



“God did this so that they would seek
Him and perhaps reach out for Him and find him,
though He is not far from any one of us.”

Acts 17:27 (NIV)

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
1212 1ST AVE WEST
SPENCER, IOWA**

MISSION STATEMENT

The First Congregational Church of Spencer joyfully worships and praises God. Bound by our covenant, we strive to be the Body of Christ throughout the world by loving, helping and supporting our church family and others through fellowship, missions, and outreach. Our philosophy encourages all people to experience God's grace by freely thinking and building personal relationships with Christ to the glory of God.

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OUR CHURCH COVENANT:

We covenant with the Lord and with one another and do bind ourselves in the presence of God, to walk together in all His ways according as He is pleased to reveal Himself unto us in His blessed word of truth. We purpose to devote ourselves to the study, the practice and the spread of Christianity. We will endeavor to be loyal to this fellowship, to help one another in the Christian life, to support the work and attend the meetings of this church according to our strength, ability and opportunity, and in every way to strive to make it a power in the service of God and man.

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
SPENCER, IOWA**

**ANNUAL MEETING
JANUARY 24, 2021**

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Invocation
- III. Minutes of January 26, 2020
- IV. Presentation of 2020 Reports
- V. Old Business
- VI. New Business
 - A. Approve reports of 2020 with the exception of financial report, budget & nominations.
 - B. Report of the 2020 Financial Operations and Presentation of the 2021 Budget
 - C. Election of officers and Core Ministry team members (see nominations report)
 - D. Capital Campaign
 - E. 150th Anniversary
 - F. Installation of Officers
- VII. Benediction
- VIII. Adjournment

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SPENCER, IOWA ANNUAL MEETING - JANUARY 26, 2020

Pastor Tom Van Tassell gave the invocation.

Moderator, Denny Phillips called the meeting to order immediately following the worship service.

Tom Howe moved, and John Zinn seconded to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2019 First Congregational Church Annual Meeting. Motion carried.

Sheryl Patten moved, and Vickie Montgomery seconded to approve the reports of 2019 with the exception of the Financial Report. Motion carried.

THERE WAS NO OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS: Rod Meendering gave the 2019 Financial Report. The budget set for 2020 is \$285,023.00, which includes the cost of the search for an interim pastor.

The money received from the Nell Alderman Estate will be used to help defer the cost for a Director of Youth and Family Ministry.

The kitchen project is moving along, with a great deal of help from volunteers.

The Fireside Room will be refurbished after the kitchen project is finished, with monetary help from Women's Fellowship. No money will be used from the General Fund.

There will be added expense for the search committees. Motion made to accept the budget by Bill Orrison, seconded by Bill Green. Motion carried.

NOMINATIONS: Rikki Hamrick moved and Kella Klinker-Simonin seconded to approve the nominations for the Core Ministries, including the Search Team for the Director of Youth and Family Ministry that includes Jared Gerlock, Tom C. Howe, Melissa Moser, Alison Munter and Wes Simpson and the Search Team for the Transitional Pastor, Steve Berends, Gayle Conover, Jay Oldenkamp, Sheryl Patten and Shelly Robison.

Pastors Tom and Wendy Van Tassell are retiring and their last Sunday will be June 14, 2020. We have been truly blessed by their ministry.

New Core Ministry members will be installed on Sunday, February 3, 2020.

Leadership orientation meeting for the Core Ministry members will be held on Wednesday, February 5 at 7:00 p.m.

Denny thanked the Congregation for the opportunity to act as Moderator and all of the volunteers, along with the Vitality Team; the Congregation, in turn, thanked Denny for all of his work. He then presented Rikki Hamrick, the new Moderator, with the 1951 Revised Version of the Bible dated October 5, 1952 used at the Executive Council Meetings.

Following the Benediction by Pastor Wendy, a motion to adjourn was made by Bill Orrison, seconded by Tom R. Howe.

Respectfully Submitted, LaVonne Peterson, Clerk.

JANUARY 1, 2020 – DECEMBER 31, 2020

NEW MEMBERS

None

DEATHS (Those underlined were members)

Verlie Amis (03-10-2020)	<u>Roger Hoberg</u> (07-29-2020)	Julia Walrath (11-24-2020)
<u>Judy Johnson</u> (05-25-2020)	Sherry Folsom-Meek (08-29-2020)	Jane Larson (12-11-2020)
<u>Middy Deegan</u> (05-31-2020)	<u>Candi Clark</u> (10-02-2020)	
<u>Rosemary Saunders</u> (06-13-2020)	Catherine Joenks (11-16-2020)	
<u>Lucy Beck</u> (06-28-2020)	<u>Robert Alderman</u> (11-16-2020)	

NON-RESIDENT ACTIVE

NONE

NON-RESIDENT ACTIVE COLLEGE STUDENTS

Katie Halverson	Noah Heiter	Connor Moret
Justin Sundblad	Junior Wilkerson	

LETTER OF TRANSFER

NONE

MARRIAGES

None

BAPTISMS

Addilyn Jane Richter 09-13-2020

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Total Resident Active Members reported January 1, 2020 384

Admitted:

By Letter of Transfer	0
By Confession of Faith	0
By Confirmation	4
Total Admitted during 2020	4

Removed:

By Death	9
By Letter of Transfer	1
By In-Activation	0
By Dropping	0
By Non-Resident Activation	0
By Non-Resident Active College & Military	0
Total Removed during 2020	10

Net Gain or Loss -6

Total Resident Active Members Reported January 1, 2020 378

HISTORIAN REPORT

JANUARY

2020 is the 400th anniversary of Congregationalism in America.

Kitchen remodel project began.

January 6th Michelle Tullberg the new church secretary began training.

January 7th was Congo Night Out; an evening of fellowship and fun at Weasy's Lounge & Grill.

January 12th Congo on the Lakes was held at Lakeshore Center at Okoboji, 12 families participated.

January 17th was the last day Amber Stoutenborough was our church secretary.

January 26th the Annual Meeting was held after worship. Annual reports were presented, and new officers and Core Ministry Teams were elected.

FEBRUARY

February the Transitional Pastor Search Committee began work on filling this position.

February the Director of Youth & Family Ministry Committee began work on filling this position.

February 2nd was the Core Ministries Installation of Officers.

February 4th Congo Night Out was held at Sammy's Italian Pasta & Pizza for a night of fellowship and fun.

February 5th was the Orientation of Officers.

February 8th Women's Fellowship meet for a brown bag lunch and meeting in Fellowship Hall.

February 8th was a church outing to Del's Garden Center making floral Valentine arrangements with 8 attending.

February 8th members attended the annual Valentine Tea at Peterson Congregational Church.

February 20th The Circle met at the Prime Rib.

February 21st -23rd the Winter Youth Retreat was held in Minnesota for the annual ski trip.

February 26th Community Lenten Services began with Hope Church hosting a lunch and service each Wednesday during the Lenten season.

February 26th Lenten studies of Bob Goff's book *Everybody Always: Becoming Love in a World Full of Setbacks and Difficult People*.

MARCH

March 1st began the Lenten Spirituality Film Series. With a film scheduled every Sunday night for six weeks. Each proceeded by a potluck supper and followed by a short discussion of the movie.

March 3rd Congo Night Out was held at the Spencer Country Club for a night of fellowship and fun.

March 14th the funeral for Verlie Amos who passed away on March 10th at the age of 82 was held in the Sanctuary.

March 15th Governor Reynolds issued a proclamation to shut down most services due to COVID-19. In person church services and all meetings and gatherings were no longer held at the church and were offered via Live Stream only or SMU Channel 2 and DVD or via Zoom. Pastors introduced a theme of "Creative, Connectional, Compassionate" during this time. Pastors and office staff continued to work in the church building.

March 18th a letter was mailed to the entire congregation regarding COVID-19 and how the church is here for

everyone and especially during a pandemic.

Fellowship and Congregational Care made phone calls to all members listed in the church directory checking to see if they were doing well and if there were any needs. Several people had offered to help out.

APRIL

Worship services, Sunday School, and all other meetings were held online, via Zoom or Facebook.

All Holy Week and Easter services were held online only. The Easter Offering was designated to Season's Center Crisis Team. There was no Easter Breakfast, Easter Egg Hunt etc.

Members were asked to pray daily at 7:00 pm for all matters related to COVID-19. They were asked to download Pray As You Go app on all of their electronic devices.

Church Members were reminded to continuing tithing to the church.

Special Music was provided by members that taped their performance and sent in to be inserted into the online worship platform.

The kitchen remodel project was nearing completion.

April 14th the membership of Elina Ozolins was transferred to Bethany Lutheran Church, ELCA.

April 16th a Re-Gathering Team was formed to consider how our church might safely re-gather when the time is right.

April 19th was Holy Hilarity Sunday; the theme was changed as it was not befitting the current pandemic. Instead of a sermon Barb Joenks, Sheryl Patton, Mary Shoemaker, Karen Forbes, Lucy Steffen and Helen Castenson each gave a meditation on the parables as depicted in the stained-glass windows of the sanctuary.

MAY

Worship services, Sunday School, and all other meetings were held online, via Zoom or Facebook.

A roof leak was discovered causing water damage in the hallway between Pastor Wendy's office and the secretary's office and traveled down a pipe into the PF room in the basement. Roofers were contacted and patching/repairing began.

Fellowship Coffee Hour was held via Zoom after worship.

Fellowship and Congregational Care made their 2nd round of calls checking on the congregation.

