

First Congregational United Church of Christ  
**Annual Meeting – February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

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**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
**ANNUAL MEETING / FEBRUARY 9, 2019 / 9:00 AM**

**A big thanks to Wendy Beaumont for setting up, picking up the donuts, and for making the coffee. Terri Drenth and Betty Murphy for providing the fruit, to anyone else who provided items and to those who attended. Thank you!!!**

- 9:05 **Call to Order** – President, Jane Shrosbree called the meeting to order.  
Invocation - Pastor Joe led Invocation.  
Appointment of Parliamentarian - Jane announced that David Drenth has been appointed.  
Quorum – Secretary, Deb Borders reported that quorum was established (26 in attendance).  
Approval of Agenda - Terri Drenth made a motion to approve the Agenda for today’s Annual Meeting; seconded by Lori Iles – unanimous approval.
- 9:12 **Approval of 2017 Annual Meeting Minutes** – Jane announced that the official meeting minutes from the 2017 annual meeting had not been located. In everyone’s packet, Jane had prepared a short recap of the 2017 meeting.

**Summary Motion to Receive and Place 2018 Reports on File** – Arly Spink made a summary motion to receive, approve, and place the 2018 reports on file; seconded by Larry Chapman – unanimous approval.

- 9:15 **Old Business** – None to Report.

- 9:15 **New Business** – No immediate questions.

Presentation of 2019 Proposed Operating Budget - Jane spoke to the optimistic nature of this budget, and that after first review of the Budget as proposed by the Financial Committee (Vice-President, Bob Spink and Treasurer, Terri Drenth), followed by increase requests by the Music and Worship Committee, the Education Committee, and Staff salary increase requests, the Council chose to bring this optimistic Budget to the congregation with their trust, faith and hope in God, to meet this budget. Deb Borders brought forward a plea for fundraising ideas, indicating that a formal ad-hoc fundraising committee has not been formed, but ideas should be brought to her as a start; Jane spoke on plans to provide and support online giving, targeted giving (specific Committee support, i.e. Music, Education, Missions, etc.), plans to raise rental fees and improved open communications with the congregation on specific financial needs for targeted giving; Arly Spink asked (expanded questions/comments by Deb Brinklow and Linda Smith) that the congregation be made better aware of who we are renting our space to in hopes of prompting each of us to think of other ways to promote our space rentals; Pastor Joe reminded us of all the good that we have done in the past year with the Parables Program, the Kids Kin-Dom Program, and how challenged we felt a year ago, commenting how we have invested and trusted God with confidence, and in return He has and will continue to open our minds and spirit to give and to receive his Blessings.

Presentation of 2019 Proposed Parables Budget - Terri Drenth brought forward a Motion in writing to change the FCC Parables Budget to include the increase to the Parables minister as voted and approved by Council.

- 9:22 **Nomination of Officers and Committee Members** – several names had been added to Committees

as reported by Jane; she mentioned that many Committees still have open spots and she sent out a plea for everyone to prayerfully consider their time and talents and to see where best they might be able to serve.

9:27 Review and Adoption of Updated Constitution and Bylaws: - Linda Smith asked Jane to highlight the changes:

- Committees will be working in teams, some make sense, some make no sense at all, but, by using teams, we will be able to have a 10-member Council in the hopes of being able to make quorum each month (51% attendance needed for quorum);
- Renaming Moderator and Vice Moderator to President and Vice-President simply to make the descriptions more modern and for ease of title descriptions;
- Removal of term limits (formerly 3-4 year terms) for ease of service commitment;
- Creating Active and In-Active Member descriptions, lots of discussion and questions followed, major difference in the two being an Active member is allowed to vote at meetings, In-Active members are not, and the choice of being an Active or In-Active member will be brought to and decided by the individual Member after periodic review of membership rolls;
- LeAnn Seto asked if a request for an additional change could be brought forward now, and Jane's reply was not at this time – Jane followed with this is the first time that the Constitution and Bylaws have been reviewed since 1996 and according to the existing Constitution and Bylaws, it is supposed to be reviewed every 3 years. By adopting this updated document, we are bringing it to the membership attention. Our hope is to keep this document as a living, breathing document, open for future (every 3 years) updates as the membership considers and approves, and that we need to move forward with this document as a start.

9:41 **Ballot Voting – 32 Ballots in Total:** 26 in attendance, 4 online submissions, and 2 paper submissions – Terri Drenth, Treasurer, and Deb Borders, Secretary tallied the ballots:

- Approve Motion to place the 2018 Committee Reports, as written in the 2018 Annual Report on file – **Yes/32**
- Approve the 2019 Proposed Operating Budget as outlined in the 2018 Annual Report (and thereby also approve Motion by Terri Drenth of revised 2019 Parables Budget) – **Yes/24, No/5, Abstain/3**
- Approve the 2019 proposed changes to the Constitution and Bylaws of the First Congregational Church of Chelsea, UCC – **Yes/32**
- Approve the proposed slate of 2019 committees and officers as outlined in the 2018 Annual Report, and with today's reported additions – **Yes 31, Abstain/1**

During the Ballot Counting, David Drenth spoke of his desire to create a Men's Group and Elisabeth Seymour spoke of her creation of the Young Family Small Group that meets in the basement during Coffee Hour after the 9:30 service, she expanded that the basement provides additional space for the youth to run around and the young families to connect. She invited everyone to come down and join in as EVERYONE is welcome.

9:53 **Other Business:**

- Lisa Jeffreys reported that Pastor LeAnn and the Christian Education Committee is working towards the creation of a Safe Sanctuary Policy and that training will be offered soon and applications for background checks are available for anyone who would like to help out with the nursery and/or youth classes.
- Arly Spink mentioned that the black hymnals (New Century) and the red hymnals (IMO Donna Baker) are available for anyone to take home – she has found them very helpful in funeral service planning.
- Linda Smith – commented on the importance of sharing our information across the Committees in hopes of sparking new ideas of promoting our services and space.
- Elisabeth Seymour spoke to the importance of not putting off the additional step for filling out the background check application – in that the youth program is expanding and more volunteers will be needed as our growth continues. She also spoke of her idea to being a “wax tender” – a way of intentionally being in the world and helping others to burn brightly in the world (and not burn out with life stressors, etc.) – she sent out a plea to join her in her quest.

10:07 **Adjournment** – Motion to adjourn was made by Janice Horning, seconded by Dickie Smith – unanimously approval.

### **No Closing Prayer**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Deb Borders  
Leadership Council, Secretary

Special Congregational Meeting  
First Congregational Church of Chelsea  
June 16, 2019

Meeting called to order immediately following 9:30 worship service by Council President, Jane Shrosbree.

Terri Drenth was appointed to serve as Parliamentarian

Quorum was established by Arly Spink – 30 members present + 7 absentee ballots

Purpose of meeting: To approve \$5000 to renovate fellowship room stairway to basement – monies for this project come from Helen Harris memorial and Howard Baker memorial. Improvements will include replacement of railing, lighting to enhance safety and wainscoting to match fellowship room.

