

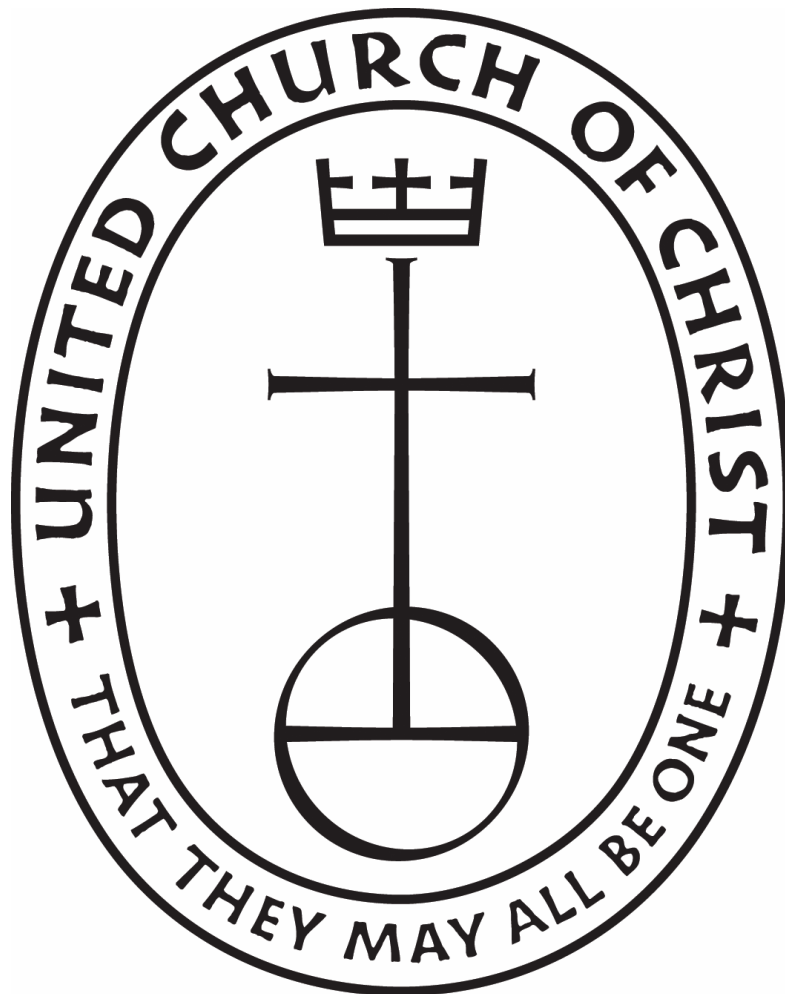
# **FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Norfolk, Nebraska

2023 Annual Report

Annual Meeting

April 23, 2023



Erik Gamerl, Moderator

Rev. Jackie Perry, Pastor

Annual Meeting of First Congregational  
United Church of Christ  
Norfolk, NE  
April 23, 2023  
Erik Gamerl, Moderator

**Call to Order/ Declaration of Quorum** Erik Gamerl  
**Opening prayer** Rev. Jackie Perry

**Blanket acceptance of the following yearly reports:**

*Congregational Meeting Minutes*  
*Pastor's Report*  
*Clerk's Report*  
*Historian's Report*  
*Cradle Roll*  
*Faith Development Ministry*  
*Worship Ministry*  
*Transformation Ministry*  
*Financial Reports from:*  
*Youth Fund, Gift Cards, Kitchen Fund*  
*Scholarship, Restricted Endowment, Savings Account*  
*General Fund*

**Pastor's Moment**—Rev. Jackie Perry  
**Vote on Proposed Budget**—Erik Gamerl  
**Vote on Nominations**—Erik Gamerl  
**Commissioning of Officers**—Rev. Jackie Perry  
**Adjournment**—Erik Gamerl  
**Closing Prayer**—Rev. Jackie Perry

Annual meeting minutes: First Congregational United Church of Christ  
Annual Meeting, April 24, 2022

Annual Meeting was called to order on April 24, 2021, by Moderator Randy Neuharth at 11:02 a.m. A quorum was declared present.

Reverend Jackie Perry opened the meeting with prayer.