May 7th a 12-hour Prayer Vigil from 7AM to 7 PM. was held; those signed up to participate were asked to pray in their homes.

May 17th Sunday School Teachers and Music Ministry teams were thanked during the live streamed worship service. This was also Graduation Sunday; graduates were Justin Sundblad and Junior Wilkerson. There was no meal due to COVID-19.

May 25th we mourned the passing of Judy Johnson at the age of 76.

May 29th Service of Confirmation was held in the sanctuary during church services for Alec Edington, Lauren Ellis, Emma Fassbender and Jersey Norgaard.

May 29th the baptism for Jersey Norgaard was also held during church services within the sanctuary.

May 29th we celebrated the birth of Addilyn Jane Richter daughter of Jamie and Allison Richter and the

granddaughter of Gary and Linda Ter Wee.

Summer office hours will be in effect Memorial Day through Labor Day from 9 a.m. to 12:30 P.M.

JUNE

Worship services, and all other meetings were held online and Zoom with some beginning to partially gather for meetings in person.

Fellowship Coffee Hour was held via Zoom after worship.

Fellowship and Congregational Care made their 3rd round of calls to the congregation checking to see how everyone was doing and if there were any needs or concerns.

The Transition Pastoral Search Committee announced that Casey vanderBent was hired as the Intentional Transitional Pastor and will begin on August 3rd.

Missions issued a "Summer Congo Challenge" to members for donations to Grand Avenue Community Outreach, Seasons, Upper Des Moines Opportunity, ATLAS and Disaster Recovery Fund. Donations are being accepted through August 31st. Missions will match up to \$3,000 to be paid through the Pass It Forward account.

The Baby Bottle Campaign looked a bit different. Donations were to be sent directly to Cherish House or to the church to be forwarded Cherish House.

Meetings and Bible Study were being allowed once again within the church in Fellowship Hall. Meetings were to be scheduled with the office and all social distancing and proper cleaning procedures in place.

June 13th we mourned the passing of Rosemary Saunders at the age of 86.

June 14th was the final worship service of retiring Pastors' Tom and Wendy Van Tassell. After both pastors delivered the meditation, "Covenants: Becoming and Belonging" they participated in the Liturgy of Farewell and Thanksgiving. As a symbol of their retiring from their roles as pastors, they removed their stoles and placed them upon the communion table. The service was followed by a Drive-By Parade in front of the church for Pastor's Tom and Wendy. Due to COVID-19 restrictions a proper farewell event will be held at a later date.

June 21st Pastor Shurmaine McAlpine lead worship services and will be our summer pastor through August 2nd. Her husband Rev Bill McAlpine will lead the Young Disciples Moment each Sunday.

June 23rd – 24th the DYFM committee as well as other church members met at the park for lunch to meet the DYFM candidate Joseph Leggett and his family. Church members also took them on tours of the community, church, and boating and conducted various interviews with Joseph and his wife Sandy.

June 27th was the Annual Meeting and Conference of our National Association of Congregational Christian Churches which was held virtually due to the pandemic. Delegate Kathy Anderson attended via Zoom.

June 28th we mourned the passing of Lucy Beck at the age of 99.

June 30th the Re-Gathering Team and the Executive Council sent a letter outlining the proper COVID-19 protocol to follow when inside the church.

JULY

Worship services, and all other meetings were held online and Zoom with some beginning to partially gather for meetings in person.

Fellowship Coffee Hour was held via Zoom; however, interest was waning, and it was halted for the time being. The Re-Gathering Team continued to meet to discuss proper protocol and the possibility of when the church may be able to open for in person worship.

The "Congo Summer Challenge" continues through the end of August.

July 5th Pastor Shurmaine held a Drive-Thru Communion from 11:30 – 12:00 in the parking lot, dispensing to-go communion elements and blessing each one driving through.

July 22nd Pray As You Go resumed meeting in person each Wednesday in Fellowship Hall instead of the Chapel.

July 29th we mourned the passing of Roger Hoberg at the age of 93.

AUGUST

Worship services, and all other meetings were held online and Zoom with some beginning to partially gather for meetings in person.

Due to COVID-19 Worship on the Queen was not able to proceed as planned.

The "Congo Summer Challenge" concludes at the end of the month.

Fellowship and Congregational Care made their 4th round of calls to the congregation during COVID-19.

August 2nd Drive-Thru Communion was given by Pastor Shurmaine in the parking lot from 11:30 – 12:00.

August 3rd Intentional Transitional Pastor Casey vanderBent began working for the church.

August 5th Joseph Leggett began as the Director of Youth & Family Ministry (DYFM).

August 9th Pastor Casey preached for the first time.

August 16th Joseph gave his first Young Disciples Moment.

August 29th we mourned the passing of Sherry Folsom-Meek at the age of 76.

August 30th was a soft in person re-opening within the sanctuary; 51 were in attendance. This was also Rally Sunday and blessing of the back packs. Proper protocols were in place.

SEPTEMBER

Worship services were offered in person and live streamed.

Pray As You Go began meeting Monday – Friday in the chapel from 9:30 – 9:50.

Pilgrim Fellowship for the youth resumed meeting each Wednesday from 7:00 – 8:00 pm.

Melissa Moser ended her tenure as Education Coordinator now that Joseph Leggett was up to speed.

September 6th there was no in person worship to allow the Re-Gathering Team to make any adjustments as needed from for soft opening on August 30th. Service was Live Streamed.

September 6th Drive-Thru Communion was held in the parking lot from 11:30 – 12:00.

September 13th was in person worship in the sanctuary and will continue unless we are mandated to close again.

September 13th Addilyn Jane Richter was given the Rite of Baptism.

September 20th a Meet & Greet for Pastor Casey and Joseph Leggett and his family was held at North Park gazebo from 11:30 – 1:00.

September 27th Confirmation classes began.

September 27th a To-Go Church Dinner was held from 11:15 – 12:30.

OCTOBER

Worship services were provided in person within the sanctuary, live streamed.

We celebrated Ministry Appreciation Month and the congregation was encouraged to send cards and well wishes to Pastor Casey and Joseph.

The Transition Team began meeting with Pastor Casey to work on the "Development Tasks" which will lead toward the next phase of the transition process. This is not the team that will be conducting the search for the settled pastor.

MARS, Building & Grounds along with the Executive Council approved separate bids for roof repair to the church building as well as to the sanctuary steeple roof.

October 2nd we celebrated the birth of Etta Ann Schmidt the daughter of Nate and Brea Schmidt.

October 2nd we mourned the loss of Candi Clark at the age of 69.

October 4th Drive-Thru Communion was offered in the parking lot from 11:30 – 12:00.

October 4th the Youth provided a "Service Sunday" raking leaves for several church members.

October 5th due to heavy rains there was a major roof leak that affected the secretary's office, the Education wing hallway, ladies' room as well as the PF room in the basement and that hallway. ServePro was contacted to provide cleanup and equipment to mitigate the water issues inside.

October 6th and 8th Randy Van Dyke and Jennifer Loudermilk painted the cross in the outside courtyard.

October 10th an outdoor Contemporary Worship Service was held at Westview Park at 5:30 led by Joseph Leggett.

October 13th we mourn the passing of Catherine Joenks at the age of 63, daughter-in-law of Barb Joenks. Her service was held in the sanctuary.

October 15th rock removal began on the flat roof and sealing all leaks began.

October 19th the Re-Gathering Team mailed/emailed a Worship Questionnaire to the congregation.

October 21st Italian Night To-Go meal was held from 5:00 – 7:00 pm.

October 24 church outside clean-up was undertaken.

October 25th Makayla Black, Tristan Johnson, Owen Mack, Cate Munter, Louie Schmidt, Grace Simpson, Pearl Whittenburg, Vivian Whittenburg and Abigail Weuve received their third-grade bibles.

NOVEMBER

Worship services were provided in person within the sanctuary and live streamed.

Thanksgiving offering was designated for Mid-Iowa Community Action.

Bob Rose provided acolyte training to the youth 4th grade and above that were interested in being an acolyte.

Adopt-A-Family tree was placed in the Education Wing of the church with names of families and individuals and their gift ideas. New this year were nursing home residents. Gifts were to be returned to the church by December 6th.

Mitten Tree was also placed in the Education Wing of the church, the congregation was asked to donate, gloves, mittens, scarves, socks etc. These items were then donated to UDMO.

Food items were collected for UDMO in the "blue barrels" which were placed in the Narthex and the Education Wing. Food will be collected through the holidays and beyond.

Ministry Team sign up forms were available for those interested in serving on any ministry board or a specific event.

The Re-Gathering Team provided an update in the November Newsletter regarding restrictions within the church that have been eased since our initial re-gathering on August 30th.

Joseph Leggett presented the "Worship Questionnaire" results.

November 1st Pastor Casey led the Roll Call of the Saints including members and friends of our church family.

November 1st a Drive – Thru Communion was held from 11:30 – 12:00 in the church parking lot.

November 5th was the "Amazing Grace" 12 Hour Prayer Vigil from 7 AM-7PM, those signed up prayed from their home due to COVID-19.

November 6th Brian Schroeder Construction was hired to oversee the "Church Restoration" project (roof leak water damage).

November 15th the Heritage Dinner To – Go was held from 11:15 – 12:30. Meals were delivered to the parking lot and to some residents.

November 15th the congregation was asked to return their 2021 pledge cards.

November 16th we mourned the loss of Robert Alderman at the age of 92.