Motion made by Terri Drenth: “To approve \$5000 to renovate fellowship room stairway to basement”, seconded by Bob Spink. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Dick Smith, seconded by Terri Drenth. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Shrosbree

Leadership Council, President

## PASTOR'S REPORT

FCC Family,

As we grow in numbers we need to grow in faith BEING CHURCH! What is a Church? A church is not four walls, a roof with some gathering space. The Church as described by Jesus is the people who gather in Jesus name. As we reflect on 2019, we can celebrate many ways God has blessed the FCC community! Average attendance at the 9:30 Worship as well as the Parables worship continued to increase. Our combined average attendance has increased to 87 worshipers on Sunday morning. This is incredible when the majority of churches are scrambling to increase their numbers, FCC is leading the pack.

More... More... More EVERYTHING! Along with increase on the number of people we use more resources. MORE financial support, utilities, supplies, leadership, volunteers and physical space are needed to meet the needs of the community we serve. The UCC has a core principle of "Extravagant Welcome" which FCC has embraced through our outreach in the community, Hometown Holidays, Parables and Fun Thursdays. These are events that folks in our community recognize as beneficial to all! With "extravagant Welcome" comes some forms of sacrifice often of what may regarded as sacred. The style of Worship, arrangements of the physical space and how we can "Be the Church" in a time when Being Church is not a priority for many.



We dedicated our summer Worship experience the "Be the Church" banner that greets people as they pass by or enter FCC.

Being Church involves so much more than attending a worship experience and giving of our time and resources. Being Church goes far beyond the physical boundaries of 121 E. Middle Street. Each week we took the opportunity to focus on each of these virtues of what Church is. My hope and prayer is that we as a community can recognize the benefits of "Being Church" to those who are perhaps seeking a relationship with Jesus or just look for a place to be accepted just as God has intended them to be. This may include sacrificing some of the established norms of what you may consider Church to be! As we continue on this journey together, thank you to all who have freely offer your time energy and resources to make FCC a place where all are welcome.

God's Peace,

Rev. Joe Jeffreys

## **PASTOR OF INCLUSION REPORT**

### **PARABLES**

PARABLES has been worshipping weekly at FCC for almost two years now. With the first printed formal directory of our PARABLES community printed in December of 2019, it feels that we have successfully created the first and foundational level of community. A significant amount of “jelling” in our relationships has begun to have the power to transform each other in significant ways.

Here’s my rough sketch of stages in community development, based on several theories:

1. Foundation and Norms established
2. Deeper Ownership by group members
3. Important and inevitable conflicts emerge
4. Healthy cohesion is formed through a) ongoing discernment/ non-violent communication and b) embracing the necessary losses involved in God’s pruning

I believe our work to create the Foundation and Norms of PARABLES is complete. With the printing of our directory, I celebrate the work of Spirit in our midst as we begin the second stage of community development in January 2020.

This year in a nut-shell brought some new and deeper ways of belonging to each other and God in Christ:

--five of the six people who became FCC members this year are regular participants at Parables

--as the Parables community has done every year, it continues to give a significant more in its weekly offering than we budgeted for

--even if St. Louis Center is unable to join us on a Sunday, we still have enough people of diversity with us that our community feels full and rich, unlike a year ago

--our Parables ministry has brought significant diversity to the Kids’ Kin-dom program, as well

--the summer preaching series on our front banner “BE THE CHURCH” showed people who were weary of church just taking care of its own, that church also means being intentionally committed to those who don’t yet know the freedom and joy found in Christ

--during our Gathering of Gifts/Stewardship campaign and our Advent candle lighting, we invited families to share with us “why church matters to them.” The results from their sharing reassured us that Parables is making a difference in the lives of many who would otherwise not be interested in church because of their life circumstances or the negative messages they have received from church in the past

### **Kids’ Kin-dom**

The fact that this year Kids’ Kin-dom has its OWN report is significant in the growth of our children’s ministry program! In the first half of 2019, we continued with the single group of children each week meeting with me and another adult volunteer using the Orange curriculum. Orange also provides us with an electronic weekly parent app, giving parents ideas of how to continue the learning and conversation in their families after Sunday morning.

By the summer of 2019, we had such a large number of children participating regularly that Lisa Jeffreys and I created an early elementary and upper elementary program that meets during the 9:30am

worship time. This also encourages the spiritual growth of adults in the church, as the volunteers each reflect on their own faith and put it into words for the kids.

Sept 15-Oct 27: 6-week session A

K-2 teachers 1. 2.

Club 345 teachers 1. 2.

Nov 10-Dec 8: 5-week session B (Christmas Pageant on the 15th)

K-2 teachers 1. 2.

Club 345 teachers 1. 2.

Jan 12-Feb 23: 5-week session C

K-2 teachers 1. 2.

Club 345 teachers 1. 2.

March 8- March 29: 4-week session D

K-2 teachers 1. 2.

Club 345 teachers 1. 2.

April 5-May 24: 6-week session E

K-2 teachers 1. 2.

Club 345 teachers 1. 2.

The adult volunteers teach in just 4-6 week chunks, in order to allow small group leaders to rotate in and out without continually missing worship themselves, but still sharing their gifts with our youngest members. I lead the large group Bible story time each week, and then the 4 adult volunteers use the lesson plans I send to them earlier in the week to create the follow-up activities for their respective small groups.

Respectfully Submitted;

Rev. LeAnn Seto

Pastor of Inclusion



## President's Report

I am honored to be the President of our Leadership Council, and proud of our many important accomplishments in 2019.

### Highlights:

- Approval of our Constitution Revision at the February 2019 Meeting, including important changes in the structure of our Council.
- Kids Kin-Dom Explosion!
- Increased attendance at both services
- Successful BBQ and several other fundraising opportunities – Spring flower sale, Java Joe's sale of coffee, fudge and baking mixes, Poinsettia Sale, dishcloth sale
- Incredible Christmas Pageant – the sanctuary was full!
- Open and Affirming Committee has completed our covenant for presentation to the FCC membership for approval at our Annual Meeting to assure inclusivity of all people.
- Wonderful performances by Joyful Noise – our children's chorus – even a return of the chimes!
- Electronic giving – the use of credit cards was especially helpful at the summer BBQ.
- Fun February Council meeting brainstorming "Dreams and Goals" for FCC.
- Council Retreat in June – enjoyed building relationships with each other and discussing possible plans to achieve our "Dreams and Goals" – examples: name tags for worship service, organizing policies/files, development of small groups relationship building, bringing back member story articles in our Commentary, development of Men's group, creation of a vision statement with revision of our mission statement, increase community outreach, honoring local veterans, honoring first responders, ONA committee's continued work on development of a covenant, Chelsea Historical Day at FCC, provide community film series (documentaries), provide divorce care for children, create environment awareness activities...
- Devoted majority of July meeting to working on our Vision and Mission statements. We enjoyed brainstorming words and phrases that describe FCC and posted those results in the fellowship area with lots of positive input received.

