our church has been awarded a Genesis Grant from the denomination. The two previous grants focused on cross-cultural programs, bringing together Native American and non-native youth.

This grant was received for work in the areas of disability advocacy and anti-bullying. The project is designed to aid local churches, church leaders and staff, and groups, such as youth groups, to become advocates and to combat bullying. The grant award was for \$12,000, the largest grant amount available. This requires us to raise \$4,000 in matching funds from other sources. Matching funds have already been received from the Black Hills Association of the United Church of Christ and from individual donors. Additional support will come from the special offering received on Break Through Sunday, which will be observed on February 4, 2018.

Project Leader, Ben D. Anderson, is a Commissioned Minister for Disability Advocacy and Education. Through Ben's leadership, First Congregational United Church of Christ in Rapid City, South Dakota has been working to develop and carry out programs focusing on disability advocacy, congregational hospitality and anti-bullying in the tri-Conference area of the United Church of Christ (South Dakota, Nebraska and Iowa. The approach is threefold: 1) working with church leaders and staff to raise awareness about disabilities and ways to create a welcoming environment for all persons; 2) speaking to congregations about widening the welcome and reducing bullying and 3) leading workshops and retreats on combating bullying in church and society. These educational programs take participants beyond the issues of accessibility to consider how to address the needs and concerns of all members of the Body of Christ.

In preparing the grant, we turned to World Council of Churches 2016 statement on disabilities, *The Gift of Being*, which states:

*Our Creator made all human beings after God's image and likeness, not only some human beings. From the perspective of the church it is exclusion, not inclusion, that requires an argument.*

This statement underlies our commitment to serving all members of the Body of Christ. We believe that every person is a child of God. In the Church and individual congregations, we are called to open our hearts and our doors to all. Yet, we know barriers exist. This project will address the barriers that prevent people from full participation in their churches.

We are honored by the receipt of this grant and by the recognition of the groundbreaking ministries that our church continues to support. Team members include: Ben Anderson, Dee Anderson, Jeri Behringer, Richard Behringer, Julie Burton, Becky Fleming, Susan Huffman and Ted Huffman.



# Proposed Covenant of Licensure

*Becky Fleming is a life-long member of our congregation and has long been active in its ministries. She has completed the Yankton College Licensed Ministry training program and also has earned additional graduate credits in Clinical Pastoral Education. Our congregation has requested that the Committee on Ministry of the South Dakota Conference of the United Church of Christ proceed with licensing Becky as a minister of word and sacrament. The Covenant of Licensure sets forth the terms of her call from our congregation and will be reviewed annually.*

## Covenant of Licensure

between

1<sup>st</sup> Congregational United Church of Christ

and

Rebecca Lynn (Becky) Fleming

First Congregational United Church of Christ of Rapid City, South Dakota, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit hereby enters into covenant with Becky Fleming, candidate for Licensed Minister, to engage in mutual ministry through our congregation and through the Black Hills Association. We propose to walk together in the ways known and to be made known to us as together we discern God's call for Becky and for our congregation.

Initially, our call to Becky involves an expectation of approximately ten hours per month of ministerial service focused on increasing pastoral care and outreach to members of our congregation, especially those who are unable to attend worship regularly. This service will include pastoral calling in homes, institutions and the hospital. Licensure is required for this position because she will be celebrating communion with home-bound and institutionalized members. She will work under the direct supervision of the ordained ministers of our congregation.

For this ministry, the congregation agrees to pay a stipend of \$200 per month to be reviewed annually.

In addition, the congregation expects Becky to join with all ministers of our congregation in responding to the following expectations:

- Regularly participating in and leading worship, including officiating at the sacraments as part of our worship leadership team.
- Providing leadership to Placerville Camp, the Black Hills Association, the South Dakota Conference and the Tri-Conference as requested.

Additionally, Becky will provide leadership to our congregation and to other congregations of the Black Hills Association on an as-needed basis. For these services, she will be compensated over and above the stipend offered:

- Officiating at weddings as requested by our ministers and as her schedule permits.
- Officiating at funerals as requested by our ministers and as her schedule permits.
- Providing pulpit supply during vacations, sabbaticals and other occasions as requested by the church staff or the Church Board as her schedule permits.
- Serving as a licensed minister for pulpit supply to other congregations of the Black Hills Association when requested as her schedule permits.

Relying upon God's grace, we covenant to share ministry together as we remain open to God's call to us for increased and expanded ministries in the future.





# Department of Worship

**By Bonnie Edwards, Chair**

The Department of Worship met in January, February, March, May, October and December this year. Members of the department were Bonnie Edwards (chair), Robin Franson, Scott Schuft, Colleen Schuft (secretary), Marilyn Fransen, Jordan LaPoint (deployed). Church staff was represented by Pastor Ted Huffman and Stephen Branch (choir director).

The Department approved the new pew brochure for distribution. A new library cart for hymnals in the choir loft was received and is in use.

Reinstated the reading awards during the church service as requested by the church Library Ladies.

Handed out certificates and roses for baptisms during worship service.

Met with the Education Department and pastors to update the Christmas Eve services and living nativity. Colleen and Scott Schuft made, painted and positioned wooden cutout figures for the sanctuary.

Ex Libris labels were placed in the red Pilgrim hymnals. Pilgrim hymnals were exchanged for New Century Hymnals after New Year's in the sanctuary.

New plan for department members calling readers and greeters was formulated. The volunteer website is not being used.

Voted to sell one of the pianos in the Fireside Room for \$200.

# Department of Education

**By Patti Arneson Rea, Chair**

The Department of Education has a goal of enriching the religious lives of the children of our church through curriculum, activities and friendship. We begin with the littlest children and work with children through high school, to share confirmation of God's love while helping to educate them through God's word.

We are blessed with many talented volunteers who tirelessly share their time and inspiration with our precious children. Many thanks to the paid staff who add their skills to our department, helping make the educational components successful.

This year we changed our curriculum for the children and youth, to better coincide with the scripture and sermons shared by our ministers during each church week. The curriculum is called "Seasons of the Spirit", and by utilizing this, children and their parents can share thoughts together after the church services, as the lessons/lectures/scriptures are consistent for all.

The Department of Education strives to provide educational activities that will encompass all ages, as well as family involvement. Some of



# Department of Education

these activities include weekly Sunday School; ( with beginning and ending parties/picnics for the children) monthly family dinners, which include meaningful activities for everyone each month; yearly Vacation Bible School; Family day at Placerville Camp, sharing in the church services during Advent, Christmas, Palm Sunday, and Mother's Day. The Department of Education puts on a

yearly Advent Fair, to help kick off the Christmas season. We also choose a community service project, which we encourage and guide the children in participating throughout the year. This gives the children a memory of kindness and giving to others.

