

# The October Carillon, 2020



Hello Everyone -

Below are the September minutes of our church Executive Council meeting for your information. Thank you for your continued prayers for our church and our boards.

Gary Hooker, Moderator

## **First Congregational Church Executive Council Minutes September 28, 2020**

Present: Gary Hooker-Moderator, Pat Krehn-Vice Moderator, Ann Werner-Charitable Giving, Jack Butterick and Bill Black-Deacons, Stacy Church-Board of Christian Education, John Cooper-Board of Trustees, Jean Morehouse-Women's Fellowship, Jack Stewart-Technology Board, Susan Stewart-Clerk

Absent:

Gary Hooker opened the meeting with prayer. The minutes from the August 24<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved by Stacy Church and seconded by John Cooper.

.Public Comment - No public comment.

### I. Board Reports:

.Charitable Giving – Ann Werner – The Women's Fellowship made soup to go for the congregation and raised \$705 to donate to Crop Walk.

A. Board of Deacons – Report was given by Jack Butterick.

.Bulletins for the service will be available at the entrance by the collection plates.

1. Congo conversation calls to member/friends are on-going and well received.

2. The Praise portion of Prayer/Praise is now part of the Order of Worship for Sunday mornings. Prayers for/of the People is in usual location in the Sunday worship.
  3. All Saints Day will be celebrated on Sunday 11/1.
  4. A weekly altar call has been initiated by Pastor Mark at the BOD's request i.e. at the end of Sunday services he invites us to pray with him publicly, privately.
  5. Fifty 2" wooden crosses have been purchased/donated by a parishioner at BOD's suggestion and will be distributed on All Saints Day.
  6. We are looking into feather flags, Congo stickers and Congo caps/visors.
  7. The last newspaper ads for 2020 have been paid by an anonymous donor. Ads will run in the Times Indicator on 10/5, the Hi Lites 11/22 and in the HL's church directory through June.
  8. A/V components are on hand.
  9. We have put a deposit on an updated, aluminum-sandwich sign for our front yard. We should have it before Thanksgiving.
  10. The Pastor's Fund, to help folks in immediate need (gas, utilities) under \$250, has a balance of \$1,120.
  11. The Deacon's Promotional/Advertising fund, after A/V expenses and \$1500 for the new sign will be around \$1500.
- A. Board of Christian Education – Stacy Church – Attendance is picking up a little. We are averaging around 35 people per service.
- B. Board of Trustees – John Cooper
- .John presented the summary financial statement for August 2020. Income was at 74% of budget. Expenses came in at 53% of budget. Income was 8% down (not counting the money designated for future pastor salary) This was due to the fact that we did not withdraw money from Investments. The expenses came in 14% lower than budget. We are doing well.
  - .We will have a finalized budget on October 6. We will hold a special meeting to present the budget to the Executive Committee on October 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm downstairs.
  - .Pledges are coming in slowly.
  - .We have accepted an offer of \$28,000 and are closing this week on the lot north of us.
  - .Maple tree south of driveway will be trimmed.
  - .Sump pump in Janitor's Room is giving us some challenges.
  - .We have hired Mellema to paint the trim around the bus garage door.
- A. Women's Fellowship - Jean Morehouse
1. We are looking into changing the WF bank account from Chemical Bank (now TCF) to Choice One. We are looking to avoid fees and better customer service.
  2. The kitchen cupboard repair is in progress.

3. We will be making a final decision regarding the craft fair at our next meeting on October 6<sup>th</sup>.
  4. The Women's Fellowship made, packaged, and distributed 110 quarts of soup for the Crop Walk.
- A. Men's Fellowship – no report.
  - B. Technology Board – Jack Stewart
    1. Steeple Lighting – It will cost \$5,000 to replace the bulbs with a lift. Bill and Jeff are looking into alternative solutions.
    2. Basic equipment has been purchased for the A/V project in the sanctuary for about \$4000.
    3. The video process is going well but ideally we could use a “producer”.
    4. The lift has been fixed.
  - A. Security Committee - Gary Hooker
    - .Front doors now lock.
    - .Doing walk throughs. Everything looks good.
    - .No boogey man on my watch!
- I. Jean Morehouse moved to accept the board reports. John Cooper seconded the motion . All reports were accepted.
  - II. Old Business
  - III. New Business
    1. The nominating committee is asking people who hold positions now, continue their service for another year. Everyone agreed it was a good idea.
    2. Jeff Stewart requested the annual meeting be held upstairs in the sanctuary.
    3. Jim Rynberg sent a letter expressing concern regarding the fact that we only have 4 people on the Search Committee when the bylaws state there should be 7. It was discussed and decided that we need to remain flexible in these unprecedented times while trying to function with a smaller congregation. Gary will respond to him in person.
    4. Jean Morehouse motioned we add one more person to the search committee. Due to a smaller congregation and current conditions, we will be less than 7 stated in the bylaws. All work done to this point is accepted by the Board. New people are intended to enhance, not start the process over. It was seconded by John Cooper and yayed by all.
    5. The bylaws need to be redone when a new pastor comes in.
  - VI. Gary Hooker closed with prayer and the meeting was adjourned.
  - VII. The next regular meeting will be on Monday, October 26<sup>th</sup> in the Fellowship Hall. A phone connection will be available for those who would rather call in.

Respectfully submitted by Susan Stewart, clerk

## October Birthdays

2	Jean Morse
9	Lorene Witte
13	Jonathan Tuuk
14	Miles Cowles, Jr. Miles Cowles, Sr.
16	Leah McKivitz
21	Justin Pullman
22	Pat Dekleva
28	Lauren Olsen
29	Sally DeShetler Pastor Mark Jarvie



## October Anniversaries

8	Guy & Raene` Redinger
25	Gary & Judy Deuling
28	Bob & Bonnie Erber

**Our Church Family:**

Prayers for healing for Dave White following knee surgery.

We give thanks that Betty Speet's back pain is better.

We continue to remember Judy and Van Nadeau and their health concerns.

We think of those grieving the loss of loved ones.

We give thanks for new grand babies - Congratulations to Craig & Susan Zeerip. A baby girl, Everly Ann Olsen was born to Lauren and Elijah Olsen on September 9.

We pray for those affected by the Covid-19 virus. Those who have loss of employment, those who cannot attend functions, those whose plans have changed, those who have caught the virus.



**HARVEST INGATHERING 2020 ~**

Because of Covid, we don't want people to bring food to the church to be sent to True North. Money sent to True

North buys tons more food than if we went to the store to purchase it. If you would send your check to the church, we will send a check to True North in the name of First Congregational Church. Please have your donation to the church by October 15.





**All Saints' Day** ... a holy day dedicated to our departed relatives and friends at First Congregational church. Please plan to attend Sunday, November 1 and advise the families of these dear people, too. Deacon Jack

2017 - Elaine Tinney, Laura Jean Masters, Donna Smith, Judy Ramm, Ted Johnson. Vyvyan Pollock, Jeff Johnson.

2018 - Lynn Hall, Ken Hall, Mairan Schulte, John Dykstra, Jaime Deuling.

2019 - PT Lindner, James Morse, Robert DeShetler, Harlow Redding, Marguerite Peets, Gloria Hull.

2020 - Doug Jeannero, Jerry Miller, Frank Blain, Ann Jeannero, Georgia Paxton, Jack Tittle, Don Potter.



**Moved....** Boni LaChance worshiped with us for several years. She was a resident across the street at the condos. She called to say how much she enjoyed worshiping here. She has now moved to Greenville. Her new address is: 606 S. Nelson St, Greenville MI 48838