### Challenges:

- Loss of several long-time active members.
- Many open positions on Leadership Council and committees.
- Changes bring challenges
- Decrease in giving.

Despite our challenges, I constantly remind myself that we have so very much to be thankful for. One of my favorite quotes is "Trust in the slow work of God" - Pierre Teilhard de Chardin. I continue to feel God working in us and with us as we worship and serve. Thank you for all you do to support me and our wonderful Church.

Blessings to All,

Jane Shrosbree, President

# INVESTMENT REPORT

	Month End Total	Dividends	2019 Withdrawals
2018 Dividends		\$ 21,622	
2019 Dividends YTD		\$ 21,022	
12/31/18 Investment Amount	\$ 547,984		
6/30/19 Investment Amount	\$ 574,400		
9/30/19 Investment Amount	\$ 573,622		
10/31/19 Investment Amount	\$ 559,942		
11/30/19 Investment Amount	\$ 560,453		
12/31/19 Investment Amount	\$ 566,630		
Investment Categories	Percentage	Amount	
Capital Improvement	14.2630%	\$ 80,818.44	\$ 2,715
Operating Emergency Fund	0.0020%	\$ 10.97	\$ 17,635
Spaulding Total	13.0118%	\$ 73,728.76	
Bertha	0.0947%	\$ 536.60	\$ 25,200
Warren	12.9173%	\$ 73,193.30	
First Congregational Endowment Fund	68.6260%	\$ 388,855.50	
Scholarship	2.8563%	\$ 16,184.65	\$ 2,000
Mission Trip	1.2400%	\$ 7,026.21	
Total	99.9991%	\$ 566,630	

## Withdrawals:

January General Fund	\$ 7,500
February General Fund	\$ 4,700
February Parables - Spaulding	\$ 5,000
February Kids Kingdom - Spaulding	\$ 1,300
March General Fund	\$ 2,000
April Parables - Spaulding	\$ 5,000
May General Fund (donation)	\$ 2,769
June General Fund	\$ 3,165
June Emergency Fund	\$ 3,835
June Parables- Spaulding	\$ 5,000
July Emergency Fund	\$ 3,000
July Capital Improvement	\$ 5,170
August Emergency Fund	\$ 1,000
September Emergency Fund	\$ 5,000
October Emergency Fund	\$ 4,800
October Parables - Spaulding	\$ 5,000
November Kids Kingdom - Spaulding	\$ 3,900
November Capital Improvement	\$ 710
December Scholarship borrowed	\$ 2,000
Income to General Fund	\$ 17,365
Emergency Fund Withdrawal YTD	\$ 17,635
Total Fund Withdrawals	\$ 68,080

## To Investments:

Mission Trip	\$ 1,055
Capital Improvement (June)	\$ 3,642.50

## HISTORICAL BUDGET 2019

Category	12		Actual	YTD	OVER/ UNDER	12 Budget
	December	2019				
	2019	Year to Date	%	2019 B		%
				UDGET		
<b>INCOME</b>						
Capital		6,689.50	334%	2,000.00	4,689.50	100%
Fundraiser	(345.69)	4,737.96	95%	5,000.00	(262.04)	100%
General Fund Offerings	15,633.40	88,237.40	98%	90,000.00	(1,762.60)	100%
Interest Income	1.84	7.07	141%	5.00	2.07	100%
Rental Fees	225.00	1,839.92	46%	4,000.00	(2,160.08)	100%
Miscellaneous Income	-	200.00	40%	500.00	(300.00)	100%
<b>TOTAL INFLOWS</b>	15,514.55	101,711.85	100%	101,505.00	206.85	100%
Income from Investment Acct		22,565.00	100%	22,565.00	-	100%
Add'l Fundraising and Emergency Fund	-		96%		(626.50)	100%
		16.59		17.22		
		7.50		4.00		
<b>TOTAL INFLOWS W/ INV. &amp; ADD'L EFFORTS</b>	-	39,162.50	28%	39,789.00		100%
	15,514.55	140,874.35		141,294.00	(419.65)	
<b>EXPENSES</b>						
Capital Expenses - BELL TOWER/FINEAL INS	204.94	701.64	0%	-	701.64	100%
Pastoral Joe Comp: Conf/Edu/Travel/Prof	240.90	3,826.21	109%	3,500.00	326.21	100%
Association Dues		601.00	176%	341.00	260.00	100%
Conferences		100.00	100%	100.00	-	100%
Custodial	250.00	2,600.00	100%	2,600.00	-	100%
FICA - All Employees	407.82	4,784.70	118%	4,060.00	724.70	100%
Insurance: Building Insurance		4,289.25	75%	5,719.00	(1,429.75)	100%
Insurance: Worker's Comp Ins	272.00	272.00	91%	300.00	(28.00)	100%
Building and Grounds - floor mnt		675.00	68%	1,000.00	(325.00)	100%
B&G - Snow		1,770.00	107%	1,650.00	120.00	100%
B&G - Lawn		661.13	88%	750.00	(88.87)	100%
B&G - annual HVAC Mnt.		652.70	77%	850.00	(197.30)	100%
B&G - misc.		387.28	155%	250.00	137.28	100%
B&G - building supplies	16.49	406.51	81%	500.00	(93.49)	100%
Music Director Salary	1,250.00	14,200.00	95%	15,000.00	(800.00)	100%
Office Administrator Salary	1,232.50	15,167.05	104%	14,563.00	604.05	100%
Office Expenses: Office Supplies	327.86	3,310.60	110%	3,000.00	310.60	100%
Pastoral Benefits: Life, med,flex	515.47	5,670.17	94%	6,050.00	(379.83)	100%
Pastoral compensation: Hsg, salary & Tax	4,484.90	53,905.03	99%	54,410.00	(504.97)	100%
Payroll Service	51.75	692.30	113%	610.00	82.30	100%
Pastoral Retirement	2,720.50	5,441.00	100%	5,441.00	-	100%
Publicity	128.92	1,050.57	117%	900.00	150.57	100%
Utilities - Gas and Electric	461.30	4,523.68	129%	3,500.00	1,023.68	100%
Utilities - rubbish/water	35.74	780.01	31%	2,500.00	(1,719.99)	100%
Miscellaneous Expense	28.15	393.06	0%	-	393.06	100%
Utilities - Internet/phones	326.24	3,832.83	108%	3,550.00	282.83	100%
Education	500.00	6,568.72	106%	6,200.00	368.72	100%
Member Caring	20.44	903.76	226%	400.00	503.76	100%
Music: Guest Organist Fees	300.00	1,800.00	225%	800.00	1,000.00	100%
Music: Piano and Organ Tuning		275.00	58%	475.00	(200.00)	100%
Music: Supplies		562.24	112%	500.00	62.24	100%
Worship	60.34	1,036.18	62%	1,675.00	(638.82)	100%
Stewardship		21.48	21%	100.00	(78.52)	100%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	13,836.26	141,861.10	141,294.00	\$ 567.10	100%	
<b>NET</b>		(986.75)				

