

WINTER CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

First Congregational Church, UCC

Winter Congregational Meeting Minutes

January 23, 2022 11:15 a.m. Fellowship Hall & Zoom

1. Call to Order at 11:20 and Welcome Jeanne Mantsch, Moderator

2. Opening Prayer Pastor Scott

3. Financial Report for 2021

Lorraine Halls, Financial Administrator - The year of 2021 ended with a negative balance of \$14,000. The PPP (Paycheck Protection Program/Covid-19 Relief) loan of \$34,000 that was granted does not need to be paid back because the funds were documented and used for payroll as stipulated. At this time there is no PPP for the coming 2022 year.

4. Review of the Proposed 2022 Church Budget

Kathy Bretl, Treasurer - As in years past this year's proposed budget does not have enough money. The revenue is projected at \$178,715 partially due to Port Pre-school cutting back on space usage and expenses are projected at \$262,476. Leaving us short around \$84,000 unless proceeds of \$35,560 are used from the 2019 Marquardt Gift then the shortage is \$48,200. It's possible to take a month to review the budget and meet again to approve it, or we can vote today and move forward. It's going to take controlling expenses, generating additional revenue, recruiting new members to close the deficit. Over the last four years almost 50 members have left. Fortunately, there is no current mortgage, but there is a loan for windows and no additional funds to draw from. Among other questions it was asked, "Can members volunteer to help cut expenses?". It's possible, but may be difficult, as it can be hard to simply get volunteers to usher Sunday mornings. Another question, "When church makes a purchase that we know is over budget what is the approval process?". The constitution states, before money is spent beyond the total approved budget expenses it must be approved by the congregation. It is felt, as First Congregational Church has done in the past, we will overcome the shortage and continue on. Thank you to Jane Spalding for providing the flowers on the altar eliminating that expense. Thank you to Mike Spalding for tuning the piano and keeping that expense off the books. Thank you to Brett Dimmer for providing his services in putting the Sunday services online/virtual, at no cost.

5. Vote to Approve the 2022 Church Budget -

Phil Stepanski motions to approve the budget despite the negative balance. Doug McManus seconds the motion. Jeanne Mantsch calls for vote and the vote passes.

6. Adjourn at 12:17pm

You may [click here](#) to view the Approved 2022 Church Budget. These minutes are not yet approved by the congregation, this will be on the agenda at the Spring Congregational Meeting.