November 24th we mourned the loss of Julia Walwrath at the age of 95.

DECEMBER

Worship services were provided in person within the sanctuary and live streamed.

Due to COVID-19 there was no Christmas Children's Program.

The new 2021 theme of "Seek, Reach, Find" "God did this so that they would seek Him and perhaps reach out for Him and find him, though He is not far from any one of us" based off of Acts 17:17.

Christmas offering will be split between the Retired Ministers Fund of the NACCC and the Multi-Church Assistance Fund.

Fellowship and Congregational Care advertised for a "Web Master/Church Reporter". This position would be responsible for keeping the website and social media information up to date. No budget was set for this position as of yet, more exploration needs to be conducted.

Rod Meendering our church treasurer was awarded the 2021 Public Service Award by the Society of Certified Public Accountants.

Following Anna Davis's resignation, Elina Ozolins was rehired as the organist/accompanist and will begin on January 3rd. Due to her rehire and working around her church commitment at Bethany Lutheran Church, worship time will be moved to 10:15 am beginning January 3rd, 2021.

December 4th-5th a Family Christmas party was held at 7:00 pm with games and activities, Youth 5th – 12th grades then had fellowship through 7:00 AM with a "Youth Lock-In". All COVID-19 restrictions were followed for this event.

December 7th we mourned the passing of Jane Larson at the age of 86.

December 24th Christmas Eve Candlelight Service was held at 5:30. The first two verses of "Silent Night" were sung quietly at the end of service. The "Living Nativity" that was presented at the 2019 Christmas Eve service was shown via video during this service.

December 27th we bid farewell to Anna Davis as our organist/accompanist, Anna was honored during worship for her service.

COVID-19 continues to infect many people daily and the death rate in the country and world has exploded. Two different vaccines were approved in December of 2020; however, rollout has been slow. We hope that with our current restrictions and a vaccine, we will be able to resume a somewhat normal lifestyle and routine in the not-so-distant future.

Kella Klinker-Simonin, Historian

PASTOR CASEY'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2020

What a joy it is to be doing this again...to be pondering the work of the church year as pastor. It's all new for me once again, after having been unable to work for a while. It is also very familiar because I get to ponder with gratitude the good work of good people whose primary purpose is to serve the Lord.

Of course, this is a brief report, since I've only been with you since August. I won't try to report on the good work of the Van Tassels' as they took their leave or the gracious ministrations of your summer pulpit supply pastor, Shurmaine McAlpine. I will say this though...that when I arrived this church was in really good shape and that is a product of the joint efforts of the membership and these fine servants of Christ.

As I reviewed the Historian's report, I was blown away by how much you have continued to be able to do, even during a pandemic when you could not gather as usual. I will tell you this: considering the fact that this church did at least as good a job of safe gathering and enforcing protocols as any other church in town, it is amazing that you were able to accomplish so much. Well done! Since my arrival we have returned to gathering in person for worship and meetings. We have launched the great new efforts of the fledgling Youth and Family Ministries (by "we" I mean mostly Joseph and the people working most closely with him). We have begun the concerted effort of guiding the church through its transition after a long pastorate. We are in the midst of a huge building renovation with the roof work currently under way. You've been tremendously patient as I've tried new things or made adjustments to incorporate COVID-19 protocols. I have certainly never felt a nicer welcome, nor have I experienced a group of people more engaged in shaping their future.

I have told this to a few folks in leadership, but want to write it here for posterity. This is a good, strong church – healthy and functioning well. It is a church made up of really good people who love one another, and you have programs and facilities that are of high quality. I believe that within the next few months you will be ready to launch your search for a new pastor, laying hold of a vision for the future that God gives to you and that you should have no trouble attracting a new pastor. That person, whoever she/he/they may be, will be blessed to serve you. I know that I am.

In Christian love,
Pastor Casey vanderBent

MODERATOR'S AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL REPORT

The Executive Council meets monthly for the purpose of continuity, coordination and communication of the church's ministries. The council is composed of the Pastor, Moderator, Vice Moderator, Treasurer, Secretary, and a Chairman from each of the Core Ministries. Added this year was the Director of Youth and Family Ministries.

This was a year of many changes. We said goodbye and gave thanks to Pastors' Tom and Wendy Van Tassell, Melissa Moser – Christian Education Coordinator, Anna Davis – Organist/Accompanist as well as Amber Stoutenborough our Church Secretary. We welcomed Michelle Tullberg as our new Church Secretary. We also gave thanks to Pastor Shurmaine for her service to our church during the interim this summer. The position of Christian Coordinator was restructured into Director of Youth and Family Ministries with Joseph Leggett beginning in August. We also welcomed in August our Intentional Transitional Pastor, Casey vanderBent. COVID-19 closed down our sanctuary from mid-March through the last weekend of August. We established the Re-Gathering Team, to consider when and how to reopen our church, while consciously considering health risks, Governor mandates, and disinfection, while being led by God. We became a church utilizing YouTube and cable to share our faith together safely. Zoom and conference calls became our norm for committee meetings. **Joshua 1:9 "Have I not commanded You? Be strong and courageous."** This year we stretched out of our comfort zones and grew together in computer knowledge and faith. Our Executive Council, led by the Lord, chose the yearly theme. Seek, Reach, Find, it was based on **Acts 17:17 "God did this so that they would seek Him and perhaps reach for Him and find him, though He is not far from any one of us."** It has been a fitting theme in more ways than one this year.

I and the Executive Council cannot express our thanks enough to all those who have served on committees and behind the scenes making calls, delivering supplies, performing needed services and keeping our congregation connected during the COVID-19 pandemic. A special thanks to John Zinn – Chairman of the Re-Gathering Team. This job was a no-win job, but we commend you for being faithful to God and you and your team for providing our congregation a minimum health risk worship service. Many thanks need to be given to Pastor Casey, Joseph, Michelle and Matt providing us by media and in-person, creative ways to worship during this pandemic. The MARS committee and Rod Meendering have been diligent in researching and consulting, regarding water damage, our new roof and budgets. **Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for You," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you not to harm you, plans to give you hope and future."** In a crazy year, God had a plan for us. God has provided through your generous gifts, allowing us to be a strong congregation and miraculously meet budget. God bless you all!

Thank you, Lord, for the opportunity to serve First Congregational Church as Moderator and providing me with a complimentary counterpart of Kathy Anderson as Vice Moderator.

Rikki Hamrick, 2020 Moderator

YEAR-ROUND DELEGATE

The role of the Year-Round Delegate (YRD) is to communicate with the NACCC National Office with any questions or concerns either from the local church or national level. Information each month is provided via YRD Line news by member YRD's, Executive Director Michael Chittum, NACCC Moderator Cynthia Bacon Hammer and NACCC YRD contact Laura Wright. Topics range from church security, strategic planning, staff evaluations, the role of the Pastoral Care Committee, suggestions and current topics. Each YRD line includes one main article and links to others. Also included at the bottom of each YRD line news, are three questions to answer. These questions come from one of the Ministry Councils, Leadership or NACCC staff. Responses to every question each month are forwarded on to the appropriate person(s) and summarized in upcoming YRD Line issues. The NACCC news is sent by Constant Contact email service and is delivered on the 1st and 10th of each month. The NACCC News Community Connections will appear on the 1st of every month and features

updates from your leadership, recent calls and ordinations, and what is happening at our member churches. The Messenger is emailed on the 10th of every month and contains an article from the Executive Director or other staff members, an update from our missions, information about upcoming events, and other relevant news from the NACCC office. Churches are encouraged to communicate with the NACCC on what the national office/staff could do to support the local church. NACCC is forming a task force team to envision a new website for NACCC to further enhance communication with the local church members. The website address is www.naccc.org. You may locate links that will direct you to different sites for further information.

The Iowa Nebraska Association of Congregational Christian Churches meet twice a year, in the spring and fall. The spring meeting which was supposed to be in Peterson, IA was canceled due to COVID-19, the fall meeting was a Zoom meeting on September 17 instead of Berwick, IA. Sheryl Patten represented our church at that meeting. The spring 2021 meeting is tentatively planned for Clear Lake, IA, but the date has not yet been determined.

The 2021 NACC Annual Conference will be held June 19-22 in Spokane, Washington. In 2020 the meeting, which was scheduled to be held June 27-30 in Portland, Maine, due to COVID-19 this meeting was changed to a Zoom meeting which Kathy Anderson attended.

YRD Betty Weikum

TREASURER'S REPORT

Thank you to Doug Hart, Bill Orrison, and Bridget Bailey for volunteering to be the financial secretaries. Your dedication to your volunteerism is greatly appreciated by the entire congregation.

2020 WHAT A YEAR!! The year began with the expectations of change as our long-term Pastors had planned on retiring mid-year. Little did we know that come March a pandemic would take over the entire year.

In January 2020 the Church began a kitchen and Fireside Room remodel. Both projects were estimated to cost around \$73,000 and with the help of volunteers and changes to the plans we were able to complete both projects for \$59,987. In April and May we began having water issues again over the Education Wing, we had a significant rain that flooded the office area and basement causing an estimated \$90,000 in damages. With funds saved from prior years, insurance proceeds, and donations we had approximately \$190,000 in funds for these repairs, which leaves us short \$150,000. We hope that with some volunteers help we can save some costs with the reconstruction of the basement and office area but realize that we will need to do a capital campaign.