Submitted by: Terri Drenth, Treasurer

## CLERK'S REPORT

### 2019 Annual Report

**Members Confirmed:** 0

**New Members Received:** 6  
Susan Carpenter  
Anne Colone  
John Colone  
Dawn Easterling  
Doug Linn  
Elisabeth Seymour

**Baptisms Performed:** 1      09/22/2019 Easton Wrenn

**Weddings Performed:** 1      03/23/2019 Melissa Smith & Anthony Crawl

**Funeral or Memorial  
Services Performed:** 0

### Average Attendance in Worship Service

#### Traditional Service

January	49	July	46
February	56	August	36
March	58	September	53
April	71	October	46
May	55	November	66
June	52	December	69

#### **Average Yearly Sunday Attendance**

2015	-	50
2016	-	52
2017	-	48
2018	-	50
2019	-	54

#### Parables Service

January	23	July	29
February	26	August	32
March	27	September	37
April	30	October	40
May	34	November	40
June	28	December	40

2019	-	32
2018	-	33

**Special services not included above:** Maundy Thursday 04/18/2019 (18); Good Friday 04/19/2019 (104), and Christmas Eve Service (106).

Respectfully submitted by Sarah Herwick, administrator  
on behalf of:

Deb Borders,  
Leadership Council, Secretary  
January 2020

## **BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

**Members:** Chuck Armstrong, Doug Beaumont, Larry Chapman, John Colone, Gerald Harris, Arly Spink.  
Unofficial members: Judy Armstrong, Wendy Beaumont

**New contractors** for the church's services were obtained in January:

- Blooms Landcare, of Chelsea - seasonal cost for all plowing, ice melt and sidewalk cleaning is \$1,650.
- Nathan Cole of Chelsea - lawn care: mowing, trimming/fertilizer/weed control. Seasonal cost of \$625.
- Boyce Plumbing and Heating of Stockbridge - maintenance of our furnaces. Total cost is \$850/year which includes service on our 5 furnaces twice annually, washing of the air conditioning units once/year, and all filters.

### **Maintenance and repair completed by spring:**

Carpet cleaning in the sanctuary, Fellowship Room, basement classroom and office done by Dave Pichon of FiberBrite Carpet Care. Did you know that red wine stains can be cleaned by using white wine??!

Professional cleaning of hard-surface flooring in basement dining room by our member, John Colone. Very hard work.

Painting projects completed: west side entry and Parables closet shelves in sanctuary by a community service volunteer named Christian (friend of Pastor Joe)

West side double glass interior doors repaired and painted by Larry Chapman and Chuck Armstrong. Brass kick-plates and handles polished to a beautiful finish by Chuck Armstrong.

All-church work-bee prior to Easter included: cleaning of wood in sanctuary, windows and screens, conference chairs, painting of doors and classroom furniture, urethane staining, installation of a baby gate, light bulbs and ceiling panels replaced, ramps swept, trimming of perennials and shrubs. 20 adults and 12 children participated! Many thanks!

### **Summer projects completed:**

Bell tower was re-roofed by Go To Roofing of Ann Arbor, and the installation of the replacement finial on the top. Cost was \$5,070. Three layers of old shingles and wood were discovered under the visible layer, which entailed more work and cost than estimated. The company was careful and reliable and we would highly recommend. Scary to watch!

Our giant very old bell in the tower had its clapper repaired by a blacksmith friend of Doug Beaumont and John Colone. Work to remove it and re-install was done by the Beaumonts and Armstrongs, who also did a rubbing of the bell's original engraved words to call the people.

Flower bed maintenance/weeding was done by Judy Armstrong, Wendy Beaumont and Arly Spink. Flowers provided by Ann Colone and Melanie Odom-Groh. Mulch delivered by McCallas was distributed by Gerald and Matthew Harris.

**Fall projects completed:**

Repair/painting of ceiling, and the building of covering for pipes on kitchen stairs was done by Doug Beaumont with assistance by Wendy Beaumont. This was a long-time eyesore, well-done!

Re-charging and updating of all church's fire extinguishers and purchase of 2, a total of 7 in the building currently.

Electrical outlet repair in the sanctuary and ceiling light fixture in basement done by Lyle Olson. Poor dead bird in the light fixture over the sanctuary piano was removed by Pastor Joe! Just in time for Christmas! Thank you!!!

Many thanks to everyone who helped with work in our beautiful old building this year! It takes us all!!

Respectfully submitted: Arly Spink

**COMMUNICATION AND PUBLICITY COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee members: John Colone, Kate Roebuck, Sarah Herwick (staff)

**Publicity**

One thing the C&P team wanted to focus on in 2019 was determining who our target demographic is. Our goal in publicity is getting people through the door to see what FCC has to offer. After reviewing reports and data from Pew Research, Gallup Polls, Barna Studies, and Prochurch Tools we found important feedback in regards to targeting our publicity dollars. A huge focus was making FCC integral to the community.

Participation in community events such as, Sounds and Sights, Chelsea Fair Parade, and Hometown Holidays showed encouraging results and we look forward to continuing with these activities in the future. Our goal is to provide FCC with the most "bang for their buck." And activities mixed with a touch of advertisement has shown to be a method that works for this community. A BIG THANK YOU to John and Anne Colone for the donation of clear plastic bags that not only promoted us, but provided an avenue to provide promotional materials to the community.

**Communications**

We have moved our weekly emails to a web-based service. Using this service is free of charge and allows others to "subscribe" and "unsubscribe" from one central location. This will ensure those who would like to receive our email can at any time, and those who do not won't get frustrated with information they're not interested in. The service is used to support emails to the wider FCC congregation, PARABLES, Member Caring, and Kid's Kin-dom.

We also created an announcement request form and we continue to encourage committees and church goers to use the form for important information you'd like shared with the congregation. It is available online and in paper form in the church office. Using these forms ensures that our administrator won't miss these announcements.

At the guidance of leadership council, we opted to forego the Winter 2019 commentary due to lack of articles. We encourage anyone to submit articles or information they would like to share with the congregation. The deadline for Commentary in 2020 is February 15<sup>th</sup>, May 15<sup>th</sup>, August 14<sup>th</sup>, and November 13<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully Submitted:

