

**First Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ**

Spring Congregational Meeting  
June 27, 2021

**Minutes**

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order by Jeanne Mantsch, Moderator, at 11:04 am. There were 16 people in attendance via Zoom (video conference platform).

**Opening Prayer:** Pastor Scott opened the meeting with a prayer.

**Acceptance of Written Annual Reports:** Ken Matthews moved to accept the written reports as presented and Bill Bond seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

**Election of Church Council Officers and Team Representatives:** Louise Mollinger moved to elect the slate of officers and Team Representatives to Church Council and Mike Spalding seconded that all nominations be approved unanimously. Motion passed unanimously. Rhonda Thompson and Jennifer Dimmer were welcomed as new members of the Council, as Clerk and Fellowship Team Representative, respectively. Bill Bond moved from a position as Clerk to Representative of the Property Team. Members accepting their first full term after being appointed to their roles in 2020 are Kathy Bretl as Treasurer, Mike Spalding as Liturgy Team Representative, and Jason Jacque as Stewardship Team Representative.

Outgoing Council members were thanked for their past service – specifically, Marti DeMario as Fellowship Team Representative, Bill Bond as Clerk, and Jim Clements who served as Representative on the Property Team.

**Marquardt Money:** Kathy Bretl gave a brief report on two existing pools of Marquardt Family donations for the church. Kathy explained that just as Rev. Jeff Suddendorf retired on Oct. 31, 2019, the church received a check for \$39,500 from an unclaimed Marquardt life insurance policy. Due to the pastoral transition and then the uncertainty of the months of Covid-19 pandemic, the gift had been held in the Church's checking account. Lorraine Halls, with Council's permission, has moved the money into a Savings account until the Council decides how the gift is to be used. Kathy also reported that there is also still \$17,500 in a Mission Fund which originated from a Marquardt gift that came to the church back in 2009. These funds are currently available to help support the mission and service efforts of the church and individual church members in their community service as well. Ken Matthews made a motion that 10% of

this newer gift be set aside in the mission fund for charitable uses and was seconded by Kathy Bretl. That motion passed unanimously.

**Appreciation for Extraordinary effort:** Special recognition was given to the work of Amy Gilhooly and Beckie Perez over the past 18-20 months from the time of Jeff's retirement, throughout the interim ministry transition, pandemic closures, the calling of Pastor Scott and his first months on the job they have gone above and beyond in service to the congregation. It was suggested that they be recognized for their extraordinary work in keeping the church functioning, engaged in ministry and in touch with one another during these months of transition and isolation from one another. All approved!

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 11:50 am unanimously.