The General Fund finished the year with a surplus of \$5. In a year with increased expenses for PPE items, increased postage and paper, and costs to constantly improve the technology this is a great achievement that can only be from all your generosity.

The 2021 budget increased from 2020 for several reasons. We will have a Directory of Youth and Family Ministries director for the entire year and we will also have our Intentional Transitional Pastor and a Called Pastor. We are also planning on some additional costs related to maintaining a safe environment during the pandemic.

Thank you for all your support during 2020. If you have a question or would like me to address any items in further detail, please let me know before the annual meeting. If you are not able to attend your questions are still important and I would be glad to meet with anyone throughout the year.

Rodney Meendering, Treasurer
Cell 240-7930 Email rodney@congospercer.org

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SPENCER, IA - GENERAL FUND
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND
THE BUDGET FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019 & 2020**

	<u>2020 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2020 BUDGET</u>	<u>2021 BUDGET</u>
<u>GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS</u>			
General Fund offerings	\$191,875.00	\$202,023.00	\$233,847.00
Use of Church	\$445.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Gifts and Donations	\$33,593.00	\$57,000.00	\$40,000.00
Investment Income	\$282.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Income from Endowment Fund	\$24,739.00	\$24,000.00	\$24,000.00
TOTAL GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS	<u>\$250,934.00</u>	<u>\$285,023.00</u>	<u>\$299,847.00</u>
<u>GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES</u>			
<u>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION</u>			
Curriculum Material	\$319.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
Nursery	\$581.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00
Audio/Visual Aids	\$59.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Certificates, Bibles & Gifts	\$457.00	\$400.00	\$300.00
Adult Education	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Pilgrim Fellowship	-\$91.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,000.00
Vacation Bible School	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Confirmation	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$250.00
Teacher, Training & Institutes	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$250.00
Special Activities	\$300.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
TOTAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION	<u>\$1,625.00</u>	<u>\$5,800.00</u>	<u>\$4,350.00</u>
<u>MINISTRY OF WORSHIP</u>			
Purchased Music	\$138.00	\$1,000.00	\$750.00
Organ/Piano/Bell Maintenance	\$2,317.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Miscellaneous	\$357.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Copy Right License	\$967.00	\$1,000.00	\$800.00
Sub-Organ/Choir	\$100.00	\$250.00	\$250.00
Worship Supplies	\$1,818.00	\$650.00	\$650.00
Ministerial Expenses	\$4,200.00	\$5,600.00	\$5,600.00

Communion	\$322.00	\$75.00	\$200.00
Guest Pastors	\$2,586.00	\$1,500.00	\$750.00
Flower Ministry Team	\$119.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Conferences & Meetings	\$621.00	\$4,000.00	\$1,000.00
TOTAL MINISTRY OF WORSHIP	\$13,545.00	\$15,775.00	\$11,700.00

ADMINISTRATION AND OCCUPANCY

Office Supplies	\$3,692.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,500.00
Office Equipment	\$3,294.00	\$2,500.00	\$3,000.00
Postage	\$2,402.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,500.00
Chamber Membership	\$197.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Insurance	\$8,088.00	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$928.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Electricity	\$7,919.00	\$7,300.00	\$8,500.00
Gas	\$5,379.00	\$8,500.00	\$7,000.00
Telephone	\$2,487.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,500.00
Repairs & Maintenance	\$4,840.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Custodial Supplies	\$4,012.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,800.00
Snow Removal & Lawn Care	\$1,840.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
Equipment purchases	\$171.00	\$1,500.00	\$2,500.00
Transition expenses	\$10,998.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION AND OCCUPANCY	\$56,247.00	\$53,700.00	\$57,000.00

MINISTRY OF FELLOWSHIP & CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Fellowship Events	-\$1,444.00	\$700.00	\$700.00
New Members	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Meals for delivery	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Church Literature	\$32.00	\$250.00	\$250.00
TOTAL FELLOWSHIP & CONGREGATIONAL CARE	-\$1,412.00	\$1,250.00	\$1,250.00

MINISTRY OF MISSION

CCC/National Assoc.	\$6,650.00	\$6,650.00	\$6,650.00
Missionary Society	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00

Missionary Society Administration	\$240.00	\$240.00	\$240.00
Foundation of Theological Study	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00
New Church Development	\$780.00	\$780.00	\$780.00
Ministerial Assist. & Enrichment	\$480.00	\$480.00	\$480.00
IA/NE Assoc.	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00
Community Enrichment	\$800.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
TOTAL MINISTRY OF MISSION	\$14,350.00	\$14,050.00	\$14,050.00
<u>COMPENSATION</u>			
Pastors-Salary	\$16,332.00	\$13,694.00	\$0.00
Housing allowance	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00
Pension and insurance	\$24,771.00	\$32,544.00	\$0.00
Total Pastors Compensation Package	\$51,103.00	\$56,238.00	\$40,000.00
Salary-Transition Pastor	\$23,693.00	\$35,000.00	\$44,100.00
Salary-Director of Youth and Family	\$19,617.00	\$30,000.00	\$54,000.00
Salary-Organists	\$6,507.00	\$6,507.00	\$6,702.00
Salary-Choir Accomp.	\$1,368.00	\$1,824.00	\$1,879.00
Salary-Chancel Choir Dir.	\$0.00	\$2,687.00	\$2,768.00
Salary-Bell Choir Dir.	\$1,139.00	\$1,242.00	\$1,279.00
Salary-SSL/Media Coord.	\$500.00	\$1,500.00	\$3,200.00
Salary-Sunday School Coord.	\$8,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$0.00
Salary-Secretary	\$26,590.00	\$24,273.00	\$27,600.00
Salary-Custodian	\$20,532.00	\$20,532.00	\$20,532.00
Payroll Taxes	\$7,525.00	\$7,645.00	\$9,437.00
TOTAL COMPENSATION	\$166,574.00	\$194,448.00	\$211,497.00
TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES	\$250,929.00	\$285,023.00	\$299,847.00
INCREASE IN GENERAL FUND ACTIVITIES	\$5.00		
BEGINNING GENERAL FUND NET ASSETS	\$77,209.00		
ENDING GENERAL FUND NET ASSETS	\$77,214.00		

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SPENCER, IA - SUMMARY STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND NET ASSETS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019

	Memorial Fund	Mission Fund	Capital Improvement
Receipts			
Income from General Fund			
Income from Endowment			\$3,727.00
Donations & Grants	\$2,505.00	\$6,995.00	\$122,599.00
Total Receipts	\$2,505.00	\$6,995.00	\$126,326.00
Expenditures			
Designated Purchases	\$5,889.00	\$12,100.00	\$0.00
Capital Improvements	-	-	-\$220,733.00
Total Expenditures	\$5,889.00	\$12,100.00	-\$220,733.00
Change in Net Assets	\$3,384.00	-\$5,105.00	-\$94,407.00
Beginning Net Assets	\$5,239.00	\$37,444.00	\$127,156.00
Ending Net Assets	\$1,855.00	\$32,339.00	\$32,749.00

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SPENCER, IA - NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 1-FUND DESCRIPTIONS:

General Fund manages the daily activities of the church. The receipts for this fund come from pledges, giving from individuals, and income from investments. This fund is managed with the use of a budget that is reviewed and approved by the Ministry of Assets and Resources and the congregation.

Memorial Fund receives designated and undesignated monies as memorials for individuals. The monies received in this fund are kept separated for their intended purpose.

Mission Fund was established in 2015 to separate the funds contributed for mission projects. This was funded with undesignated bequests to the Church.

Capital Improvement Fund is the Trustees' method of providing some funds each year to cover future necessary improvements.

NOTE 2-CASH

Cash and cash equivalents include all monies on hand and in checking accounts, money market accounts, and certificates of deposits.

Cash on hand	\$ 100
Checking accounts	31,047
Money market accounts	128,529
Certificates of Deposit	<u>311,141</u>
TOTAL CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	<u>\$ 470,817</u>

NOTE 3-DEFERRED REVENUE

When receipts are received and designated for a specific project or for use in a future period they are not recorded as income until they are used for their intended purpose.

Adopt a Family	\$ 1,231
JR PF	2,316
Pastoral caring	3,910
Special Offerings	1,742
Women's Retreat	1,278
Prepaid Pledges	7,000
Undesignated	<u>200,000</u>
TOTAL DEFERRED REVENUE	<u>\$ 217,477</u>

NOTE 4-UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS

General Fund	<u>\$ 77,214</u>
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NOTE 5-RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

Memorial Fund	1,855
Mission Fund	37,444
Capital Improvement Fund	<u>127,156</u>
TOTAL RESTRICTED NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 166,455</u>

NOTE 6-SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Easter	\$ 1,350
Thanksgiving	2,055
Christmas	<u>1,742</u>
TOTAL OFFERINGS TO LOCAL MISSIONS	<u>\$ 5,147</u>

MAYFLOWER ENDOWMENT TRUST

The endowment trust was established to manage gifts and bequests to the Church as a long-term planning option. The Trust consists of five individual funds providing separate benefits. Each fund is individually managed to provide accurate accountability of all donations.

First Congregational Fund provides income by distributing 90% of net earning to the General fund and 10% added to the principal for continued growth of the fund.

Capital Improvement Fund provides income by distributing 90% of net earning to the Capital Improvement fund and 10% added to the principal for continued growth of the fund.

Dvergsten Music and Message Fund provides income to provide guest speakers and musical entertainment. The fund allows for joint collaboration with other organizations. 100% of the earnings are available for these activities. There is currently \$58,355 available for these activities.