# Department of Ministries

**By Jeff VanCuren, Chair**

2017 was once again a very busy year. Our members were Patsy Parkin-Valandra, Steve Bareis, Jeannette Hill, Jeff VanCuren, Susan Kelts and Jim Webster.

This year we prepared, transported and served four hot meals at the Cornerstone Mission. We also served two meals for Love Inc.'s educational classes Life Inc. These two opportunities allowed the congregation to come together and share good food and fellowship not only with our own congregation but also with some of Rapid City's residents in need. At the mission we averaged about 150 clients and 85 at the Life Inc. classes. We would like to sincerely thank the members of the congregation to all those who baked cookies, shopped for food, prepared the

food and served the dinners. Without everyone we could not have impacted the lives of so many people.

During the year we promoted the four special offerings of the UCC: One Great Hour of Sharing where we collected \$2,538; Strengthen the Church where we collected \$891.45; Neighbors in Need where we collected \$1,536.50; and The Christmas fund where we collected \$1,570. Our Congregation is so generous in their support.

The sale of "We Care" food certificates continues to not only be a benefit to Church Response but also to the Department of Ministries. This year, with the help of Pat Sutliff, we sold certificates on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Sundays after Church Service. The certificates were valued at \$69,061.63 and made a profit of \$1,188.87. This profit allowed us to purchase food for the six meals. The Department spent \$625 on food and the congregation donated the rest.

In 2017 the congregation donated 1,620 pounds of food valued at \$2,445 and Christmas items to Church Response. We also contributed toiletries, clothes and other misc. items to the Cornerstone Mission. We are very fortunate to have so many generous congregation members.

Steve Bareis and Patsy Parkin-Valandra have completed their three-year terms and we want to thank them for their hard work and dedication to all our endeavors.



# Department of Hospitality

**By Dawn Erk, Chair**

The Dept. of Hospitality held several events for our church family through-out the year. Along with our special events, we provided welcome bags to our worship guests/visitors all year long.

January – We served donuts and coffee during the Annual Meeting.

February – We welcomed Pandi and Monty Bollock to our committee. Dawn Erk will be the new Chair, Cam Miller – Vice Chair, Melissa Emerson – Secretary and Alta Wade – Treasurer. A Mardi Gras potluck was held on February 26<sup>th</sup>. The children had a parade with masks, beads and musical instruments. Everyone joined them in singing ‘When the Saints Go Marching In’. Lots of fun! Thank you to the Sunday School teachers for all their help with this project.

March – Our St Patrick’s Day celebration was held during coffee hour with Irish music provided by Jeff and Kathy Willett.

May – We had ‘Muffins for Mom’ on Mother’s Day during coffee hour. Homemade muffins were provided and enjoyed by all.

June – An ‘All American Potluck’ was our Father’s Day theme this year. We grilled hamburgers and hot dogs and the other dishes were provided by those who stayed for lunch and fellowship after church. This was a big hit, we’ve even received some suggestions for other themed dinners.

September – Our All Church Birthday Celebration was held. With help from our church family, there was a table decorated and a birthday cake for each month of the year. The tables were beautiful, the cakes delicious and everyone had a wonderful time.

November – Our lasagna dinner didn’t go off quite as planned. The lasagna wasn’t done by the time worship was over so we ate in courses. We had salad, French bread and dessert first with our main dish last. (Almost like a backwards potluck!)

December – Christmas goodie bags were given to the children who helped during worship on December 17<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you to all the members of our department: Jeanne Berry, Pandi Bollock, Monty Bollock, Melissa Emerson, Neil Emerson, Dawn Erk, Cam Miller and Alta Wade. Members completing their term on this committee are Jeanne Berry and Dawn Erk.

# Department of Building, Equipment & Grounds

**By Harold Miller, Chair**

The Department of Building / Equipment and Grounds is responsible for the upkeep of the church building and grounds. The Building and Grounds members and volunteers mowed and fertilized the lawns, maintained the sprinkler system, trimmed up the trees and shrubs and added tree bark to the shrubbery circles. All interior church windows were washed and polished along with washing all the outside windows. Exterior windows and screens were replaced as needed. Window washing, oiling and maintaining the boiler and air-handling motors were monthly tasks. Having motors and water pumps repaired as needed were on-going maintenance projects as well as repairing lights and oiling windows and doors. Ordering and stocking bathroom

paper supplies/hand soap and replacing all air handler filters were all part of the monthly tasks of summer. The summer annual tasks included fertilizing and mowing the lawns throughout the summer months. This summer’s projects consisted of extending the existing lawn equipment shed by 5 ft. and a new coat of paint: purchasing and painting a new shed on behalf of the Women’s Fellowship. The fall projects included: mowing up the leaves, shutting down the sprinkler system, servicing the lawn tractors and purchasing and edging new carpets for Cinnamon Hill.



# Women's Fellowship

**By Sue Maynard**

Women's Fellowship was busy this year. We had enough monetary support to donate to the following: Wider Church Ministries (a child sponsorship), our church pledge, Costa Rica, the Cornerstone Mission, Meals on Wheels, the cookie closet at church, Placer-ville Camp, Church Response, Hospice House, Blanket Sunday and the church library. We also supported the Spring Luncheon and the Christmas tea. We had carpets cleaned, paid for the rummage sale ads and Women's Retreat speaker. We also donated to the Quilts of Hope, and Blanket Sunday. We paid for the rummage sale ads and had some miscellaneous monies available. (See proposed budget, attached).

This year we took gifts and cookies to the clients at the New Alternative apartments. We cleaned the kitchens and the sanctuary twice this year and held two large rummage sales. We found boxes of old records and Sharon Darrow and Ruth Ann Karlen (the historical committee) will be asked to evaluate the

contents and make a decision on what to do with them. We continue to try and find people who are willing to serve coffee after church each week. New tablecloths were purchased for the Fellowship Hall; we have not yet received a bill for these. A retirement party for Kathleen Batchelder was held. We are looking for information regarding the older silver tea set that is in the locked cupboard. If anyone knows the donor would you please let someone from Women's Fellowship know. Evelyn Bradshaw has donated a silver tea service to the church and we are very grateful for this donation. We are continuing to sell raffle tickets for the quilt and the stained glass that we are offering to the public. We participated in the Bazaar at Westhills Village on November 4 selling handcrafted items and baked goods. We want to let people know that Women's Fellowship is not an exclusive group. We want everyone to feel welcome so if you'd like to come and join us please do so. We meet each month on the first Wednesday @ 11:30.



