



ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023

Annual Meeting:
Sunday, September 24, 2023

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❖ **Jason Dillingham, Pastor, began August 1, 2021**

*"No matter who you are or where you
are on life's journey you are welcome here."*



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United Church of Christ Annual Meeting Minutes September 25, 2022

Meeting was called to order at 11:25.

Members Present:

Congregational members in person and watching via Facebook Live.

Andy Padden started the meeting, thanking Bruce Weiler for his service on the Board of Properties committee. In appreciation of his service to the church, Judy Maxim presented Bruce with an afghan.

Opening Prayer: Pastor Dillingham. Meeting was led by Moderator James Hohler. Those attending via Facebook Live were encouraged to participate by commenting on line. Andy Padden made a motion to accept the 2021 annual meeting minutes as written. Maureen Hohler seconded that motion, all were in favor, motion was passed.

In the 2022-2023 budget (page 8 of the Annual Committee Reports), Line 103 states there is \$1,500 for a raise/computer, this line item will be removed and this amount will be split between Line items 101 and 102. Chris reported that the budget for 2021-2022 was \$76,680.00, it is being anticipated that the annual amount given will be short of the budget. In the Annual Committee Report, page 7, the Crop Walk \$190 and Food Pantry \$50 should be removed from the Financial Secretary report. Motion made by Andy to accept Financial Secretary Report/Budget, this was seconded by Tom Scott, all in favor, motion passed.

Stewardship Committee, Gloria Merriman will be removed from this committee. Pastoral Relations Committee, Kathy Loft will be added to this committee, there is no chair for this committee. Memorial Committee, Verna Carr will be added to this committee and Sarin Hoogeveen will be removed. Board of Properties Committee, Dave England will be added to this committee. Diaconate Committee, Maureen Hohler will no longer be in the chair position. Music Committee, Maureen Hohler will be the chair for this committee. Stewardship Committee, the chair position is empty. There was a discussion regarding the need for people to be chairs for committees. Julie King made a motion to accept the council and committee members as listed/reported, this was seconded by Tom Scott, all in favor, motion passed. In the Annual Committee Report, page 9, the committee members should be noted as being for 2022-2023, not 2021-2022. On this same page, it is noted that the church council meets on Tuesday, this should state that the meetings are held on Wednesdays.

Open Floor: Cathie Padden voiced appreciation for Pastor Dillingham and Megan for their support of the church. James Hohler voiced appreciation to Cathie Padden and her work with the children's Christmas program. James also praised others for their involvement with fundraising efforts. Chris Edgerly spoke of the budget shortfall and asked for suggestions regarding fund raising options. Pastor Dillingham asked for suggestions regarding connecting with others to bring in new people. Kathy Lofts added that the middle school Bible class may help with growing the congregation. Motion made by Julie King to adjourn the meeting, this was seconded by Maureen, all in favor, motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted, Sue Kain, Clerk

Pastor's Annual Report

It may be that this last year was mostly marked by settling into a new normal following the trauma of a global pandemic and a year of recovery. This year was far less dramatic and perhaps saw a new normal start to take form. As with many other congregations around the country, that means lower attendance and lower giving, with more people connecting online only. This doesn't mean that we haven't been active or that we've not been trying new things on for size.

This has been our first year of an O&A (Open & Affirming) Core Team learning and listening together as we discern whether that certification is the way our congregation wants to live out our denomination's commitment to "extravagant welcome" and our congregation's personal commitment to welcome everyone, no matter who they are or where they are in their journey.

That process hasn't been without difficult conversations and push back around the community. Recently one of the other local churches formally disassociated from our Ministerial Association because of their objection to LGBTQ+ related ministries. I think that's an important illustration of how important it is for us to tackle this question together and decide if this is one way we can embody Christ in our community.