Mission Fund is currently not funded but provides income by distributing 90% of net earning to the Mission Fund and 10% added to the principal for continued growth of the fund.

Pastoral Fund is currently not funded but provides income by distributing 90% of net earning to the support pastoral enrichment and 10% added to the principal for continued growth of the fund.

Below is a summary of the activity for the year ended December 31, 2020

Rent Income	\$22,170
Contributions	1,000
Investment income	17,667
Realized gains	<u>8,179</u>
Total Income	<u>49,016</u>
Property taxes	2,466
Trustee fees	851
To General fund	24,739
To Capital fund	<u>3,727</u>
Total Expenses	<u>31,783</u>
Increase in Net Assets	\$ <u>17,233</u>

The Endowment consists of 77 acres of farmland, stocks, certificates of deposits and investments in the Congregational Investment Trust managed by the National Association.

CORE MINISTRY OF ASSETS & RESOURCES (MARS)

The MARS team met regularly during this challenging year, both in person and by Zoom. Members are Chair-Wes Simpson, Vice-Chair-Bob Whittenburg, Secretary-Linda Norgaard, Angie Edington, Duaine Holck and Dianne Phillips. We appreciate the help of our church secretary, Michelle for all her hard work. Our committee also must give a great deal of thanks to our church treasurer, Rod Meendering who was available for all meetings and has an intimate knowledge of the financial workings of our Church. Also, thanks to the various pastors we have had this past year for their spiritual guidance, Pastors' Wendy and Tom, Pastor Shurmaine McAlpine and our current minister, Pastor vanderBent.

During the pandemic this year, our revenue has remained stable thanks to the generous giving of our members and also with the help of the PPP program through the CARES Act. Some expenses are less because of limited in-person activities due to the pandemic. We have also had a few expected and unexpected additional expenses this year, such as replacing the Church roof (with the subsequent water damage to the Sunday School wing), upgrading some equipment and technology for virtual services and expenses with maintaining needed disinfecting items due to COVID-19. We also have had the challenge of our ministers retiring in June of 2020, and the distance worship services for a portion of the year due to COVID-19. We have been able to fill the void with Pastor Shurmaine McAlpine this past summer and currently with Pastor vanderBent. Pastor vanderBent will be guiding us administratively, spiritually and financially to prepare and welcome a new settled pastor, hopefully, sometime in 2021.

We saw in the past year the remodeling of our kitchen and Fireside Room completed and we were able to work on getting an internet signal throughout the church. We oversaw the refurbishing of the Cross in the courtyard of the church, thanks to Randy Van Dyke, Jennifer Loudermilk and ILRW equipment. The Grounds and Building Committee has done an excellent job under the watchful eye of Duaine Holck.

The board also approved the hiring of a Director of Youth and Family Ministry, Joseph Leggett who started with our church in August. This would have not been possible without the significant gifts from past members. We also welcomed back Elina Ozolins in January 2021 as our organist/accompanist after Anna Davis filled in, admirably, the entire year.

The MARS committee strives to control expenses while encouraging members to support our church financially, spiritually and physically. The life of the church depends on each member supporting the works of the church to the best of their ability and we are grateful.

The board understands the vexing year it has been, but we have remained optimistic that this too shall pass and that we will prevail as a vibrant, viable, innovative and flourishing church in the coming years.

Linda Norgaard, Secretary

CORE MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

The Core Ministry of Worship is responsible for things pertaining to worship services each Sunday and for special worship events in the life of our church. We typically assist in lining up our Worship Assistants, Special Music, Greeters, Communion Preparers, Communion Servers, Ushers, Candle Lighters, Chancel Choir, Bell Choir, the Pianist, the Organist, Special Music, Pulpit Supply, Fellowship Hour Hosts, and Pew Rack/Name Tag Organizers. These efforts normally involve numerous church members, our Pastors, and the members of the Core Ministry of Worship. Thank you to all who have assisted in these efforts throughout the year.

Summing up the events of 2020:

- We were fortunate to have had the live streaming of our services in place prior to the implementation of many restrictions due to the COVID-19 virus. Following a mandate from the Governor of Iowa on March 16th which prohibited large indoor gatherings, we were unable to hold regular services. Throughout the year, our Pastors have been able to provide us with meaningful worship opportunities via YouTube live streaming and by replays of each service on YouTube, and on SMU's cable channel 2. Many thanks to Matt Bryant and to Joseph Leggett for their Sight & Sound expertise; the feedback from viewers has been very positive.
- There were many changes to, and several cancelations of the "live" events planned for Spring and Summer 2020, including our Lenten & Easter services, Holy Hilarity Sunday, Confirmation Sunday, Worship on the Queen, and more. June 14th was the Van Tassels' last Sunday, and Pastor Shurmaine McAlpine and her husband, Rev Bill, then led our worship services from June 21st to August 2nd. Virtual worship continued in lieu of in-sanctuary services. Zoom meetings became the new norm for Core Ministry meetings.
- We welcomed the arrival of our Intentional Transitional Pastor, Casey vanderBent, and our new Director of Youth and Family Ministries, Joseph Leggett in August. Each of them, have brought inspiration and new vision to us at an otherwise difficult time. With all required restrictions implemented, we resumed "live" services on August 30th and Sunday School on September 13th. Advent services and our traditional Christmas Eve service were well attended.
- We are so very thankful for the willingness of Anna Davis to have served as our Organist/Pianist in 2020; and now we're pleased to welcome Elina Ozolins back beginning January 1st following Anna's resignation on December 31st. A huge "Thank You" to Mike Patten, who has taken on the task of recruiting Special Music and Worship Assistants for most of the year. Neither the Chancel Choir nor the Bell Choir will resume their activities in the immediate future; but under the guidance provided by our state and local health authorities and by our church's Re-Gathering Team, we will plan to slowly and safely return to "normal".

- Nominees for a 3-year term with the Core Ministry of Worship to be installed at the 2021 Annual Meeting, are Lori Black and Diane Zinn, whom if elected, will join Amanda Brigham, Judy Hemphill, Jay Oldenkamp, and Mike Patten.

2021 will be another year of changes and challenges, but with faith in God’s leadership we can remain a “Power in the service of God and Man”.

Bonnie Hoover, Chair

HEAD USHER REPORT

2020 proved to be a vastly different year for our church and the ability to worship due to COVID-19 coming into play. Our last time to usher and have church service in our sanctuary was March 15th, 2020. Executive Council made the decision that we would not hold in person church service until further notice beginning on March 22nd, 2020. Pastors’ Tom and Wendy made it genuinely nice for all of us to view the livestream services.

From January 5th thru March 15th, we had 949 worshipping in the sanctuary.

From March 22nd thru August 30th, we were strictly using livestreaming.

On August 30th we held a soft re-gathering service with 51 people attending service in our sanctuary. In person worship has been down after re-gathering. A lot of it is due to COVID-19.

From August 30th thru December 27th, we had 904 attending in person.

We have not been passing the offering plate or handing out bulletins. Those in attendance pickup their bulletin to avoid further contact due to COVID-19. John Zinn, Frank Eddington, and Bob Rose have been doing ushering duties which are very limited with COVID-19 still in the picture. We are hoping 2021 to be a better year.

We had 6 families and 8 individuals volunteer to usher January thru March 15th.

ATTENDANCE

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
Regular Sunday Service 10:00am	4955	4245	1853
Saturday night 5:00pm	258	264	COVID-19
Maundy Thursday	84	65	COVID-19
Easter Service 10:00am	193	161	COVID-19
Sunrise Service	55	35	COVID-19
Christmas Eve Service	<u>268</u>	<u>228</u>	<u>51</u>
TOTAL	5813	5007	1904

In closing I would like to thank everyone who helped during these trying times of COVID-19.

John Zinn - Head Usher

CHANCEL CHOIR

Through January, February and the first part of March the choir met from 6 to 7 P.M. on Wednesday evenings. Two to three times a month the choir provided the introit and an anthem. We have been blessed to have a strong core of volunteers. Members included:

Sopranos: Amanda Brigham, Anna Davis, Shari Emmert, Judy Hemphill, Susan Howe, Barb Jacobson, Kella Klinker-Simonin, Jennifer Loudermilk, Everly Slawson, Wendy Van Tassell

Altos: Lori Black, Linda Garner, Karen Forbes, Bonnie Hoover, Becky Johnson, Alison Munter, Sheryl Patten, Shelly Robison

Tenors: Jared Gerlock, Don Hemphill, Tom Hinrichsen, Duaine Holck, Alex Swanson

Basses: Larry Forbes, Dean Garner, Tom C. Howe, Dave Jacobson, Stew Lewis, Mike Patten, Randy Van Dyke, Colin Van Westen

A big thanks to all that volunteered for special music during the summer and fall months during the pandemic. A special thanks to Judy Hemphill for leading the choir and to Anna Davis for stepping up to the plate to play piano, organ and bless us with her flute solos. Anna's flute and piano duets with Deb Jepson was a highlight of many services.

We all look forward to the time when we can all meet at church and worship together and sing together.

Deb Jepson and Judy Hemphill, Chancel Choir Directors

BELL CHOIR

Bell choir met each Wednesday evening from 5 – 6 P.M. from January through March. This past year's participants were Marlyn Barglof, Lori Black, Amanda Brigham, Helen Castenson, Connie Drake, Bonnie Hoover, Susan Howe, Jane Jans, Mike Patten, Sheryl Patten, Everly Slawson and Wendy Van Tassell. Our group was directed by Jessica Jans who did an outstanding job. We look forward to a time when we all can meet again and ring our bells together.