# Women's Fellowship Treasurer's Report

By Peggy Eckholm

<b>2017 Beginning Balance</b>		<b>13,711.85</b>
Income:		
Rummage Sales	13,841.85	
Receptions	1,012.50	
Women's Retreat	1,005.00	
Craft, Glass and Raffles Sales	<u>3,694.55</u>	
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>19,553.90</b>	<b>19,553.90</b>
		<b>33,265.42</b>

## Expenses:

Cornerstone	500.00	
Costa Rica	2,000.00	
Senior Meals	1,000.00	
Church Pledge	3,000.00	
Placerville	4,500.00	
Pantry	1,000.00	
Church Response	1,000.00	
Hospice House	500.00	
Rummage Sale Ads	129.90	
Receptions (Birthday, Funeral lunches)	643.39	
Retreat Supplies and Meals	1,037.21	
Retreat Speaker	50.00	
Wider Church Ministries	300.00	
New shed	2,231.18	
WAVI	500.00	
Hope Center	500.00	
Blanket Sunday	400.00	
New Checks	27.45	
Craft & Glass Supplies	456.88	
Miscellaneous	<u>1,296.04</u>	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>21,072.05</b>	<b>21,072.05</b>
<b>2017 Ending Balance</b>		<b>12,193.37</b>

# Women's Fellowship Budget for 2018

## Anticipated Income:

Rummage Sales	8,000
Receptions (Weddings and Funerals)	1,000
Craft & Glass Sales	<u>1,500</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>10,500</b>

## Expenses:

Wider Church Ministries (Child Sponsorship)	300
Church Pledge	3,000
Costa Rica	2,000
Cornerstone	500
Senior Meals	1,000
Pantry	1,000
Placerville	3,000
Church Response	1,000
Hospice House	500
Spring Luncheon	100
Beginning Cash for Rummage & Craft Sales	2,000
Rummage Sale Ads	130
Carpet Cleaning	100
Retreat Supplies	200
Blanket Sunday	200
Christmas Tea	50
Quilts of Hope Supplies	250
Library	200
Miscellaneous	<u>800</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>16,330</b>



# Good Morning Circle

## By Jan Gustin, Secretary

The Good Morning Circle met the third Wednesday of each month with an average of 18 members present. Laura Boyd, Dorothy Davis and Jan Gustin continued as President, Treasurer and Secretary. We welcomed new members Bonnie Edwards, Catherine Lindly, Julie Burton and Mary Mead.

Each month members hosted coffee and refreshments and we enjoyed various programs. We learned about various symbols as they related to spring and Christian symbols (Sue Maynard); update on our sister church in Costa Rica (Sybil Rounds); local author Brad Boner's new book of photos of Yellowstone National Park (Kathleen Batchelder); a

musical treat presented by choir member Bonnie Edwards; church member Arnett Dennis gave a presentation on the book, GENERATIONS, often referred to as the "hard luck generation" - those born between 1880 and 1900.

Carol Johnson, with SD Public Broadcasting, shared information and an update on PBS in South Dakota, including a new office opening right here in Rapid City; Susan Huffman enlightened us on the origin and history of The Serenity Prayer, based on a book authored by Elizabeth Sifton. In November, at our last scheduled meeting of the year, Kathleen Batchelder shared the book, DIVINE DANCE, by Richard Rohr, a Franciscan priest.

## By Dorothy Davis, Treasurer

<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>1,743.09</b>
<b>Income:</b>	
Pledges	917.00
Blessings	55.25
Least Coins	8.93
Bridge Pads	19.00
Cook Books	15.00
Bridge Marathon	<u>400.00</u>
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>1,415.18</b>

<b>Expenses:</b>	
Bridge Lunch	279.75
Front Porch	600.00
Costa Rica	200.00
Hope Center	350.00
Cornerstone	150.00
Blanket Sunday	100.00
Church Women United	<u>233.00</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,912.75</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>1,245.52</b>

# Good Evening Circle

**By Cindy Ledford, Secretary**

The faithful members of GE Circle enjoy meeting monthly at 6:30 p.m. on the 3rd Wednesday except for December and in the summer. We gather casually to share ideas on projects that support the community and keep us involved with the world around us. Returning after summer in September, we excitedly await sharing our annual potluck. We also provide favorite desserts with tea monthly at each meeting. Laura Smith serves as Chairperson, Carol Boyles as Vice Chair, Laura Switzer as Treasurer, Cindy Ledford as Secretary, and Dawn Erk provides devotions. We invite all interested women to join us!

Our FunPasta fundraising that was held in March, and then again in October-first part of December, has been a huge success. We can't thank the church membership enough for supporting us in our efforts. THANK YOU! We hope you all are enjoying your pasta! Through your generous giving, we can continue to financially support our annual dona-

tions to Blanket Sunday, BH Children's Home, Cornerstone Rescue Mission, WAVI, Church Response, Meals on Wheels, Feeding SD, Women & Children's Home, and Women's Fellowship (Costa Rica support). We also continue selling dishcloths throughout the year for which we appreciate your support.

Members donated to WAVI financially when they were having structural problems with their facility. The ladies also contributed many needed items that were delivered to the Women & Children's Center who are always so thankful in receiving. We helped Kathleen Batchelder celebrate at a party for her retirement. Annually, we faithfully serve coffee several months throughout the year; help with the kitchen and sanctuary cleaning; serve funeral luncheons when needed; and of course use our talents and time during both rummage sales. We also provided cookies for the Christmas Tea.

**By Laura Switzer, Treasurer**

<b>Beginning Balance 1/1/2017</b>	<b>242.29</b>
<b>Income:</b>	
Pasta Sales	3,236.90
Pledges	127.00
Dishcloth Sales	110.00
Least Coin	<u>15.00</u>
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>3,488.90</b>

**Expenses:**

Dawn Erk-Pasta Sales Reimbursement	2,180.50
Blanket Sunday	25.00
BH Children's Home Society	25.00
Cornerstone Rescue Mission	25.00
WAVI	125.00
Church Response	25.00
Meals on Wheels	25.00
Feeding South Dakota	25.00
Angels of los Guido	25.00
Postmaster	9.80
Cornerstone Women/Children Home	<u>25.00</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>2,515.30</b>
<b>Balance on Hand 12/31/2017</b>	<b>1,215.89</b>

**By Sharon Darrow, secretary**

The Altar Guild began in February, 1945 when thirty interested women met at the home of Mrs. C. G. Osterhof. The purpose of the Guild is to provide decorations for the altar each Sunday. A constitution and by-laws guide their work. No funds are provided through the budget process, but come from flower sales, weddings and donations. The Guild sends cards of encouragement and celebration to

members of the congregation. The ten members meet the second Thursday of each month, except June, July and December. Business is conducted followed by a short, informative program. Anyone interested in joining this group, please contact Kandee Snoozy, Sharon Darrow, Lois Moore, or any other Altar Guild member.





# Congregational Pilgrim Charitable Trust

The First Congregational Charitable Trust, Inc. is an independent corporation dedicated to the management of invested funds on behalf of the congregation. Its mission is to solicit and manage financial gifts provided for use in charitable and educational projects beyond the regular operation budget of the church. The funds of the Trust are invested with the United Church Foundation and Edward Jones.