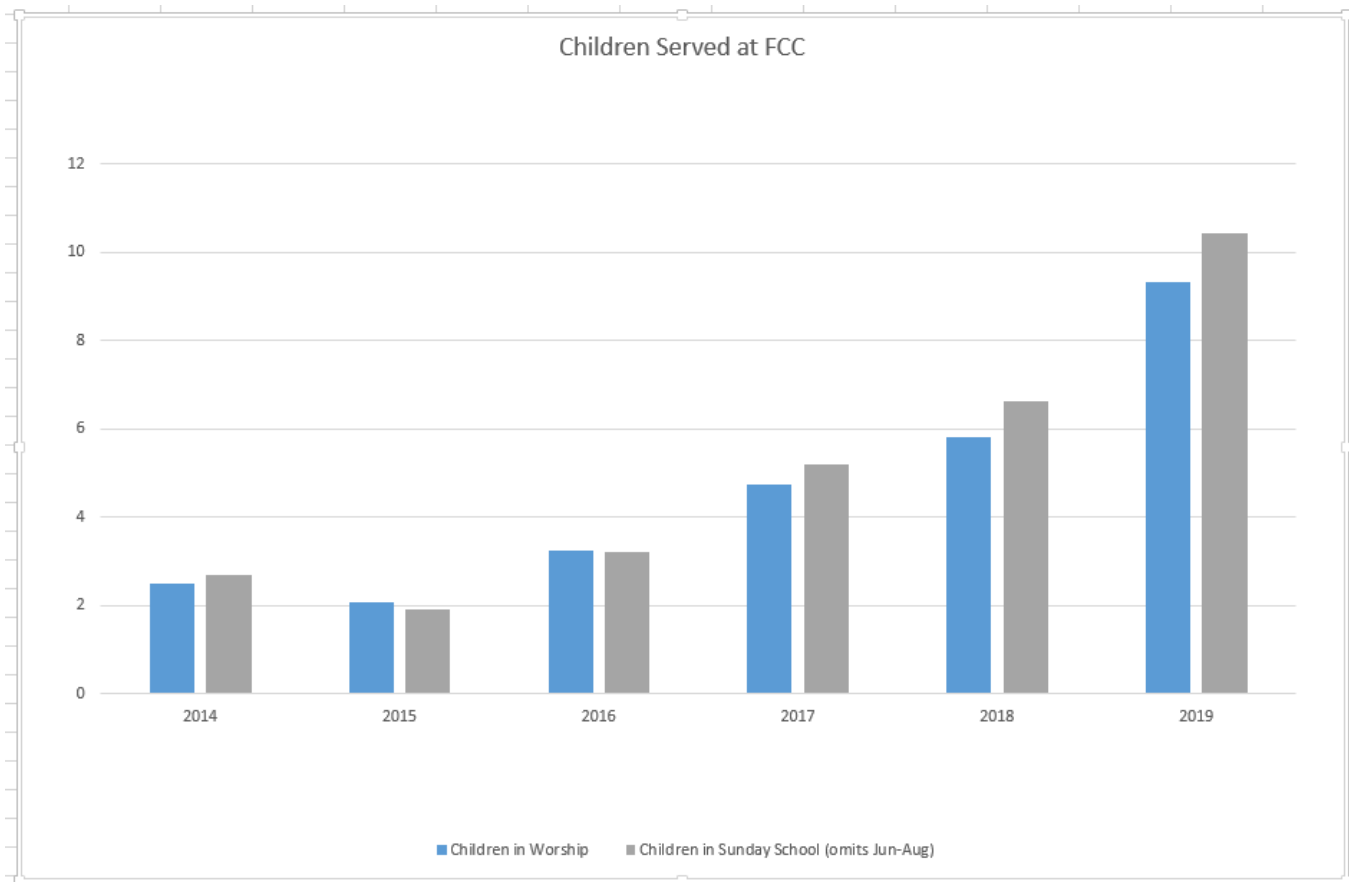
Sarah Herwick, on behalf of Communications and Publicity.

## FAITH FORMATION/CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

What we measure matters. We are the church. We can set metrics that support our shared values and purpose for a different future than most mainline denominational churches are facing in the current climate: *growing old* or *eventual extinction* (Lag metrics). ←

As a church it can be difficult to free ourselves from our obsession to compare ourselves to other congregations, or even past renditions of our own existence. Rather than focus on being better than XYZ congregation, or the FCC of the past, as a church we can ask better questions and set metrics that support a *growing young* congregation (Lead metrics). →

- What has God uniquely gifted and called us to do in our neighborhood?
- Where can we make an amazing contribution to the world as we live out the compassionate grace of God in our own lives?
- How do we faithfully shift from where we are currently to where we want to be?
- What team members, tools, resources, and relationships do we have or need to get us from where we are to where we want to be?



FCC finds itself in a unique position moving into 2020 as a **growing young** congregation. With that reality come both celebrations and challenges.

## Celebrations and Challenges of Growing Young Congregations

Celebrations	Challenges
Added vibrancy/energy in worship	Perceived as less than ...
Opportunities to serve (inward/outward)	Re-thinking how and who we serve
New faces = fresh perspectives	Can be challenging to hear/accept
Community connections	Added responsibilities for staff
Growing diverse leadership	Need to equip/train new leaders
Growing discipleship	Identify leaders to teach, added responsibilities for staff
Inviting more unchurched	Loss of “old ways”
Opportunity for cross gen relationships	Added programming
Creating diversity in worship	Challenging expectations
Growing young leaders	Giving-up established norms
More youth in Sunday School	Resources to accommodate
More people	More everything (resources, time, care)
Younger demographic	Trend historically to give less, less denominational affiliation
More church space utilized	Need for creating space, resources, challenge established norms
Creation of conversation friendly spaces	Building constraints/costs
Youth choir (Joyful Noise) /Christmas Pageant	Added staff and volunteer responsibilities

We are grateful to God for the opportunity to invest in and create faith forming practices with families in our community. And grateful and blessed beyond measure by the pastors, church leaders, volunteers, and church families who call FCC home.

We are also consistently in need of volunteers to assist us in providing leadership as Sunday School volunteers, Faith Formation (Christian Ed) team members, and prayer warriors as we continue to navigate a path forward with the Spirit guiding our process. Please be in touch.

God’s peace always and in all ways,

Lisa Jeffreys, FCC Faith Formation



## **FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE**

We started the year with a fund raiser to buy a drum for the music department and were successful in raising the full amount of \$268.

In May, we generated a profit of \$605.25 with the Merkel Gardens Spring Flower Basket sale. We sold a total of 111 coupons.

The July 26<sup>th</sup> Chicken BBQ had another great year and we were able to raise \$3,152.80 from this fundraiser.

During the Chelsea Fair in August, we pulled together a good showing at the ice cream booth and were able to raise \$500 – (\$250 for Parables and \$250 to general fund raising).

In October, Jane Shrosbree put together a fundraiser with Java Joe's selling coffee, cookie dough and fudge. We were able to raise \$219.61 from this sale.

During Advent, we sold poinsettias and were able to raise \$167.30.

In total, we were able to raise \$4,662.96 through 2019 fund raising efforts.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Fundraising Committee (Ad-Hoc)  
Terri Drenth, Mary Schrotenboer, Deb Borders

## **MEMBER CARING AND FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE**

This was the first year at the First Congregational Church for the reorganization of the committee structure. The Member Caring Committee was new. We are still working on how best to serve the needs of the congregation. There also can be changing needs of the congregation which may change the responsibilities of the committee.

The first meeting of this new re-structured committee was March 2019 with committee members Susan Carpenter, Sonja Wackenhut, Pastor LeAnn Seto and myself. Joining the initial committee was Mary Virkhaus.

The Member Caring Committee opted to refer to themselves as the Member Caring Team because we are working together to care for the members of the congregation.