Jessica Jans, Bell Choir Director

FLOWER MINISTRY TEAM

The Flower Ministry Team report for 2020 is dotted with pandemic changes. All designated memorials in January and February were honored and very much appreciated. Our last day to worship in the church was March 15th, 2020. Any money collected from Easter Lily sales was refunded, with some donating back to the church. For seven months we put our own artificial arrangements to good use on the Communion Table. In September we were able to resume our designated memorials. It was truly a pleasure to decorate for Heritage month and Advent in the way that makes us feel familiar. The sanctuary was beautiful, but other areas of the church remained undecorated due to restricted guidelines.

We look forward to again resuming our memorial schedule, offering Easter Lilies and are here to help in any way we can in the beautification of the church. I am especially grateful for the helping hands of the congregation at Christmas time and to Pastor Casey for his input and direction this year. I am also grateful to have two new members to add to our working team, Amy Simpson and Diane Zinn. Current members are Gayle Bailey, Vickie Montgomery, Lisa Moret and Jane Nelson.

Sally Phelps, Chair

CORE MINISTRY OF MISSIONS

Members of the Core Ministry of Missions: Jennifer Loudermilk – Chairperson, John Thoren – Vice Chairperson, Becky Johnson – Secretary, Jim Montgomery, Randall Anderson, Bill Green.

Our mission is to strive to be the Body of Christ throughout the world by loving, helping and supporting our church family and others through fellowship, missions and outreach. We have strived to achieve this high goal.

This has been a challenging year for everyone personally, professionally and with volunteering. As all groups, we have conducted meetings via Zoom, email and lots of phone conversations. Our church has also had many opportunities to reach out with donations to communities within our county borders and beyond. Financial donations that have gone through Ministry of Missions include:

Easter offering to Seasons Crisis Team---\$1,230

Cherish Center, Baby Bottle Campaign---\$140 plus an unknown amount as it was suggested that the congregation donate directly to the Cherish Center as we were not meeting in person at that time to obtain the baby bottles.

The Missions Team issued a "Summer Congo Challenge" for donations that Missions then would match funds up to \$3,000 from our Pass It Forward Fund. This was issued via online church services, newsletters, bulletins, and encouraged donations during June, July and August. Donations could be designated specifically to any or all of the following organizations: Grand Avenue Community Outreach, Seasons Center, Upper Des Moines Opportunities, Atlas and Disaster Relief Fund. This was very well received by our generous congregation and a total of \$7,600 was donated.

Thanksgiving Offering was designated to MICA (Mid-Iowa Community Action). This group is based in Marshalltown, IA and helps four surrounding mid-Iowa counties. This organization was chosen after Marshalltown had their recent tornado and the devastating Derecho this summer that effected central Iowa, \$2,155 was donated.

Christmas offering was split between Retired Minister Fund of the NACCC and the Multi-Church Assistance Fund, a total of \$1,670 was donated.

Adopt a Family was expanded to include a request for Senior Citizens from Elderbridge and UDMO. Along with our usual 6 families we added 10 seniors to our tree. We ended up with over 125 ornaments. All but 10 were taken and we had enough money donated to easily cover those. (Any extra money collected will be used for Adopt a Family in the future when needed.)

Mitten Tree donations were also very generous this year. We had 2 trees overflowing with hats, mittens, scarves and socks plus a few other donations which were then taken to UDMO.

The "Blue Barrels" will stay up indefinitely as UDMO is always in need of food supplies and even more so this year.

Other funds were donated to:

Autumn Center---\$1,000

CAASA---\$500

Atlas---\$500

Spencer Fire Department for equipment---\$250

10 checks have been sent to individuals from the Pass It Forward Fund

We also received a donation of \$1,000 from an individual that requested the money be used for veterans. After much discussion it was decided to donate to VFW.

With having no current hands-on Missions activities underway due to the pandemic, the Missions budget will remain the same for 2021.

Thank you to each of you who are part of this wonderfully generous church!!! When the call goes out, not only do you donate but you donate so generously. Not only has God blessed us so we are able to give but we are blessed with people who give so willingly and generously. It has been a pleasure to work for you.

Jennifer Loudermilk, Chair

CORE MINISTRY OF FELLOWSHIP & CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Team members this year included Sheryl Patten, Phyllis Slawson, Sandi Nielsen, John Zinn, Jack Schomaker, and Mary Schomaker.

The Core Ministry of Fellowship and Congregational Care is responsible for creating a fellowship of love and care for our church family as we strive to be the hands and feet of Christ through the church.

2020 threw us a lot of curves that did not allow us to be able to do the things we had wanted to do. Our first ministry meeting as a team was in March and that was when COVID-19 hit the US. We were able to do Zoom meetings but not be able to do the church picnic, Summer Congo on the Lake, Worship on the Queen etc. all had to be cancelled due to COVID-19 staring us in the face. We were able to split the congregation membership list up between the team and called each member to see how they were doing and if any needs were out there that needed to be met, and also to let them know we had people able and willing to help. We did this 4 times in 2020 during the pandemic.

Over all 2020 was a challenging year. We were able to stay up on making meals for the freezer for people to take to someone in need. Thanks to some of our team for making them at home and bringing them to the church since we could not gather as a group to do this project.

August 23, 2020 we were able to start meeting in Fellowship Hall, and it was so nice to see people in person. We wore masks and practiced social distancing.

Through the end of 2020 restrictions were still up in the air, contingent on Governor Reynolds continuing to mandate masks and social distancing and not allowing large groups of people to gather. We are continuing to meet at the church and hoping 2021 will look different in the days ahead.

John Zinn, Chair

CORE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION & SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Core Ministry of Education (CME) had a year of fellowship and fun, as well as challenges and changes in 2020.

For the first few months of 2020 we continued the schedule of Sunday School classes established in September 2019; that is, all Sunday School classes were conducted at the same time, 9-9:45am. These classes were offered for all youth, age PreK through High School. Pilgrim Fellowship (PF), led by Wes and Amy Simpson and Harry and Cassie Gabe, met twice a month from 7-8pm, with each meeting focused on either service or fellowship. Once a month we offered a special "Cross Generational" Sunday School session for all youth and adults, with music, activities, and lessons for all ages.

We had several youth and family-oriented activities and outings in early 2020. First in January was "Congo at the Lakes" at the Lakeshore Center at Okoboji. It was a day of sledding, snowshoeing, games, and a potluck

dinner. In February there was a build-your-own Valentine's Day bouquet event at Del's Garden Center. Then in March we watched the movie "Babe" as part of the Lenten Spirituality in Film series.

However, on March 16th the Governor issued a Public Health Disaster Emergency order, banning gatherings of more than 10 people, and the Church Executive Council voted to suspend Church activities and worship in the building in compliance with that order. Therefore, Sunday School and Pilgrim Fellowship were cancelled for the remainder of the school year. However, the church youth enjoyed a series of "virtual" fellowship opportunities via Zoom video conferencing, led by Pastors Tom and Wendy Van Tassel and Christian Education Coordinator Melissa Moser. In addition, the Van Tassel's and their friend Aslan the Lion kept in touch via Facebook posts and worship services streamed on YouTube.

In June we said goodbye to Pastors' Tom and Wendy, who retired and relocated to Holland, Michigan. The Van Tassel's influenced the Christian Education and spiritual development of the children of First Congregational Church for more than two decades. While we love and miss Tom and Wendy, we're thankful for their service to this church, and we hope that they are enjoying retirement!

In July the CME made the difficult decision to cancel Vacation Bible School, which had been scheduled for August 12th-13th, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In August we welcomed Intentional Transitional Pastor Casey vanderBent as well as Joseph Leggett, the new Director of Youth and Family Ministry. Joseph and his family (his wife Sandy, son Irie, and daughter Ruby) are new to Spencer, moving here from Bastrop, Texas. Joseph brings many talents and skills to his new position, including audio/video production, music, and deep knowledge of the Bible. The Leggett's have been a wonderful addition to our community, and we're delighted to have them!

In late August Joseph helped us kick off the school year with a live-streamed contemporary worship service. We resumed in-person Sunday School classes in September, observing COVID-19 protocols (mask-wearing, social distancing, no singing) for the safety of our families. Joseph's Sunday School curriculum has been aimed at the whole family. Classes begin with everyone – children as well as adults – praying and learning together, before breaking out into smaller groups by age.

Joseph has also taken on leadership of the Pilgrim Fellowship, which now meets every Wednesday evening, 6:30-8pm. In October and November, the kids worked as teams to design their own virtual churches in Minecraft, then they shared their projects (which were quite creative and impressive) with the Congregation during worship.

Service has also been a point of emphasis, with many Youth helping to carry out meals for Italian Dinner night in October, the Heritage Dinner in November, and the Christmas Dinner in December. The PF kids also helped to make cookies for the Christmas Dinner. In addition, several kids and family members took part in monthly Service Sundays, helping older church members with yard work and other projects.

Several families enjoyed Game Night on Friday, December 4th. Joseph tested our trivia knowledge with Christmas Jeopardy and Family Feud. Immediately after Game Night the PF kids had an overnight lock-in with more games and prizes.