In 2017, the Trust made a gift of \$30,000 to the First Congregational Capital Fund Drive. These funds were the third payment of a five-year pledge of \$150,000 for the maintenance of the physical plant of our church.

In 2017, no Power of One Scholarships were awarded.

The Zona White Scholarship has been reformatted as the Zona White Music Fund because there are very few music students applying for music scholarships. The Funds in the Music Fund will be used to provide music for the church that would not be in the church budget plus unusual instrument maintenance. The Music Committee is responsible for determining when expenditures will be made from the Zona White Music Fund.

The Power of One Estate Plan encourages members of the congregation to remember the Trust with a gift of 1% of their estates. Donations are welcome now or later as appropriate. To those who have already provided for a gift, we extend our gratitude.

Members of the Trust Board are: Tom Berry, Jack Bossen, Randy Daughenbaugh, Arnett Dennis, Robin Eddy, Lia Green, Ted Huffman (ex-officio), Pat Lebrun, Harold Miller, and Eileen Rossow.

## Trust Fund Values

December 31, 2016	\$625,858.70	
December 31, 2017	\$636,985.16	
Contributions:		
Memorials	\$0.00	
Other	\$500.00	
<b>Total contributions:</b>	<u>\$500.00</u>	
Disbursements:		
1st Congregational Capital Fund Drive	(\$30,000.00)	
1st Congregational Church from Memorial	(\$4,800.00)	
<b>Total disbursements</b>	<u>(\$34,800.00)</u>	5.56%
Dividend and Interest Income:		
	\$7,122.78	
Realized Capital Gains from cost:		
	\$13,458.39	
<b>Total Gains</b>	<u>\$43,789.13</u>	7.00%
Gains in 2017:		
Dividend and Interest Income:		
	\$7,122.78	
Realized Capital Gains from 12/31/16:		
	\$8,745.34	
Unrealized Capital Gains:		
	\$29,055.15	
<b>Total Return</b>	<u>\$45,624.73</u>	7.51%

# Nominations

<b>Moderator</b>	<b>Rob Burton</b>
<b>Assistant Moderator</b>	<b>Todd Eddy</b>
<b>Past Moderator</b>	<b>Sheila Long</b>
<b>Clerk</b>	<b>Dawn Erk</b>
<b>Church Board Congregational Representatives</b>	
Until January, 2019	Carol Boyles
Until January, 2020	Ryan Webster
Until January, 2021	Kevin Sandmeier
<b>Department of Worship</b>	
Until January, 2019	Robin Franson, Bonnie Edwards
Until January, 2020	Jordon Lapoint, Marilyn Fransen
Until January, 2021	Tish Wilkinson, Barb Knight
<b>Department of Education</b>	
Until January, 2019	Terry Brouillette, Lynn Grauman
Until January, 2020	Jenny Kozel, Alicia Sutliff-Benusis
Until January, 2021	Jodi Burke, Sue Maynard
<b>Department of Ministries</b>	
Until January, 2019	Jeff VanCuren, Jeannette Hill
Until January, 2020	Susan Kelts, Jim Webster
Until January, 2021	Mark & Reva Ortega, Pat Sutliff
<b>Department of Hospitality</b>	
Until January, 2019	Cam Miller, Melissa & Neil Emerson
Until January, 2020	Pandi Bollock, Monte Bollock
Until January, 2021	Patty Rea, Kalsy Brinkman
<b>Department of Building, Equipment &amp; Grounds</b>	
Until January, 2019	Tom Berry, Michael Myers
Until January, 2020	Mike Crutcher, Dave Johnson
Until January, 2021	Brent Long, Scott Schuft
<b>Department of Stewardship &amp; Budget</b>	
Until January, 2019	Jan Gustin, Andy Knight
Until January, 2020	Julie Burton, Pat Wheaton
Until January, 2021	Dona Leavens, Kenny Putnam

Thanks to all of the faithful servants who have completed terms of service on the Church Board and in our Departments.

The Nominating Committee is made up of the Moderator, the Assistant Moderator, and the three Congregational Representatives. This year's committee was Sheila Long, Rob Burton, Sue Maynard, Carol Boyles and Ryan Webster.

# Treasurer Denise Webster

**First Congregational United Church of Christ - Rapid City SD**  
**Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2017**

(Disclosures, Statement of Net Assets, and Cash Flow Statements are Omitted)

Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance
<b>Assets</b>		
1.10000	Checking Account	235,063.30
1.10300	Certificates of Deposit	125,000.00
1.10500	Food Certificates	4,500.00
	<b>Total Cash &amp; Investments</b>	<b>\$364,563.30</b>
1.15100	Eagle Scout Structure	10,066.13
1.15200	Piano	34,000.00
1.15300	Organ Addition	194,934.00
1.15400	Building	556,487.89
1.15500	Building Improvements	347,532.49
1.15600	Land	38,532.55
	<b>Total Land, Building &amp; Equip.</b>	<b>\$1,181,553.06</b>
	<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$1,546,116.36</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
2.00000	Accounts Payable/Vendors	299.63
2.22000	Prepaid Pledges	8,100.04
2.25000	Payroll Taxes Payable	1,661.00
	<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$10,060.67</b>
<b>Fund Balance</b>		
3.39000	Unrestricted Fund Balance	10,224.69
3.39002	Building Fund Balance	1,181,553.06
3.39003	Contingency Fund	50,000.00
3.39004	Memorial Fund Balance	12,655.34
3.39006	Legacy Fund	51,404.55
3.39007	Air Conditioning Fund Bal.	15,928.88
3.39008	Sabbatical Fund Balance	8,000.00
3.39015	Special Offerings Restricted Fund	424.00
3.39016	Dept. of Ministries Fund Bal.	5,830.62
3.39017	Grant Fund Balance	7,349.20
3.39111	Capital Improvement II Fund Balance	192,685.35
	<b>Total Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$1,536,055.69</b>
	<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$1,546,116.36</b>

No assurance is provided on this statement.