Last year I heard the encouragement to be more visible and involved in our community and have been doing several things to realize that. Following Ruth Fitzgerald's retirement as our Grand West Association (UCC) General Minister, I'm partnering with Rev. Jonathan Riedel of Newaygo to lead and host our Association Clergy Connection meetings going forward. I also participated as an expert panelist in a "Compassion Cures" seminar put on by Montcalm Prevention Collaborative. I made several really great connections at that event and I am now serving as the faith representative on MPC's Executive Board as well as joining Trauma Champions through Montcalm Care Network. The relationships I've been fostering through these organizations seem to be vital to the health of our county as well as potential for ongoing partnerships in other areas as well.

Finally, we've been trying out some new things here in our local community. During Summerfest, we opened our doors as a family cooling & diaper changing station as well as holding a very successful bake sale alongside the tradition of offering free popcorn and water. We've had a couple of opportunities to volunteer at Music in the Park and connect with the community there as well. And finally, by the time you read this, we will have started a new tradition of taking our worship service outside to the park to enjoy the beauty of West Michigan Summer. There's lots to love about our Lakeview UCC.

Church Pastor, Jason Dillingham

Moderator's Annual Report

As we transition to Sarin Hogeveen as the Church Moderator in the coming year, this year I've decided to take a different approach with my annual report. In past years I would summarize the various challenges and accomplishments of the church council over this past year. I would also praise and thank the members of council for all their hard work. This year I have decided to start with a call for help.

While none of your council members will complain, each of them seems to hold 2 or 3 different positions. Each of them are on multiple committees or have multiple commitments at the church. So, I am writing this year to ask for your help. Whether you attend every Sunday, or just some Sundays. Whether you are here year-round, or just in the summer. We need your voice, your input, and your opinions.

We are set to go into this next church year without a chairperson for the Diaconate and Pastoral Relations committees. We have numerous opportunities, and need, for new members on many of the committees (Board of Properties, Diaconate, Memorial, and Stewardship. Just to name a few). I am asking that you pray and meditate on a place where you can contribute your time and many talents.

I do want to end with a big THANK YOU to the members of council and all the members of each of the committees. All of your effort, and extra effort, is very much appreciated.

Church Moderator, James Hohler



DIACONATE COMMITTEE REPORT:

Members: Maureen Hohler (Acting Chairperson), James Hohler, Peggy Domine, Nancy Olsen, Julie King, and Tom Scott

Took Poinsettias and Cards to Shut Ins. It was wonderful to get to see and visit with them face to face again.

- We made sure the sign-up sheets for both ‘Soup Suppers’ (Advent and Lent) went around and were filled.

- The men of the Diaconate served breakfast for Mother’s Day again this year. The women did the same for Father’s Day. Thank you to Megan Dillingham, Mary England, and Judy Forgar in offering the fathers a treat.

As Acting Diaconate Chair, I would like to deeply thank all of Diaconate members for their continued dedication to serving the church family with their compassion and love.

Marcia Anderson will be stepping down. We want to thank her for her dedication to this committee. She was always willing to step up and show her love to all her church family and the wider community.

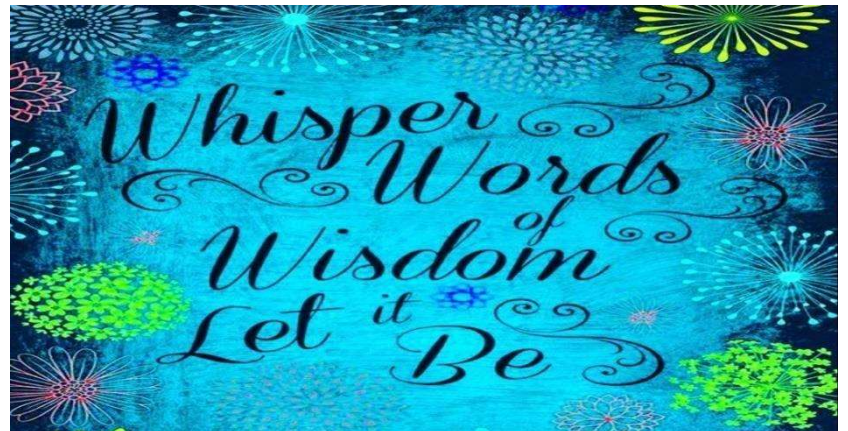
We also would like to welcome Julie King. She joined us last year at this time and has been a welcome addition to the Deacons.