At the first meeting in March the priority was the traditional Easter Breakfast because our committee is now responsible for Fellowship Meals. After talking to members of the previous Fellowship Committee who put on the Fellowship Meals, we found out the meals were not 'set in stone'. Member Caring could do what they thought was appropriate.

We started with a simple meal of soup and bread before Ash Wednesday services on March 6, 2019 with Easter Breakfast on April 21, 2019 between the 2 services. A 'kid-friendly' meal was set for the start of the new school year and Kids' Kin-dom Sept. 15, 2019. A Harvest Dinner with a twist was contemplated for early Nov. 2019 but a Stone Soup Meal, planned by Elisabeth Seymour, was a substitute because it

tied in with the church theme. Hanging of the Greens and potluck with pizza was December 1, 2019, organized by the Worship Committee. Epiphany Sunday on Jan. 5, 2020 did not have a fellowship meal. This year, Pastor LeAnn is starting a book study with a meal that begins the day before Ash Wednesday, February 25, 2020. Member Caring will help with the food. Easter Sunday Breakfast will again be held April 12, 2020.

The number of fellowship meals and date of those meals should be reviewed every year, things can change. We also need to work on how to make the meals more welcoming for new members or visitors.

Because we are the “Member Caring” Team, Pastor LeAnn was a resource on how to be a presence to members of the congregation. As part of this orientation, she ordered the book “The Caring Church”, A Guide for Lay Pastoral Care by Howard W. Stone. We read and discussed the chapters of the book over many meetings.

For several of our meetings we also concentrated specifically on grief. As part of our work, we each read or skimmed different books on grief. Pastor LeAnn will have those books available for the congregation as needed. At another meeting we focused on suicide, another meeting we shared what helps us personally through grief ie: prayer, music, poems, art, books, etc.

There is now a system in place to send a series of 4 books, “Journeying Through Grief” in a specific time frame to members of our congregation who have experienced the death of a loved one. Sonja Wackenhut is responsible for sending the booklets.

The Worship Committee and Communications Committee asked for our input regarding the Refrigerator Page Prayer List. The list was very lengthy and there was not a system set up to continually update the list. Our input was sent to Worship and Communications and with back and forth review and additional input, there is now a system. As part of the Prayer List, Member Caring developed a draft prayer request form that was also sent to Worship and Communications for input. The finished project is now in the Church pew racks.

Member Caring worked on a rough draft of a 1 page Welcome/Info sheet for FCC. We sent the rough draft to the Communications Committee because they are working on a Welcome packet.

Small groups were due to start in October with calls by me after Labor Day to the potential group leaders. I was not able to make those calls and Pastor Joe was going to take over that job. He ultimately decided that due to the congregation already working on the “open and affirming” conversations this past fall, one more possible change would perhaps be ill-timed.

For the balance of the year, October 2019 to January 1, 2020, I was not able to be part of the Member Caring Team because of my sister’s illness and death. Rather than being on the Member Caring Team, I have been the beneficiary of a caring Church community with the death of my sister.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Anne Colone

## MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Memorial monies from Howard Baker, Helen Harris and Richard Loftis accounts were used to purchase materials and cover labor costs for the stairway from the fellowship room to the downstairs dining room.

The purchase of additional bibles for the Parables and maps for the bible studies series came from Marilyn Wojcicki's memorial account.

### SAVINGS ACCOUNT

Balance on Hand 12-31-18	\$28,633.78
Memorial Monies	1,150.00
Interest	28.33
Transfer to checking	<u>-(3,202.27)</u>
Balance on Hand 12-31-19	, \$26,609.84

### CHECKING ACCOUNT

Balance on Hand	\$ 207.10
Transfer from savings	3,202.27
Expenses	<u>-(3,202.27)</u>
Balance on Hand 12-31-19	\$ 207.10

Memorial Committee – Shirley Chapman and Susan Urbanek

## MISSIONS AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

Thank you to Grace Johnston, with help from Judy Murphy and Terri Drenth and others during the year. We do not have a Missions and Outreach Team Leader, and hopeful several people will consider serving on this committee this year.

We have supported Faith In Action with monthly donations of food, and other necessary supplies. Our Foster Family project at Christmas was very successful with all tags taken from the tree and all items purchased. Our mitten and scarf tree was decorated beautifully with hand-made and purchased gifts which will be donated to Faith in Action. In addition we collected 2 big boxes of towels which were donated to the Huron Valley Humane Society.

In addition, the following groups received monetary donations from both special offerings and designated giving to Missions.

• OCWM – Our Church's Wider Mission	\$253
• Foster Child	\$399
• OGHS – One Great Hour of Sharing	\$100
• Veteran's of the Cross	\$45
• Jackson Interfaith Shelter	\$150
• Faith in Action	\$200
• Emmanuel House	\$100
• Shelter Association of Washtenaw County	\$122
• Friends In Deed	\$100
• Divorce Care for Kids	<u>\$200</u>
• TOTAL	\$1669

## **Crop Walk**

On October 6<sup>th</sup> 2019, the Dexter/Chelsea area celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the CROP walk. FCC had an amazing group of 35 walkers!! The total raised by FCC for the CROP walk was \$2,735.

Respectfully submitted by

Jane Shrosbree in absence of Missions and Outreach Team Leader – with help from Grace Johnston, Terri Drenth, and CROP organizer Arly Spink.

## **MISSION TRIP COMMITTEE REPORT**

MEMBERS: Pastor Joe, Wendy Beaumont, Deb Borders, Terri Drenth, Mary Schrottenboer

Due to the apparent lack of interest in attending the August 17-23, 2019 trip to the Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota, we decided to let the April 14, 2019 deposit deadline “clock” run out. We contacted Paula Sibal, the Volunteer Trip Coordinator at Pine Ridge Reservation, on or about April 15<sup>th</sup> to let her know that unfortunately we would not be making the trip in August.

With that said, because the \$2,875.00 deposit was non-refundable, the Committee decided to let Paula know that we would like her organization to accept the \$2,875.00 deposit as our heartfelt donation to further their work on the Pine Ridge Reservation.

With regard to the Butter Braid Pastry fundraiser that was held in April, 2019, we requested that our profit of \$1055.16 be deposited into the Mission Trip Fund investment account. A HUGE “Thanks” to Mary Schrottenboer, Julie Nelson, Terri Drenth, and Deb Borders for selling this year, and to everyone who purchased!!

Respectfully Submitted:  
Mission Trip Committee

## **MUSIC AND WORSHIP COMMITTEE**

We hope that the worship services continue to meet the needs of those who come to First Congregational Church of Chelsea (FCC), with a traditional service at 9:30 a.m. and the Parables “no shushing” service at 11:30 a.m. Below are highlights from the year.

### **New Members**

On June 6, six new members joined First Congregational Church of Chelsea (FCC). Elisabeth Seymour joined during the 9:30 a.m. service, and Doug Linn, Dawn Easterling, Susan Carpenter, John and Anne Colone joined during the 11:30 service. Welcome to the FCC family!