# Treasurer Denise Webster

**First Congregational United Church of Christ - Rapid City SD  
Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2017**

(Disclosures, Statement of Net Assets, and Cash Flow Statements are Omitted)

Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance
<b>Assets</b>		
1.10000	Checking Account	235,063.30
1.10300	Certificates of Deposit	125,000.00
1.10500	Food Certificates	4,500.00
	<b>Total Cash &amp; Investments</b>	<b>\$364,563.30</b>
1.15100	Eagle Scout Structure	10,066.13
1.15200	Piano	34,000.00
1.15300	Organ Addition	194,934.00
1.15400	Building	556,487.89
1.15500	Building Improvements	347,532.49
1.15600	Land	38,532.55
	<b>Total Land, Building &amp; Equip.</b>	<b>\$1,181,553.06</b>
	<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$1,546,116.36</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
2.00000	Accounts Payable/Vendors	299.63
2.22000	Prepaid Pledges	8,100.04
2.25000	Payroll Taxes Payable	1,661.00
	<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$10,060.67</b>
<b>Fund Balance</b>		
3.39000	Unrestricted Fund Balance	10,224.69
3.39002	Building Fund Balance	1,181,553.06
3.39003	Contingency Fund	50,000.00
3.39004	Memorial Fund Balance	12,655.34
3.39006	Legacy Fund	51,404.55
3.39007	Air Conditioning Fund Bal.	15,928.88
3.39008	Sabbatical Fund Balance	8,000.00
3.39015	Special Offerings Restricted Fund	424.00
3.39016	Dept. of Ministries Fund Bal.	5,830.62
3.39017	Grant Fund Balance	7,349.20
3.39111	Capital Improvement II Fund Balance	192,685.35
	<b>Total Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$1,536,055.69</b>
	<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$1,546,116.36</b>

No assurance is provided on this statement.



# Treasurer Denise Webster

## First Congregational Church

2017 Annual Report

### Summary of Restricted Funds for 2017

#### Contingency Fund:

Beginning Balance, January 1, 2017	50,000.00
No transactions	-
Ending Balance, December 31, 2017	<u>50,000.00</u>

#### Legacy Fund:

Beginning Balance, January 1, 2017	43,036.84
June Clark Endowment	8,167.71
Donation	200.00
Ending Balance, December 31, 2017	<u>51,404.55</u>

#### Air Conditioning Fund:

Beginning Balance, January 1, 2017	15,928.88
No Transactions	-
Ending Balance, December 31, 2017	<u>15,928.88</u>

#### Sabbatical Fund:

Beginning Balance, January 1, 2017	5,999.96
Transfer from general fund	2,000.04
Ending Balance, December 31, 2017	<u>8,000.00</u>

#### Department of Ministries Funds:

Beginning Balance, January 1, 2017	5,991.75
We Care Food Certificate Sales	70,150.50
Disbursements:	
Mission Meals	(625.00)
We Care Food Certificate Purchases	(69,686.63)
Ending Balance, December 31, 2017	<u>5,830.62</u>

# Treasurer Denise Webster

## Special Offerings Fund:

Beginning Balance (New Vision), January 1, 2017	(76.00)
New Vision Donations	500.00
Member donations for unbudgeted benevolences	13,819.95
Costa Rica Donations	7,079.76
Unbudgeted Benevolence Disbursements:	
Breakthrough, Inc.	-
Cornerstone Mission	(236.00)
Love, Inc.	(1,120.00)
One Great Hour of Sharing	(2,538.00)
Blanket Sunday	(1,848.00)
Strengthen the Church	(891.45)
Neighbors In Need	(1,581.50)
Christmas Fund	(1,570.00)
Hurricane Relief	(3,385.00)
Bridger Hay Fund	(150.00)
First Congregational Pilgrim Trust	(500.00)
Costa Rica Sister Church	(7,079.76)
Ending Balance (New Vision), December 31, 2017	<u>424.00</u>

## Memorial Fund Balance:

Beginning Balance, January 1, 2017	14,616.13
Transfer from Unrestricted Fund	-
Donations (Memorials):	
Doris Marie Strom	25.00
Jack Humke	985.00
Al Dymock	10.00
Ed Boyd	1,635.00
Marvin & Gladys Bitterman	500.00
Richard Davis	215.00
Disbursements:	
Handbell Music	(91.69)
Choir Stoles	(69.69)
Shed materials	(499.39)
Book Cart for Choir Loft	(223.99)
AV Cart	(257.88)
1/2 Benches (remaining balance)	(3,078.15)
Transfer to Building & Grounds	(500.00)
Transfer to Capital Improvements Phase II Fund	(610.00)
Ending Balance, December 31, 2017	<u>12,655.34</u>

## Capital Improvements Fund, Phase II:

Beginning Balance, January 1, 2017	94,688.12
Donations	113,477.04
Transfer from Memorial Funds	610.00
Transfer from Scholarships, per donor request	2,000.00
Disbursements:	
New Heat Programming System and Controls	(15,155.00)
Bathroom Remodel	(2,934.81)
Ending Balance, December 31, 2017	<u>192,685.35</u>

# Treasurer Denise Webster

Grant Fund Balance:	
Beginning Balance, January 1, 2017	-
Grant Income	12,860.00
Donation	100.00
Disbursements:	
Breakthrough, Inc.	(5,610.80)
Ending Balance, December 31, 2017	<u>7,349.20</u>

## First Congregational Church 2017 Annual Report

Pioneer Bank & Trust - Certificate of Deposit	
Beginning Balance, January 1, 2017	45,156.62
Interest Earned-Paid to Unrestricted Fund	135.86
CD Matured 03/17/17	<u>(45,292.48)</u>
Ending Balance, December 31, 2017	-
BankWest - Certificates of Deposit	
Beginning Balance, January 1, 2017	-
Purchase	<u>125,000.00</u>
Ending Balance, December 31, 2017	<b>125,000.00</b>

The purchase consists of 5 CDs in the amount of \$25,000 each.  
Laddered Certificates of Deposit, purchased April 14, 2017:  
\$25,000, matures 4/14/18, 1% Interest  
\$25,000, matures 4/14/19, 1.5% interest  
\$25,000, matures 4/14/20, 2% interest  
\$25,000, matures 4/14/21, 2.5% interest  
\$25,000, matures 4/14/22, 3% interest

# Treasurer Denise Webster

## First Congregational Church 2017 Unbudgeted Benevolences

The following disbursements were donated to the church during 2017. These disbursements are direct pass-through monies from the members' contributions (special offerings).

### Disbursements in 2017:

Cornerstone Mission	236.00
Love, Inc.	1,120.00
One Great Hour of Sharing	2,538.00
Blanket Sunday	1,848.00
Strengthen the Church	891.45
Neighbors In Need	1,581.50
Christmas Fund	1,570.00
Hurricane Relief	3,385.00
Bridger Hay Fund, Feed the Horses	150.00
Pilgrim Charitable Trust	500.00
Costa Rica Sister Church	7,079.76
	<u>20,899.71</u>



