

Grinnell UCC-Congregational Governing Board

Meeting Minutes

February 19, 2020, 7-8:20 pm - Church Conference Room

Members present: Terese Grant, Troy Dillon, Liz Rodrigues, Josh Sandquist, Ross Haenfler, John Ashby, Keir Johnson; Jessica Margrave Schirm, *ex officio*.

Opening Devotions

Approval of minutes

- January 15, 2020 Governing Board meeting minutes: **Approved** by unanimous consent.
- January 26, 2020 Annual meeting minutes: **Approved** by unanimous consent.

Reports/Updates

Treasurer

- Keir is familiarizing himself with how the church's financial reports are organized and setting up meetings with those involved with generating them. Nothing to report at this time.

Pastor

- See attached report.
- Jessica has been invited to be a process partner for the Iowa Conference to mentor congregations working toward Open & Affirming status. She looks forward to learning more about this role.

Open Business

Future of our Music Ministry Task Force

- Currently, the following people have agreed to serve as members: Molly Campe, Shane Estes, JoAnn Britton, Skadi Snook, Glenyce Conway, and Troy Dillon. Input from our current Director of Music (Ken Davis) will be welcomed, but he will not be a formal member.

MOTION: Officially name the above as members of the task force, direct them to begin work, and request that they submit their report by July 15. (Sandquist/Johnson) Motion carried.

Safe Church Task Force

- No update at this time.

New Business

Bylaws Amendments for Children's Choir and Outreach Ministries Committee

- Draft language for proposed amendments was reviewed.

MOTION: Approve amendments as drafted by Nancy Brown for presentation to and vote by the Congregation at a Special Meeting to be scheduled this spring. (Sandquist/Ashby)
Motion carried.

Future Business

20th Anniversary of being an Open and Affirming Congregation - Art Installation

- Pastor Jessica and Erin Bustin are developing programming around the question “What does it mean to be an Open and Affirming Congregation in 2020?”
- One project under consideration is to commission a mosaic by Karen Edwards on the cinderblock walls near the Broad Street entrance. Karen plans to work *pro bono* and construct the mosaic using materials donated by members. Pastor Jessica mentioned that the church may be able to pursue a grant to compensate the artist and offset any additional material costs. Work would take place this summer.
- Congregation would have input on potential wording featured in the mosaic.

Meals on Wheels moving to the UCC

- MoW needs a new home in Grinnell due to their current church home changing hands. They would likely move to our space at the end of March.
- MoW would lease space Monday through Thursday, roughly 9am to 1pm. The kitchen would be the primary space. Some activities may use the Fellowship Hall. The program does all of its own custodian and clean up work. Minimal food preparation would take place here, as hot food comes prepared and only cold food packages need to be assembled. MoW would be responsible for securing a food preparation license for the space. The MoW director will need an office space that locks; the game room is being considered for this. There is an existing lease agreement that can be adapted.
- Based on initial conversations with the preschool, it does not seem like it would pose a disruption to them.
- John Ashby recommended communicating with our insurance provider. Pastor Jessica plans to do this as soon as possible.

J.B. Grinnell’s Pulpit

- It has left the building for its new home at the Grinnell Historical Society, courtesy of labor by Troy Dillon and Josh Sandquist, where it will be reunited with J.B. Grinnell’s work desk.

MOTION: Empower Pastor Jessica to enter into a lease agreement with Meals on Wheels pending mutual agreement on lease terms and approval of insurance.
(Rodrigues/Haenfler) Motion carried.

Closing Serenity Prayer

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Rodrigues, clerk