God’s Blessings

Your, Acting Diaconate Chair, Maureen Hohler

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE:

Over the past year thru our special monthly offerings, our church continues to support our local community thru our Family Assistance Fund, the Food truck, the local Food Pantry, and the LAMA Crop Walk. During the Christmas season, we adopted 6 children from the Lakeview Community Giving Tree and gave to Veterans of the Cross. We also supported James Tanis with his Bags for the Homeless.



We support our Church's wider mission in supporting our denomination's One Great Hour of Sharing and Neighbors in Need. When an earthquake hit in January, we helped by giving support to earthquake victims in need. All our support was given to help God's children around the world. Thank you for all your donations.

Your Stewardship Committee,
Chris Edgerly
Ruth Boyce
Rosie Witt

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

Christmas and Easter celebrations were blessed by our kids, under Dr. Cathie Padden's direction, sharing their talents. Our thanks to Dr. Cathie, the kids, and their parents for making our services extra special.

At Christmas we gave out ornaments to our youth. For Easter we had a scavenger hunt for them. A big thank you to Julie King, Dr. Tiffany Padden, and Megan Dillingham for taking over Sunday school on Sunday's I could not be there.

We also assisted with providing a meal for the monthly Middle School Bible Class that met at our church. There were 15 kids who participated in the program that was led by Aleta Hall of Rural Bible Ministries (RBM). Thank you to Mindy Raglin and Pastor Jason Dillingham for your help and support. Thanks to those who donated money and items to this ministry.

Our young people and their families are a blessing to our church. We are so thankful for them.



Submitted by Judy Maxim.



PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE:

Members: Judy Maxim, Nancy Olsen, Kathie Lofts, James Hohler.

The Pastoral Relations committee is thankful for the addition of Kathie Lofts to our group. We continued to meet with Pastor Jason throughout the year. A major project for us was reviewing and updating our church profile. With Pastor Jason being an Interim pastor, this was recommended by the conference. We also distributed a pastoral review form. The results will be reported in the bulletin.



BOARD OF PROPERTIES:

Board of Properties Committee: David England, Tom Scott, and Andrew Padden

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE:

Memorial Committee Members: Karen Kehl, Chair-person, Mary Snyder, Verna Carr

We received many gifts this past year and was able to help pay for our new refrigerator and the new door in connector,.. We thank all the friends and families who have been so generous.. Our committee would appreciate any ideas for next year, Sincerely, Karen Kehl



MUSIC COMMITTEE:

Chair: Maureen Hohler

Members: Cathy Padden, Judy Forgar, Verna Ritsema, and James Tanis

I would like to thank all the people who have shared their musical gifts through this past year. Whether it was playing an instrument, singing, or picking out music and helping to organize others to share their gifts. Cathy Padden has once again stepped up with the children and we had beautiful young voices for Easter and Christmas. Judy Forger, Verna Ritsema, and Dean Gilbert, thank you for your beautiful

piano playing.

Mary England, thank you for picking out Easter and Christmas music for our small but mighty choir. (David and Mary England, Elaine Rossman, Judy Maxim, Maureen Hohler, and anyone who wants to be mighty with us)

We are starting a praise band this year. Singing some contemporary music.

Thanks Gary and Andy Padden, Dean Gilbert for adding your gifts to this endeavor. Also, thanks to Judy Maxim for helping pick out and organize music.