Treasurer's Report as of December 2017 for General Fund

Account Name	Period Activity	Previous YTD	Monthly Budget	YTD Balance	% of Budget Month	Budget YTD	% of Budget YTD	Over/Under YTD(+/-)	Annual Budget	Annual Budget Remaining
<b>Income</b>										
Loose Offerings	643.26	3,057.14	250.00	3,002.82	257	3,000.00	100	2.82	3,000.00	(2.82)
Non-pledge Donations	3,810.38	69,374.78	6,413.00	52,133.45	59	77,000.00	68	(24,866.55)	77,000.00	24,866.55
Pledges	20,697.33	222,188.00	17,956.00	233,776.96	115	215,527.00	108	18,249.96	215,527.00	(18,249.96)
<b>Total Pledges &amp; Gifts</b>	<b>\$25,150.97</b>	<b>\$294,619.92</b>	<b>\$24,619.00</b>	<b>\$288,913.23</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>\$295,527.00</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>(\$6,613.77)</b>	<b>\$295,527.00</b>	<b>\$6,613.77</b>
Miscellaneous Income	30.00	0.00		49.50						
Rent Income	1,731.00	11,438.00	913.00	12,064.00	190	11,000.00	110	1,064.00	11,000.00	(1,064.00)
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>\$1,761.00</b>	<b>\$11,438.00</b>	<b>\$913.00</b>	<b>\$12,113.50</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>\$11,000.00</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>\$1,113.50</b>	<b>\$11,000.00</b>	<b>(\$1,113.50)</b>
Interest/Dividend Income	10.09	584.19	38.00	238.11	27	500.00	48	(261.89)	500.00	261.89
<b>Total Investment Income</b>	<b>\$10.09</b>	<b>\$584.19</b>	<b>\$38.00</b>	<b>\$238.11</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>(\$261.89)</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>\$261.89</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$26,922.06</b>	<b>\$306,642.11</b>	<b>\$25,570.00</b>	<b>\$301,264.84</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>\$307,027.00</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>(\$5,762.16)</b>	<b>\$307,027.00</b>	<b>\$5,762.16</b>
<b>Expenses</b>										
Senior Pastor Annuity	2,310.00	9,257.50	790.00	9,240.00	292	9,425.00	98	(185.00)	9,425.00	185.00
Senior Pastor Dis. Ins.	247.50	991.87	88.00	990.00	281	1,012.00	98	(22.00)	1,012.00	22.00
Sr Pastor Health Ins.	3,495.90	13,232.60	1,058.00	13,884.90	330	12,663.00	110	1,221.90	12,663.00	(1,221.90)
Sr Pastor Salary/Hsg	5,610.00	66,000.00	5,610.00	67,320.00	100	67,320.00	100	0.00	67,320.00	0.00
<b>Total Senior Minister Salary</b>	<b>\$11,663.40</b>	<b>\$89,481.97</b>	<b>\$7,546.00</b>	<b>\$91,434.90</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>\$90,420.00</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>\$1,014.90</b>	<b>\$90,420.00</b>	<b>(\$1,014.90)</b>
CE Minister Dis. Ins.	137.82	555.12	49.00	551.28	281	566.00	97	(14.72)	566.00	14.72
CE Minister Health Insurance	0.00	0.00	120.00	1,620.20	0	1,462.00	111	158.20	1,462.00	(158.20)
CE Minister Pension	1,286.25	5,180.80	441.00	5,145.00	292	5,248.00	98	(103.00)	5,248.00	103.00
CE Minister Salary/Hsg	3,123.75	36,750.00	3,121.00	37,485.00	100	37,485.00	100	0.00	37,485.00	0.00
<b>Total CE Minister Salary</b>	<b>\$4,547.82</b>	<b>\$42,485.92</b>	<b>\$3,731.00</b>	<b>\$44,801.48</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>\$44,761.00</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>\$40.48</b>	<b>\$44,761.00</b>	<b>(\$40.48)</b>
Bell Choir Dir. Salary	218.77	1,929.96	165.00	1,968.93	133	1,969.00	100	(0.07)	1,969.00	0.07
Bookkeeping Services	404.70	5,182.78	432.00	5,235.02	94	5,250.00	100	(14.98)	5,250.00	14.98
Choir Director Salary	552.50	6,650.04	547.00	6,630.00	101	6,630.00	100	0.00	6,630.00	0.00
Nursery Supervisor	183.75	525.00	62.00	840.75	296	700.00	120	140.75	700.00	(140.75)
Organist Salary	828.75	9,900.00	826.00	9,945.00	100	9,945.00	100	0.00	9,945.00	0.00
Secretary Salary	1,544.48	17,434.56	1,481.00	17,609.83	104	17,783.00	99	(173.17)	17,783.00	173.17
Substitute Organist	0.00	400.00	50.00	600.00	0	600.00	100	0.00	600.00	0.00
<b>Total Lay Staff Expense</b>	<b>\$3,732.95</b>	<b>\$42,022.34</b>	<b>\$3,563.00</b>	<b>\$42,829.53</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>\$42,877.00</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>(\$47.47)</b>	<b>\$42,877.00</b>	<b>\$47.47</b>
CN Minister Salary	0.00	12,000.00	1,020.00	10,200.00	0	12,240.00	83	(2,040.00)	12,240.00	2,040.00
Payroll Taxes	240.56	2,747.47	227.00	2,765.83	106	2,779.00	100	(13.17)	2,779.00	13.17
<b>Total Salaries Expense</b>	<b>\$20,184.73</b>	<b>\$188,737.70</b>	<b>\$16,087.00</b>	<b>\$192,031.74</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>\$193,077.00</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>(\$1,045.26)</b>	<b>\$193,077.00</b>	<b>\$1,045.26</b>
Communion Supplies	0.00	161.96	13.00	79.61	0	200.00	40	(120.39)	200.00	120.39
New Music: Adult Choir	0.00	490.43	38.00	397.75	0	500.00	80	(102.25)	500.00	102.25
New Music: Bell Choir	0.00	250.53	19.00	250.00	0	250.00	100	0.00	250.00	0.00
Piano / Organ Maint.	0.00	0.00	0.00	800.00	0	0.00	0	800.00	0.00	(800.00)
Soloist & Special Music	0.00	551.90	44.00	500.00	0	550.00	91	(50.00)	550.00	50.00
<b>Total Worship Expense</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$1,454.82</b>	<b>\$114.00</b>	<b>\$2,027.36</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>\$527.36</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>	<b>(\$527.36)</b>
Adult Education	372.34	677.78	86.00	884.49	433	1,054.00	84	(169.51)	1,054.00	169.51
CE Curriculum Resources Expense	96.43	2,495.13	287.00	2,675.71	34	3,400.00	79	(724.29)	3,400.00	724.29
CE Library	0.00	131.56	15.00	42.60	0	224.00	19	(181.40)	224.00	181.40
CE Program Expenses	317.60	1,063.41	99.00	663.16	321	1,221.00	54	(557.84)	1,221.00	557.84
CE Training	0.00	1,085.00	8.00	85.16	0	74.00	115	11.16	74.00	(11.16)
CE Youth Conferences	25.00	313.00	63.00	630.00	40	745.00	85	(115.00)	745.00	115.00

City of Orange, California - Budget - Laguna City CD  
**Treasurer's Report as of December 2017 for General Fund**