### **Spring - Lenten Journey and Holy Week**

The Lenten season began with an Ash Wednesday service that included prayer stations and our youth, Henry Kibler and Nora Seymour, helping with the application of ashes. Members of St. Paul’s UCC were invited to join us as we “United in Spirit.” The Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services were both held at FCC, with special music provided by Julie Nelson and Sarah Herwick, respectively. Pastor Joe and Pastor LeAnn were joined by local clergy in leading the Good Friday service which welcomed over 100 people from across the Chelsea community into FCC. On Easter Sunday the sanctuary was filled with spring flowers and paper butterflies, as our youth gathered around the empty tomb to learn about the

miracle of Jesus' resurrection. Joseph Kemper and Linda Smith provided special music. Classes to explore the meaning of baptism, membership and communion also were held in February, March and April, respectively.

### **Summer – Guest Speakers and Be the Church**

Several memorable guest speakers led worship services this summer. John and Anne Colone wrapped up the Vietnam memorial remembrance at the end of May with a very moving and powerful service where John shared his personal experience as a Vietnam War veteran. In late June, with both Pastors Joe and LeAnn away at the UCC National Conference, the Reverend Doctor Larry Odom-Groh and his wife Reverend Melanie Odom-Groh, retired clergy who FCC is blessed to have worshipping with us, led the early service. Elisabeth Seymour led the Parables service. During the summer, Elisabeth also hosted and facilitated discussions of Rachel Held Evans' book, *Inspired*, on Tuesday evenings in her home. The "Inspired" group continues to meet for fellowship and discussion.

The messages for the July and August sermons were based on the Be the Church banner that hangs at the front entrance, including: Protect the environment, Care for the poor, Forgive often, Reject racism, Fight for the powerless, Share earthly and spiritual resources, Embrace diversity, Love God and Enjoy life. In July, Mary O'Leary, an immigration attorney, shared about the conditions she observed at our southern border, and Josh Tucker spoke about his experiences growing up as a gay/bi-sexual youth in a heterosexual world and the acceptance he found at Parables.

### **Fall – Special Blessings and Orange Curriculum Resumes**

Two opportunities for special blessings were offered, starting with a backpack blessing at the beginning of the school year and a Pet Blessing at the end of September. At the All Saints Day worship service in early November, we remembered members and friends who transitioned into the kingdom this year.

The Orange curriculum, which focuses on a new theme each month, resumed on September 15, which was also the kick off for Kid's Kin-Dom and Kid's Serve Sunday. September's theme was Trust; October was Courage; November was Honor; and December was Joy.

### **Winter – The Season of Advent and Christmas**

Each Sunday in Advent started with the lighting of another Advent candle representing hope, peace, joy, and love.

Our Children's Pageant on December 15 involved more than 25 children. The children brought the Christmas story to life with a play titled, "Too Many Shepherds." Many thanks to Elisabeth Seymour for directing the play with assistance from LeAnn Seto, Lisa Jefferies, Kate Roebuck, Matt Kibler, and Megan Jefferies. The following children took part in the play: Bradley Dunn, Nora Seymour, Madeline Collins, Macaela Webber, Kathryn Dunn, Ellie Kibler, Aubrey Webber, Leah Murphy, Charlotte Clifton, Sam Clifton, Max Collins, Mason Collins, and Kiera Frame were shepherds; Madeline Roebuck and Quinn Jeffreys were both shepherds and angels, Edan Kutella played Mary; Logan Murphy played Joseph; Naomi Kibler was a purple dino; Holiday Williams was a llama; Hawkins Williams and Aaron Seymour were chickens; Henry Kibler, Paxton Webber, Camryn Jeffreys, Deacon Jeffreys, and Madelyn Dunn were sheep; and Nevis Spike was King Jesus. Otis Spike was a stage helper. Special music was provided by William Roebuck and Nora Seymour under the direction of Joseph Kemper, with assistance from April Murphy. It was wonderful to see all the pews full and so many children learning about the Christmas story.

The Christmas Eve service was a traditional candlelight service. Jane, Kate and Emily Shrosbree lit all the Advent candles and the Christ candle. Linda Smith sang a moving rendition of "Mary Did You Know"

and harpist, Bethany Lancaster, played the harp for the service. Poinsettias and Christmas wreaths decorated the sanctuary. Many thanks to everyone who purchased a poinsettia, or helped decorate the sanctuary for Christmas.

### **Music - Chancel Choir & Special Music**

A huge thank you to our regular choir members for enhancing our worship. During the first half of the year the choir consisted of Georgia Beeman, Jeanne Caselli, Stu Holmes, Grace Johnston, Judy Murphy, Julie Nelson, Larry Odom-Groh, Nell Olson, Carol Seeburger, and Linda Smith. We said a fond farewell to Stu Holmes and Jeanne Caselli, long-time choir members who didn't return in the fall. We welcomed April Murphy and Jocelyn Webber, who joined the choir in the fall. Jocelyn also provided piano accompaniment for a few choir pieces, as well as sharing her handbell expertise during the Christmas Eve service. Thanks to Dave Brinklow, Ruth Jennings, Nancy Loftis, Elisabeth Seymour, and Lisa Smith for singing with the choir as guests throughout the year.

A new youth choir called, Joyful Noise, sings on the first Sunday of the month. April Murphy assists Music Minister Joseph Kemper with the rehearsals and performances. Members of Joyful Noise include: Aaron Seymour, Nora Seymour, Harper Williams, Holiday Williams, Ellie Kibler, Naomi Kibler, Macaela Webber, Aubrey Webber, Paxton Webber, Leah Murphy, Logan Murphy, Nevis Spike, Quinn Jeffreys, and Maddie Roebuck.

Guest musicians, Alice Rhodes and Marsha Rinke provided piano and organ accompaniment for the summer services while Music Minister Joseph Kemper was on vacation and the Chancel Choir was off for the summer. Linda Smith and Julie Nelson provided special music on several Sundays during the summer.

Many thanks to all who contributed to a special collection, which allowed FCC to purchase a djembe (African drum) which has enlivened many of our choral offerings.

**Submitted by: Julie Nelson on behalf of the Worship & Music Committee;** Julie Nelson, Carol Seeburger, Elisabeth Seymour, Linda Smith, Pastor Joe and Joseph Kemper

### **OPEN AND AFFIRMING COMMITTEE**

Our ONA committee members are Josh Tucker (chairman), Rev. Joe Jeffreys, Rev. LeAnn Seto, Elisabeth Seymour, Susan Carpenter and Jane Shrosbree. ONA is a designation for UCC congregations that publicly affirm LGBTQ+ people, welcoming them fully into the life and ministry of the church.

We drafted and completed our Welcoming Statement in the fall and provided weekly information about ONA in the Refrigerator Page. We hosted 2 Question and Answer sessions in November.

We are pleased to bring our Welcoming Statement to the FCC membership for approval at our Annual Meeting. You can view this all-inclusive Welcoming Statement on page 27 of this 2019 Annual Report.

