

Summer Congregational Meeting Minutes  
First Congregational United Church of Christ  
Grand Marais, MN June 28, 2020  
Zoom Meeting due to Covid 19 pandemic

Jenny Delfs, moderator, welcomed everyone, and went over procedures according to our Bylaws and Constitution regarding congregational meetings; membership, quorum, voting, who would be assisting during the meeting, and how we would operate on this zoom call. She read our communication agreement, asked for questions, and then called the meeting to order at 10:41. 36 People in attendance.

Anne Swallow Gillis, Transitional Pastor, gave an opening prayer.

Jenny read our church's Mission Statement and Open and Affirming Statement.

Motion by Sandy Stover to approve the agenda, second by Gwen Mattice. Motion passed.

We were not able to approve the Winter Congregational Meeting Minutes, since these were not in the newsletter or emailed for prior review.

**Moderator's report:** Jenny briefly reviewed the last year, pointing out that the current Board of Directors (BOD) was elected at the summer meeting last year and were all new to this role, new to working together, elected in a time of turmoil and transition. It has been a busy year for the Board and congregation even before the added challenges of the Covid 19 pandemic.

She reflected on the role of the BOD as the governing body of the congregation – wholly dependent on support and input from the congregation, and responsible for oversight of the ministry and resources of the church.

The 2019-2020 BOD, collaborating with our transitional pastor, Anne Swallow Gillis, and this congregation, strived to work on several fronts:

- 1) To make our BOD business transparent
- 2) To make communication consistent and predictable
- 3) To grow together as a team
- 4) To continue the process of rebuilding, reconciling, and healing after a time of conflict
- 5) To encourage full congregational participation in the life of the church – work groups, committees, discussion groups...
- 6) To clarify, draft, find and update policies and procedures
- 7) To manage the church finances, contracts, properties
- 8) To supervise and support our transitional pastor
- 9) To reconnect to the larger UCC church
- 10) To find new ways to be the church amid the Covid 19 pandemic

Jenny will report details about specific actions taken in each of these areas in the July church newsletter. While the Board has been more successful in some of these areas than others, she feels things are moving in a good direction. She expressed appreciation for support and feedback