Friday, January 5, 2018

Account Name	Period Activity	Previous YTD	Monthly Budget	YTD Balance	% of Budget Month	Budget YTD	% of Budget YTD	Over/Under YTD(+/-)	Annual Budget	Annual Budget Remaining
Graduation	0.00	13.36	8.00	58.97	0	74.00	80	(15.03)	74.00	15.03
Retreats and Special Events	250.13	1,777.29	78.00	1,804.96	321	958.00	188	846.96	958.00	(846.96)
<b>Total Christian Ed. Expense</b>	<b>\$1,061.50</b>	<b>\$7,556.53</b>	<b>\$644.00</b>	<b>\$6,845.05</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>\$7,750.00</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>(\$904.95)</b>	<b>\$7,750.00</b>	<b>\$904.95</b>
Black Hills Assoc. Dues	0.00	1,168.00	101.00	1,164.00	0	1,168.00	100	(4.00)	1,168.00	4.00
Conference Registrations Exp	0.00	0.00	38.00	536.00	0	500.00	107	36.00	500.00	(36.00)
Dept. of Hospitality	36.98	382.96	38.00	430.57	97	500.00	86	(69.43)	500.00	69.43
Minister Prof. Exp.	150.00	634.14	50.00	879.51	300	600.00	147	279.51	600.00	(279.51)
Sr. Pastor Sabbatical	166.67	2,000.04	163.00	2,000.04	102	2,000.00	100	0.04	2,000.00	(0.04)
Wedding/Funeral	0.00	300.00	87.00	150.00	0	1,000.00	15	(850.00)	1,000.00	850.00
<b>Total Ministry Expense</b>	<b>\$353.65</b>	<b>\$4,485.14</b>	<b>\$477.00</b>	<b>\$5,160.12</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>\$5,768.00</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>(\$607.88)</b>	<b>\$5,768.00</b>	<b>\$607.88</b>
Office Equip. Maint.	527.43	5,735.37	500.00	4,499.04	105	6,000.00	75	(1,500.96)	6,000.00	1,500.96
Postage	131.98	854.11	87.00	741.88	152	1,000.00	74	(258.12)	1,000.00	258.12
Supplies	189.98	3,549.13	337.00	3,128.66	56	4,000.00	78	(871.34)	4,000.00	871.34
<b>Total Office Expense</b>	<b>\$849.39</b>	<b>\$10,138.61</b>	<b>\$924.00</b>	<b>\$8,369.58</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>\$11,000.00</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>(\$2,630.42)</b>	<b>\$11,000.00</b>	<b>\$2,630.42</b>
BHPL - Electricity	877.36	8,906.77	750.00	10,294.64	117	9,000.00	114	1,294.64	9,000.00	(1,294.64)
Communications	449.30	3,769.13	362.00	3,691.26	124	4,300.00	86	(608.74)	4,300.00	608.74
MDU - Heat	1,133.63	7,789.77	837.00	10,829.28	135	10,000.00	108	829.28	10,000.00	(829.28)
Stormwater Drainage Assessment	0.00	575.47	50.00	575.47	0	600.00	96	(24.53)	600.00	24.53
Water and Garbage	228.17	4,761.83	400.00	5,076.40	57	4,800.00	106	276.40	4,800.00	(276.40)
<b>Total Utilities Expense</b>	<b>\$2,688.46</b>	<b>\$25,802.97</b>	<b>\$2,399.00</b>	<b>\$30,467.05</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>\$28,700.00</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>\$1,767.05</b>	<b>\$28,700.00</b>	<b>(\$1,767.05)</b>
Building Maintenance	261.39	7,375.32	413.00	11,081.41	63	5,000.00	222	6,081.41	5,000.00	(6,081.41)
Grounds Maintenance	775.32	3,409.20	375.00	3,571.19	207	4,500.00	79	(928.81)	4,500.00	928.81
Insurance	4,401.50	12,591.25	1,163.00	13,797.50	378	14,000.00	99	(202.50)	14,000.00	202.50
Janitor	665.63	8,128.03	688.00	8,040.81	97	8,300.00	97	(259.19)	8,300.00	259.19
<b>Total Grounds/Build Expense</b>	<b>\$6,103.84</b>	<b>\$31,503.80</b>	<b>\$2,639.00</b>	<b>\$36,490.91</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>\$31,800.00</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>\$4,690.91</b>	<b>\$31,800.00</b>	<b>(\$4,690.91)</b>
Costa Rica Sister Church	600.00	7,200.00	600.00	7,200.00	100	7,200.00	100	0.00	7,200.00	0.00
CUE Seminary Support	125.00	1,338.96	125.00	1,500.00	100	1,500.00	100	0.00	1,500.00	0.00
OCWM Basic Support	1,825.00	21,500.04	1,825.00	21,900.00	100	21,900.00	100	0.00	21,900.00	0.00
Placerville Camp Operations	125.00	600.00	125.00	1,500.00	100	1,500.00	100	0.00	1,500.00	0.00
Undestig. Contingency	0.00	850.00	87.00	200.00	0	1,000.00	20	(800.00)	1,000.00	800.00
<b>Total Benevolences</b>	<b>\$2,675.00</b>	<b>\$31,489.00</b>	<b>\$2,762.00</b>	<b>\$32,300.00</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>\$33,100.00</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>(\$800.00)</b>	<b>\$33,100.00</b>	<b>\$800.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$33,916.57</b>	<b>\$301,168.57</b>	<b>\$26,046.00</b>	<b>\$313,691.81</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>\$312,695.00</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>\$996.81</b>	<b>\$312,695.00</b>	<b>(\$996.81)</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>(\$6,994.51)</b>	<b>\$5,473.54</b>	<b>(\$476.00)</b>	<b>(\$12,426.97)</b>		<b>(\$5,668.00)</b>			<b>(\$5,668.00)</b>	

No assurance is provided on this statement.