Current members of the CME are myself, Heather Whittenburg, Dave Jacobsen, Amanda Mack, Bob Rose, and Amy Simpson. I would like to thank Melissa and Joseph, as well as my fellow CME members, for their work and dedication to serving the youth and families of First Congregational Church.

While 2020 was a difficult year in many ways, in retrospect we have much to celebrate and be thankful for. As we look forward to 2021, we are excited for the future of the Core Ministry of Education and First Congregational Church.

Jared Gerlock, CME Chairperson

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY & PILGRIM FELLOWSHIP

Early in the year the DYFM position was created after identifying an immediate need for investment and focus into the children and youth of First Congregational Church of Spencer. After the position's approval at the Annual Meeting in January of 2019, a search committee was formed, and they began actively pursuing a proper candidate. After a thorough interview process of various applicants, Joseph Leggett was selected. He relocated from Texas with his family and began work in August 2020.

With a vision for family-focused ministry, Joseph implanted a new holistic approach designed to minister to the "entire family unit." This meant several changes, including but not limited to the implementation of a new format for Sunday School entitled "Family Sunday School." Within this format families are invited to come as a whole and partake in an hour of bible study and crafts/activities together. Joseph wrote and developed a customized curriculum; teaching parents, youth, and children the same bible lessons each week. The goal was to enable parents to be able to be 'in spiritual conversation' with their youth and children throughout the week. The new format has been a success and is attended each week and has grown to an active group of 9 families. On January 10th, he also brought back Cross-Generational Sunday School which will occur once every six weeks. The goal is to have the adult and senior members of our church fellowship with our young families, getting to know the kids and building those wonderful relationships which cross generations. Feedback from parents has been very positive.

The 'whole' family approach has included service projects and fellowship outings as well. Both October and November had a "Service Sunday," in which several of the active families got together and cleaned up several of our elderly members yards and garages. Beginning in 2021, Service Sundays will occur once per quarter. While keeping COVID-19 re-gathering regulations in mind, Joseph held two special 'outings' for the month of December. The first was a Family Christmas Party which was held on Dec 4th from 7-9pm. Six families attended and enjoyed partaking in a Christmas themed "game show" event. Beginning at 9pm of the same evening PF aged youth were invited to stay for an all-night lock-in. Eight youth attended and enjoyed a wonderful evening of games and activities. Moving forward, both the Family Christmas Party and the Youth Lock-In will be an annual event during the holiday time.

Starting in September, Joseph implemented a weekly Pilgrim Fellowship for youth aged 5th-12th grade. By meeting weekly, the youth have been able to build relationships through biblical study, spiritual conversations, and just plain having fun together. Starting in October, Joseph began a multi-week study of the "Aesthetics of Worship," using the popular game Minecraft to engage the youth and teach the importance of aesthetics to a worship experience. The youth formed two teams and were tasked with researching, designing and developing their own "masterpiece church" within the Minecraft world. The program was a huge success with vibrant engagement from the youth. Once their virtual churches were completed, the youth presented them to the church during a Sunday Worship Service. Joseph plans to work with the youth, giving them opportunity to have ownership of the educational themes that they will learn during 2021. In addition to this, Pastor Casey vanderBent began confirmation classes for our 6th and 7th graders with a goal of completion in two years.

Joseph has also assisted in many areas of the audio/visual needs for the church. Working with Matt Bryant, he has identified many problem areas and begun to 'overhaul' various aspects of our audio/visual system with the goal of an improved experience for both in-person and live-stream/recorded worship. Due to COVID-19 re-gathering restrictions singing was not allowed during worship. Therefore, using his background in sound and film, Joseph met with various individuals throughout the last four months and recorded "special music" videos which he then produced and provided as a video file to the A/V team. These were played during Sunday morning worship in order to fill the need for Special Music. In addition to these "Special Music" videos, Joseph also gathered the active families together to record and produce several virtual Christmas Carol videos which were used in worship throughout the holiday season. Furthermore, Joseph worked with the Ministerial Association and SMU to gather together area church's similar Christmas Music Videos and provided them to SMU. SMU then packaged these all-together into a virtual Christmas Carol block of programming which was then played on SMU Channel 2 several times throughout the holiday season. The goal was to provide those in

care facilities and at home with some sense of their home church's Christmas Carol tradition. Joseph also held two workshops designed to increase the knowledge and abilities of the A/V team. Looking forward he plans to include youth as an active role in servicing the A/V needs of our church. He also has begun major improvements to the church Website and social media platforms.

On October 10th Joseph lead a Contemporary Worship Service at Westview Park. This service was very well received with around 50 in attendance along with several pets, sitting on lawn chairs and blankets enjoying the outdoor service and a pleasant fall evening. On January 3rd, Joseph also led worship including providing the sermon. Looking forward, he hopes to have the opportunity to do this at some regular interval.

Much has been accomplished in a short time since Joseph took on the DYFM position, but much is still ahead as well. Looking forward he hopes to see growth in all areas of his ministry with a special focus on maturing the spirituality of each person involved – including himself and more contemporary worship services.

There will be ample opportunities to become involved in 2021 including but not limited to:

- Family Sunday School (weekly)
- PF Fellowship (weekly)
- Family Outings (once-per-month)
- Service Sundays (once-per-quarter)
- Cross Generational Sunday School (once-per-six-weeks)
- Development of a Youth Band & A/V team
- Church Web/Multimedia Development

Joseph Leggett, DYFM

SACRED DANCE

Due to Covid-19 and Pastor Wendy Van Tassell retiring there was no Sacred Dance for 2020. This will be re-evaluated to determine if the church would like to reinstate it or discontinue.

SIGHT AND SOUND ANNUAL REPORT

This past year, we have definitely had some challenges (to put it mildly). But we have also had some victories and been given a chance to adapt to this new style of worship.

It has been brought to our attention, several times, that our audio quality for the live stream has not always been of the best quality. These issues have not been solely in our control with the various number of updates and "fixes" that all of the programs we depend on can change and undo everything we have accomplished.

I feel, with Joseph's leadership and help, that we are on the right path to not only minimize these audio issues, but to improve the overall quality of the Online Worship Experience. Over the past 10 months, it has become apparent that this type of outreach and style of worship will be with us for many years to come.

We are exploring many new and exciting ways to project sound within the Sanctuary itself and are looking forward to the days ahead of welcoming back live performances again.

Once again, I would like to personally thank Rod, Colin and Joseph for all of their help this past year. I would also like to ask that if anyone has interest in any portion of the Sight, Sound and Video ministry, please contact the Church office and we will look forward to working with you.

Respectfully submitted,
Matthew Bryant

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

**OFFICERS: Sheryl Patten – Bev Harman – Co presidents
LaVonne Peterson – Secretary, Judy Orrison - Treasurer**

The Women's Fellowship normally meets four times a year, February and December for Lunch; May and October for dinner. This being a very unusual year, only one meeting was held on February 6, 2020. The tables were set in a Valentine theme. Dessert and coffee were served, and we brown-bagged our lunch. Our hope is to resume luncheons in the spring, and we hope you will come and join us.

It was moved and seconded that Bev Harman and Sheryl Patten would serve as co-presidents for the coming year and they were duly installed. Thank you to Betty Weikum for serving as president these last several years.

The Executive Committee met in November. A motion was made and seconded to donate money from the proceeds of the Italian Dinner to the Christmas overnigher for the youth group. Judy and LaVonne worked on the Stewardship Budget and it was presented to the Board by email and approved.

Our sincere prayer is that we all stay happy, healthy and wise and that we will be able to join together in God's work soon.

LaVonne Peterson, Secretary.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP TREASURER'S REPORT - 2020

Cash on hand in checking account at US Bank December 31, 2019 \$3,671.15

Receipts

Italian Nite Supper & Bake Sale	\$3,547.96	
May Breakfast (net)		
Funerals		
Lenten Services		
Dishcloths	21.25	
Pecans	96.00	
Miscellaneous		<u>3,665.21</u>
		7,336.36

Disbursements

Benevolence	
NACCC	\$1,000.00
IA/NE Ass'n	400.00
Sunshine/Hope Haven	100.00
Positively Spencer Youth	100.00
Cherish Center	100.00
Early Head Start	100.00
Habitat for Humanity	100.00
Pastor's Caring Fund	100.00
A Child's Garden	100.00
Upper Des Moines Opportunity	100.00
Clay Co. Food for Life	100.00

Love Takes Root	100.00	
Grand Ave. Community Outreach	100.00	
Reins of Hope	100.00	
Feed Our Children	<u>100.00</u>	2,700.00
Italian Nite Supper & Bake Sale		1,003.83
May Breakfast		
Dish Clothes		
Flowers		62.17
Coffee		
Pecans		
Misc - checks		8.00
Youth Lockout	<u>250.00</u>	<u>4,024.00</u>
Cash on hand in checking account at US Bank December 31, 2020		\$3,312.36

Submitted by Judy Orrison, Treasurer

THE CIRCLE

The Circle meet on February 20th at 11:30 in the church for fellowship and a bite to eat. Our next meeting was scheduled on March 19th and was to take place in the church, however, Governor Reynolds had a mandatory lock down of all events in person due to COVID-19. We have not met since January as our members are in the high- risk category and we deemed it prudent to not meet in person at this time. Janet Swanson continues to serve as president, Sheryl Patten assists with leadership, Dianne Phillips is secretary and Bev Harman is treasurer. Marcie Muckey provides thoughtful devotions at our meetings. In prior years The Circle has provided support for the May Breakfast, Community Lenten Services, Coffee Hour, the Italian Dinner and Upper Des Moines. Again, due to COVID-19 these activities did not take place

Dianne Phillips, Secretary

WEDDING MINISTRY TEAM

Wedding Committee members: LaVonne Peterson

There were no weddings held in the church during the 2020 year.