Respectfully Submitted by

Jane Shrosbree

**PARABLES MINISTRY**

**2019 Financials**

	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>Over/ Under</u>
<b><u>Income</u></b>			
400 Grants/sponsors	-	2,000.00	(2,000.00)
420 FCC Mission Fund	20,000.00	20,000.00	-
430 Weekly Offering	11,424.02	8,500.00	2,924.02
440 Fund Raising Income	<u>1,570.49</u>	<u>2,400.00</u>	<u>(829.51)</u>
440-0100 Fund raising Income	2,497.50		
440-0200 Fund raising Expense ()	<u>(927.01)</u>	<u>-</u>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>32,994.51</b>	<b>32,900.00</b>	<b>94.51</b>
 <b><u>Expenses</u></b>			
500 Rev. Seto Salary	15,886.00	15,912.00	(26.00)
510 Pension	2,244.00	2,244.00	-
520 Professional Expenses	125.00	500.00	(375.00)
530 Continuing Education	460.00	500.00	(40.00)
540 Travel	668.36	500.00	168.36
550 Work Comp/tax/payroll	1,613.08	1,600.00	13.08
600 Office Administrator	2,995.09	2,438.00	557.09
610 Office Supplies	85.16	200.00	(114.84)
620 Music Minister	4,500.00	5,200.00	(700.00)
630 Music Supplies	-	100.00	(100.00)
640 Worship Materials	270.93	1,000.00	(729.07)
650 Advertising & Facebook	1,183.05	1,500.00	(316.95)
660 Fellowship	758.56	1,000.00	(241.44)
670 Fun Thursdays	<u>156.40</u>	<u>200.00</u>	<u>(43.60)</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>30,945.63</b>	<b>32,894.00</b>	<b>(1,948.37)</b>
 <b>NET INCOME</b>	 <b>2,048.88</b>	 <b>6.00</b>	

## 2020 PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET

### INCOME

Capital	
Fundraiser	5,000.00
General Fund Offerings	88,800.00
Interest Income	7.00
Kids Kingdom transfer from Spaulding	10,000.00
Rental Fees	3,000.00
Miscellaneous Income	200.00
<b>TOTAL INFLOWS</b>	<b>107,007.00</b>

Income from Investment Acct	19,600.00
Add'l Funds drawn from the Investments if not raised elsewhere	<u>23,345.00</u>
<b>TOTAL INFLOWS W/ INV. &amp; ADD'L EFFORTS</b>	<b>149,952.00</b>

### EXPENSES

Capital Expenses - BELL TOWER/FINEAL INS	0
Pastoral Joe Comp: Conf/Edu/Travel/Prof	
Conferences	500
Education	500
Professional	500
Travel/Mileage	2,400
Association Dues	600
Conferences	100
Custodial	2,600
FICA - All Employees	4,953
Insurance: Building Insurance	5,719
Insurance: Worker's Comp Ins	275
Building and Grounds - floor mnt	-
B&G - Snow	1,650
B&G - Lawn	750
B&G - annual HVAC Mnt.	850



B&G - misc.	400
B&G - building supplies	400
Music Director Salary	15,000
Office Administrator Salary	16,684
Office Expenses: Office Supplies	3,000
Pastoral Benefits: Life, med,flex	5,670
Pastoral compensation: Hsg, salary & Tax	54,410
Payroll Service	700
Pastoral Retirement	5,441
Publicity	1,000
Utilities - Gas and Electric	4,600
Utilities - rubbish/water	600
Miscellaneous Expense	400
Utilities - Internet/phones	3,850
Education	12,200
Member Caring	950
Music: Guest Organist Fees	600
Music: Piano and Organ Tuning	550
Music: Supplies	500
Worship	1,500
Stewardship	100
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>149,952</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
<b>NET</b>	
-	

2020 PROPOSED PARABLES BUDGET

	2019	2020
<u>Income</u>	YE ACTUAL	BUDGET
400 CASA Grant Money	-	
410 CASA Grant Money - match	-	
420 FCC Spaulding Fund - Invest	20,000	20,000
430 Weekly Offering	11,424	11,500
Grant - outreach Employees		2,800
Grants and sponsors	-	
Commitments/Pledges	-	-
440 Fund Raising	<u>1,570</u>	<u>1,600</u>
TOTAL INCOME	32,995	35,900
<u>Expenses</u>		
Leadership Salary & Benefits	20,996	21,256
600 Office Administrator	2,995	3,100
Outreach Employees	-	2,800
610 Office Supplies	85	150
620 Music Minister	4,500	5,200
630 Music Supplies	-	-
640 Worship Materials	271	500
650 Advertising	1,183	1,500
660 Fellowship	759	1,000
670 Fun Thursdays	<u>156</u>	<u>300</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	30,946	35,806
NET INCOME	2,049	94

## ONA COVENANT

United in Spirit, we, the people of First Congregational Church of Chelsea (UCC), seek to be the Light of Christ to those who are “sitting in the darkness” due to their often-marginalized place in society (Matthew 4:16). Jesus Christ came to unite, to heal, and to call us into communion with each other and with God. Christ tore down social and spiritual barriers which pushed the poor, sick and broken to the shadows.

As Christ’s followers in the world today, we seek to intentionally welcome to First Congregational Church of Chelsea (UCC) persons of every age, race, ability, nationality, socioeconomic status, faith background, family structure, sexual orientation, and gender identity/expression who wish to know Jesus Christ. We seek to more fully embrace, welcome, and serve those from God’s family whom the Church has historically placed at its margins.

### **SLATE OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS -- 2020**

#### **Leadership Council**

President	Jane Shrosbree
Vice President	
Secretary	Deb Borders
Treasurer	
Worship Team Leader	
Mission and Outreach Team Leader	
Member Caring Team Leader	Anne Colone
Facilities and Operations Team Leader	Arly Spink

#### **Committees**

##### **Worship Team: Team Leader – NEEDED**

Worship/Music

Christian Education      Lisa Jeffreys

Parables      Anne Colone  
Bobbi O’Hara  
Claudia Doudney  
Elisabeth Seymour  
Sheri Hillman  
Susan Carpenter  
Linda Schweigert-Carnahan

##### **Mission and Outreach Team: Team Leader – Needed**

Missions/Outreach

Mission Trip                      Deb Borders  
   Wendy Beaumont

Communications/Publicity    John Colone  
   Kate Roebuck  
   Sarah Herwick (staff)

**Member Caring Team: Team Leader – Anne Colone**

Member Care/Fellowship    Anne Colone  
   Sonja Wackenhut

Stewardship                      Elisabeth Seymour

Weddings                              Betty Murphy  
Funerals                                Barb Wolfgang

**Facilities and Operations Team: Team Leader – Arly Spink**

Building and Grounds        Doug Beaumont  
   Larry Chapman  
   Gerald Harris

Budget and Finance

Memorial                              Shirley Chapman  
   Susan Urbanek

Leadership Relations        David Brinklow

Financial Secretary