# Budget

## First Congregational Church

	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2017 Budget	2018 Preliminary Budget
<b>Income</b>						
Pledges	224,484	236,010	222,188	233,777	217,011	233,710
Nonpledge Donations	54,530	52,475	69,375	52,133	77,000	55,000
Loose Offerings	3,365	3,350	3,057	3,003	3,000	3,000
Rent Income	10,242	11,249	11,438	12,064	11,000	11,500
Wedding/Funeral	1,800	1,275	750	-	1,000	-
Interest Income	1,209	1,023	584	238	500	2,500
Miscellaneous	30	39	-	50	-	-
Gain/Loss on Sale of Investments	(18)	(367)	(184)	-	-	-
Endowment Gift	9,491	-	-	-	-	4,100
Unrestricted Funds	-	-	-	-	3,316	-
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>305,133</b>	<b>305,053</b>	<b>307,208</b>	<b>301,265</b>	<b>312,827</b>	<b>309,810</b>
<b>Expenses</b>						
Senior Pastor Salary/Housing	65,061	65,500	66,000	67,320	67,320	68,666
Senior Pastor Annuity	9,109	9,185	9,258	9,240	9,425	9,613
Senior Pastor Disability	976	975	992	990	1,012	1,030
Senior Pastor Health Insurance	17,540	18,256	13,233	13,885	12,663	12,147
<b>Total Senior Minister</b>	<b>92,686</b>	<b>93,916</b>	<b>89,482</b>	<b>91,435</b>	<b>90,420</b>	<b>91,456</b>
Minister of Education Salary/housing	34,686	35,727	36,750	37,485	37,485	38,235
Minister of Educ Annuity	4,856	5,038	5,181	5,145	5,248	5,353
Minister of Educ Disability	520	540	555	551	566	574
Minister of Educ Health Insurance	-	-	-	1,620	1,462	1,608
<b>Total CE Minister</b>	<b>40,062</b>	<b>41,305</b>	<b>42,486</b>	<b>44,801</b>	<b>44,761</b>	<b>45,770</b>
Secretary Salary	14,679	16,569	17,435	17,610	17,783	18,000
Treasurer/Bookkeeping Services	4,325	4,463	5,183	5,235	5,250	5,500
Choir Director	4,400	6,240	6,650	6,630	6,630	6,650
Bell Choir Director	1,800	1,872	1,930	1,969	1,969	2,000
Organist	8,700	9,464	9,900	9,945	9,945	10,000
Substitute Organist	300	300	400	600	600	600
Nursery Supervisor	993	845	525	841	700	850
<b>Total Lay Staff Expense</b>	<b>35,197</b>	<b>39,752</b>	<b>42,022</b>	<b>42,830</b>	<b>42,877</b>	<b>43,600</b>
Minister of Christian Nurture Salary	16,919	15,731	12,000	10,200	12,240	-
Minister of Christian Nurture Pension	2,369	1,871	(817)	-	-	-
Christian Nurture Stipend	-	-	-	-	-	2,400
<b>Total Minister of Christian Nurture</b>	<b>19,288</b>	<b>17,602</b>	<b>11,183</b>	<b>10,200</b>	<b>12,240</b>	<b>2,400</b>
Payroll Taxes	2,220	2,612	2,747	2,766	2,779	2,804
<b>Total Salaries Expense</b>	<b>189,453</b>	<b>195,188</b>	<b>187,921</b>	<b>192,032</b>	<b>193,077</b>	<b>186,030</b>
New Music: Adult Choir	520	195	490	398	500	500
New Music Bell Choir	330	258	251	250	250	250
Organ Music	-	100	-	-	100	100
Baptism Supplies	-	70	-	-	-	-
Organ Maintenance	154	-	-	800	-	-
Communion Supplies	76	-	162	80	200	200
Soloists & Special Music	700	450	552	500	550	550
<b>Total Worship Expenses</b>	<b>1,780</b>	<b>1,073</b>	<b>1,455</b>	<b>2,027</b>	<b>1,600</b>	<b>1,600</b>

# Budget

	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2017 Budget	2018 Preliminary Budget
CE Training	70	68	1,085	85	74	
CE Curriculum Resources	3,502	3,129	2,495	2,676	3,400	
CE Youth Conferences	400	685	313	630	745	
CE Program Expenses	1,204	1,123	1,063	663	1,221	
CE Library	-	206	132	43	224	
Graduation	-	68	13	59	74	
Retreats & Special Events	753	881	1,777	1,805	958	
Adult Education	757	970	678	884	1,054	
<b>Total Christian Education</b>	<b>6,686</b>	<b>7,131</b>	<b>7,557</b>	<b>6,845</b>	<b>7,750</b>	<b>7,800</b>
Black Hills Association	1,192	1,162	1,168	1,164	1,168	1,168
Staff Professional Expenses	322	789	634	880	600	1,000
Conference Registrations	-	-	-	536	500	500
Department of Hospitality	143	174	383	431	500	500
Sabbatical	1,000	1,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Wedding/Funeral Expense	1,450	1,157	300	150	1,000	-
<b>Total Ministries Expense</b>	<b>4,107</b>	<b>4,281</b>	<b>4,485</b>	<b>5,160</b>	<b>5,768</b>	<b>5,168</b>
Supplies	4,345	4,365	3,549	3,129	4,000	3,500
Office Equipment Maint	6,291	6,052	5,735	4,499	6,000	4,750
Postage	2,015	1,817	854	742	1,000	800
<b>Total Office Expense</b>	<b>12,651</b>	<b>12,234</b>	<b>10,139</b>	<b>8,370</b>	<b>11,000</b>	<b>9,050</b>
MDU, Heat	12,245	9,693	7,790	10,829	10,000	11,000
BHPL, Electricity	9,438	8,627	8,907	10,295	9,000	10,500
Water, Garbage	4,230	4,769	4,762	5,076	4,800	5,700
Stormwater Drainage Assessment	-	575	575	575	600	575
Communications	3,448	3,251	3,769	3,691	4,300	3,800
<b>Total Utilities</b>	<b>29,361</b>	<b>26,916</b>	<b>25,803</b>	<b>30,467</b>	<b>28,700</b>	<b>31,575</b>
Grounds Maintenance	4,157	3,832	3,409	3,571	4,500	4,000
Janitor	-	8,215	8,128	8,041	8,300	8,000
Insurance Deductible Buildup	-	800	800	-	-	-
Building Maintenance	11,960	4,393	7,375	11,081	5,000	10,000
Insurance	13,835	13,901	12,591	13,798	14,000	14,000
<b>Total Building/Grounds</b>	<b>29,952</b>	<b>31,141</b>	<b>32,304</b>	<b>36,491</b>	<b>31,800</b>	<b>36,000</b>
Contingency	-	406	850	200	1,000	500
Our Church's Wider Mission	20,525	21,141	21,500	21,900	21,900	21,900
United Campus Ministries	1,750	1,803	902	-	-	-
Seminary Support	1,300	1,339	1,339	1,500	1,500	1,500
Costa Rica Sister Church	500	500	7,200	7,200	7,200	7,200
Placerville Camp	-	500	600	1,500	1,500	1,500
<b>Total Benevolences</b>	<b>24,075</b>	<b>25,690</b>	<b>32,391</b>	<b>32,300</b>	<b>33,100</b>	<b>32,600</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>298,065</b>	<b>303,654</b>	<b>302,053</b>	<b>313,692</b>	<b>312,795</b>	<b>309,823</b>
<b>Revenue Over (Under) Expenses</b>	<b>7,068</b>	<b>1,399</b>	<b>5,155</b>	<b>(12,427)</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>(13)</b>



# Annual Meeting Agenda

Call to Order

Invocation

Receive Annual Reports

Covenant of Licensure

Capital Projects Phase II

1st Congregational Trust Report

Discussion and Action on the Budget

Election of Officers & Department Members

Other Business

Installation

Closing Prayer

Adjourn