LaVonne Peterson, Chair

DELEGATE REPORT VIRTUAL NACCC ANNUAL MEETING 66TH ANNUAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE JUNE 27, 2020

Thank you for the privilege of representing our Congregation during the Annual Meeting of our National Association of Congregational Christian Churches. It was very interesting to see how they would hold the conference and also worship with over 200 people via a ZOOM conference.

Video reports from committees were provided and Pastor Wendy presented the Plymouth 400 report on the history of the 400 years of Congregationalism. These teachings are available for churches to use in their church bulletins and programs to help educate churches about the Congregational Way. This history was

helpful in planning our 400th anniversary celebration. I was proud to see Pastor Wendy also gave the NACCC opening moment, sharing her thoughts about the NACCC.

Two churches were accepted for membership into the NACCC, one being from North Eastern Iowa, the First Congregational Church in Orchard, Iowa.

Pastor Wendy was elected to the Nominating Committee as one of two new members.

Janet Wilson of the Greenville Congregational Church was elected to serve on the Ministry Council Representatives and serving on the Leadership Council for a 1-year term. She is a continuing member of the Mission & Outreach Ministry Council with her term ending in 2022. Matt Bryant's Mom, Miriam, will be chairing the Ambassador Task team. This team will help enhance relationships between member churches and the NACCC.

Under new business there was a resolution from the Brooklyn New York Church regarding the current global issue of racism and social justice. They proposed that the next 12 issues of "The Congregationalist" have an article on racism to enlighten members about the issue. The resolution passed with a 61% majority in favor.

During the closing remarks Judy Campbell spoke from Mark 4 "Calming the Storm". She reminded us to allow the Gift of the Holy Spirit to lead us through these uncharted waters, to Quiet ourselves enough to hear the whisper of God's voice and she boldly declared; Jesus is NOT Asleep in our current Storm Boat!

Thank you again for allowing me the privilege to be the voting delegate for our congregation this year. The next annual meeting will be in Spokane, Washington 2021.

Kathy Anderson
Vice Moderator 2020

RE-GATHERING TEAM

On April 16th, 2020 during the Executive Council Zoom meeting, a Re-Gathering team was formed due to COVID-19. Team members were Betty Weikum (Communion Preparer), John Zinn (Head Usher), Bonnie Hoover (Core Ministry of Worship), Rikki Hamrick (Moderator), and Tom and Wendy Van Tassell. The task of this team was to consider how our church might safely re-gather when the time was right after only offering online worship as of March 15th, 2020. We met twice during May, and again in June, July, August, September, October, and November. Prayerful decisions were made after reviewing massive amounts of information in order to provide the safest environment for our church family.

We were living in a bit of a bubble, away from early widespread infections, and then positive cases were on the rise in Clay, Dickinson, and Buena Vista Counties, and soon more countries were finding higher cases of COVID-19.

Based on CDC guidelines and advice from regional and national ecumenical church leaders, medical personnel, Clay County Public Health etc. we implemented procedures that needed to be followed upon reopening.

Regathering in the church started August 30th with these procedures:

- Everyone entering the church was requested to wear a mask.
- Limited touching of surfaces.
- No bulletins (bulletins were brought back in September)
- No Hymnals or Bibles in pews. (Hymnals and Bibles came back in the pews in October)
- No offering plates passed. Baskets in rear of church for offertory.
- No singing. Singing limited to soloists or softly behind a mask.
- Touchless hand sanitizers purchased and put at all entrances of church.
- Practice 6 ft distancing and every other pew roped off.

- Chairs and big screen TV set up in Fellowship Hall for any overflow from sanctuary.
- To-Go Communion cups with the elements in one container were picked up in the rear of the church for people to take with them to their seats. Also available to take home prior to service.
- Restrooms were sanitized, Clorox Wipes were added to each restroom for people to wipe down handles and doorknobs when leaving.
- Drinking fountains were placed out of service.

Little by little we have been trying to turn up the valve. The leadership of the church was operating based on the best advice and with prayerful consideration. The Re-Gathering Team continues to meet on a monthly basis until there are exceptional treatments, a vaccine, and general immunity. We will have to live with these changes for a while.

We continue to meet in our church sanctuary and also live stream on YouTube.

Re-Gathering Team and Executive Council

TRANSITIONAL PASTOR SEARCH TEAM

The Transitional Pastor search team was elected on January 26, 2020, at the Annual Meeting of First Congregational Church. Shelly Robison, Sheryl Patten, Gayle Conover, Jay Oldenkamp, and Steve Berends made up the committee.

We met in February to begin the process. Pastor Shurmaine McAlpine agreed to do pulpit supply and pastoral care from mid-June until the Transitional Pastor began.

A job description for the Transitional Pastor was developed, and we began advertising for the position. We considered many options and resources to help us make the best transition from pastors Tom and Wendy, to a new Settled Pastor. God led us to Pastor Casey vanderBent in March 2020. Pastor Casey began his duties on August 3rd, 2020.

Our committee helped with finding Pastor Casey's housing and with his move to Spencer. I would like to thank all who helped with this process including, the committee members, our church secretary, the Ministry of Assets and Resources, Pastors Tom and Wendy, and others. We also thank the congregation for their prayers and encouragement.

Shelly Robison, Chair Sheryl Pattern, Secretary

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY SEARCH TEAM

The Director of Youth and Family Ministry search team was elected on January 26, 2020, at the Annual Meeting of First Congregational Church. The search team included Jared Gerlock, Tom C. Howe, Melissa Moser, Alison Munter and Wes Simpson.

The search team met in February to begin the search process. A job description for the Director of Youth and Family Ministry was developed, and advertising for the position began. Many options and resources were considered to advertise this position in the midst of COVID-19. We opted to use online sources and conducted interviews with four candidates via Zoom. The selection process was lengthy; however, we were extremely blessed when we offered the position to Joseph Leggett and he accepted on July 1, 2020. Joseph and his family moved from Bastrop, Texas to Spencer in August.

Thank you to all who helped with this extensive process including the search team members, the church members that helped during Joseph's two-day interview/visit to Spencer, and the congregation for being genuinely welcoming and open-minded to the idea of this new position.

Melissa Moser, Committee Member

2020 FIRESIDE ROOM UPDATE

In 2019 Women's Fellowship was approached by MARS to look into updating the Fireside Room. A committee was formed, consisting of Sheryl Patten, Shelly Robison and Betty Weikum.

Steffens Furniture replaced the carpet, the 2 loveseats and 5 chairs were replaced with new ones from Matt Furniture along with 3 new lamps. A new 65-inch TV was purchased from Carey's Electronics, a rolling TV stand was purchased, wood paneling was cleaned, drapes were cleaned (donated by Center Cleaners), and a fresh coat of paint under the drapes and soffit.

Total cost came to \$17,415.83. Women Fellowship gave \$4,000.00, \$8,250.71 came from Capital Improvement Fund, \$5,065.12 came from the Memorial Fund and a \$100.00 cash donation. There were other donations given to enhance the room. The update to the Fireside Room was completed in 2020.

Betty Weikum, Chair

NOMINATIONS REPORT FOR 2020

*Names in **bold** are hereby placed in nomination for the indicated positions.*

Officers

Moderator (1 year term).....(Rikki Hamrick) **Kathy Anderson**
 Vice Moderator (1 year term, then Moderator).....(Kathy Anderson) **Gayle Conover**
Other offices – 1-year terms – can be elected to multiple consecutive terms
 Clerk.....(LaVonne Peterson) **Vickie Montgomery**
 Treasurer.....(Rod Meendering) **Rod Meendering**
 Historian.....(Kella Klinker-Simonin) **Kella Klinker-Simonin**

Core Ministries {names in (parentheses) indicate term expiration in January of that year.}

Note: People may serve multiple consecutive terms on a Core Ministry Team.

Core Ministry of Assets and Resources

2021	(Angie Edington)	2022	Wes Simpson	2023	Duaine Holck	2024	Nate Schmidt
	(Bob Whittenburg)		Linda Norgaard		Dianne Phillips		Doug Hart

Core Ministry of Worship

2021	(Bonnie Hoover)	2022	Jay Oldenkamp	2023	Mike Patten	2024	Lori Black
	(Marlyn Barglof)		Judy Hemphill		Amanda Brigham		Diane Zinn

Core Ministry of Education

2021	(Amy Simpson)	2022	Heather Whittenburg	2023	Amanda Mack	2024	Amy Simpson
	(Jared Gerlock)		Dave Jacobson		Bob Rose		Melissa Moser

Core Ministry of Mission

2021	(Jim Montgomery)	2022	Jennifer Loudermilk	2023	Randall Anderson	2024	Bonnie Hoover
	(John Thoren)		Becky Johnson		Bill Green		Frank Edington

Core Ministry of Fellowship and Congregational Care

2021	(Sheryl Patten)	2022	Sandi Nielsen	2023	Mary Schomaker	2024	Dawn Weuve
	(Jack Schomaker)		John Zinn		Phyllis Slawson		Jack Schomaker

Other Nominations:

NACCC Year-Round Delegate.....(Betty Weikum) **Randy Van Dyke**