God Bless, Maureen

Open and Affirming Annual Report:

2022 – 2023

ONA Ad hoc Committee Members: Julie King, Sue Kain, Penni Deshaw, Verna Carr, Kathy Lofts and Maureen Hohler

Mission Statement:

'We are exploring whether the ONA certification will make us a more welcoming and hospitable church in accordance with the UCC mission statement'

Let me begin with saying how privileged I am to be on this committee and taking this journey with this group.

We have learned a lot and will continue to learn. We have attended a couple of seminars and watched video.

Some of us attended our first 'Greenville Pride Picnic' in June. There was food, music, vendors from different Montcalm County Organizations and some just selling their wares.

We are looking at a Book study with learning material to further our understanding and deepen the love we have for the LGBTQ+ community and all of Gods family.

As we move forward on this journey, many different questions have come up. We invite any questions the congregation may have to help us all open our hearts and minds.

God Bless, Maureen Hohler





**LAKEVIEW UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
FINANCIAL SECRETARY YEAR END REPORT FOR 2023**

MONTH	GENERAL FUND	BUILDING FUND
2022		
SEPTEMBER	\$4592	\$105
OCTOBER	\$5996	\$110
NOVEMBER	\$4958	\$95
DECEMBER	\$8581	\$85
2023		
JANUARY	\$6231	\$95
FEBRUARY	\$4930	\$80
MARCH	\$6093	\$85
APRIL	\$8408	\$125
MAY	\$5319	\$135
JUNE	\$5146	\$85
JULY	\$6547	\$140
AUGUST	\$6210	\$85
TOTALS	\$73,011.00	\$1,225.00

ADDITIONAL MONIES COLLECTED IN OFFERINGS:

CROP WALK	\$190	TECHNOLOGY	\$182
FAMILY ASSISTANCE	\$619	VETERANS OF THE CROSS	\$96
FOOD TRUCK	\$628	FOOD PANTRY	\$250
ADOPT A FAMILY	\$901	TANIS HOMELESS SHELTER BAGS	\$304
NEIGHBORS IN NEED	\$180	MONDAY KIDS' BIBLE STUDY	\$620
ONE GREAT HOUR SHARING	\$371		

Respectfully Submitted: Chris Edgerly, Financial Secretary



#	Category	2022-2023	2023-2024	Adjustment +/-
100	Pastoral	\$31,500.00	\$32,500.00	\$1,000.00
101	Salary	\$15,750.00	\$15,750.00	\$0.00
102	Housing Allowance	\$15,750.00	\$16,750.00	\$1,000.00
	TOTAL	\$31,500.00	\$32,500.00	\$1,500.00
200	STAFF			
201	Pianist	\$3,640.00	\$3,300.00	-\$340.00
202	Custodian	\$4,000.00	\$3,500.00	-\$500.00
203	Secretary	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$0.00
205	FICA	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00	\$0.00
	TOTAL	\$14,040.00	\$13,200.00	-\$840.00
300	Worship			
301	Pulpit Supply	\$1,050.00	\$1,050.00	\$0.00
302	Supplies/Celebrations	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00
303	Music / Choir	\$2,450.00	\$2,450.00	\$0.00
304	Coffee Hour	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
	TOTAL	\$4,300.00	\$4,000.00	-\$300.00
400	Administration			
401	Office Supplies	\$1,500.00	\$3,000.00	\$1500.00
402	Church Maintenance	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
403	Parsonage Maintenance	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$0.00
404	Utilities	\$15,500.00	\$16,000.00	\$500.00
405	Ins./dues/OCWM	\$6,500.00	\$7,000.00	\$500.00
406	Administrative	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	TOTAL	\$27,100.00	\$27,100.00	\$0.00
500	Christian Ed	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$0.00
700	Non-Budget	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00
800	In/Out			
	GRAND TOTAL	\$78,240.00	\$78,100.00	-\$140.00

Account balances as of Aug. 1, 2023	
Building fund	\$1,395.11
Capital Improvement	\$300.58
Checking	\$866.40
Family Assistance Fund	\$1,015.07
Edward Jones Investments	\$9,570.88
Technology Savings	\$3,319.68