Karen Allyn motioned to blanket accept the following yearly reports as written. Before proceeding with a second to the motion, Treasurer Lori Williams explained that the financial report would be amended, then requesting that the financial reports be reprinted after the end of April. The following reports are the yearly reports motioned to be accepted: Congregational Meeting Minutes, Pastor's Report, Clerk's Report, Historian's Report, Cradle Roll, Faith Development Ministry, Worship Ministry, Transformation Ministry, and Financial Reports from Youth Fund, Gift Cards, Kitchen Fund, Scholarship, Restricted Endowment, Madison County Bank, the Memorial Fund, Treasurer's Report and the General Fund. Tom McConnell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Pastor's Moment by Reverend Jackie Perry: Pastor Jackie laid a scripture layer to the importance of a budget in families, including churches. When a group requires something big, or when writing or studying budgets, the budgets are key to decisions made. Jesus had much of these items in mind in Luke 14. If we want to follow Jesus, we need to plan ahead. Counting the cost ahead of time, considering the risk, helps us plan. We are all invited to live within the family of God, requiring support, planning ahead, and setting out on a path of discipleship. Pastor Jackie is grateful for those who have worked on the proposed budget, and for the people of this church in supporting the church. May our future plans reflect Christ's plan of abundance. Praise God.

Vote on the Proposed Budget: Moderator Randy Neuharth opened a discussion on the budget. Lori explained that the new budget, April 22-23, replaces the old budget, mistakenly placed in the papers distributed prior to the Annual meeting. The budget was put together before we had pledges. We have a budget of \$120,000. We have pledges of \$110,000. This past year we spent \$117,000, so the proposed budget is a little over, and pledges received so far are a little under the \$120,000. The contract for the custodians was lowered, resulting in a nice savings. The insurance for the building, overstated the expense this year because there were 5 payments made this year. Last year there were 3 payments made. It's a big line item that the Support Team will be looking into. The proposed budget shows a projected deficit of \$7900. We had gifts of \$33,000, a wonderful year of gifts. Most of the gifts' monies are now in savings. We did take \$8000 from the money market account to stabilize our budget after a few months of a negative balance. Both the Support Team and Unity Council agreed to the transfer of \$8000, but we are still in a really strong position. We all need to look at expenses all the time. We still need faithful revenue, maybe a pinch more generous. The negative amount at the end is difficult to see. But, this congregation has kept us afloat and with God's grace we will continue to do so. A motion to accept the Proposed Budget was made by Tom McConnell, 2nded by Ed Lindsay. Motion passed.

Nominations for church offices were reviewed. Nominated Officers are: Erik Gamerl, Moderator, Scott Williams, Vice Moderator, and Jane Uzzell, Clerk. Nominations from the floor were opened one at a time. Following no additional nominations, Ben Uzzell motioned nominations cease for Vice Moderator. Erik Gamerl seconded. After no additional nominations for clerk, Sue Surber motioned nominations cease. Scott William seconded. Chuck Balsiger motioned to nominate Lori Williams for Treasurer. Ben Uzzell motioned nominations for Treasurer cease, Erik Gamerl seconded. Motions carried. Ben Uzzell then motioned to accept the nominations. Ed Lindsay, 2nded. Motion passed. (As outgoing Moderator, Randy Neuharth moves to the position of Past Moderator without being nominated or voted on.)

Reverend Jackie Perry led the Commissioning of Officers, as found on page 25. To our knowledge there are no changes in the church's teams. The Unity Council members are changed as officers move to their positions. Thanks were given to Moderator Randy Neuharth as he moves to Past Moderator.

There are a number of committees/teams looking for people to help. Please check the bulletin board and step forward to help.

Scott Williams motioned that the meeting be adjourned. Ben Uzzell seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 11:24 a.m..

Closing Prayer was offered by Reverend Jackie Perry.

Respectfully submitted, Jane M. Uzzell, Clerk

## **Pastor's Annual Report – 2023**

*“And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.” -Genesis 12:9*

Our Lenten series this year reminds us that faith is a journey. From setting out like a pioneer on a wagon train; to God calling Abram to leave the familiar and start life anew; to God taking our epitaphs (sayings written on gravestones) and rewriting them to reflect new life of faith.

This season of preparation for Easter teaches us that God is always moving forward. On the trail, there is always more to see and respond to with the eyes of faith. For a complete list, I invite you to read Bonnie Kroeger's historian's report; but, here I will lift up some signs of our moving forward with God.

This fall, Sara Putters (Putters Media) created a video highlighting our relationship with Linaje Escogido Church. We were proud to share it with the wider church at the October joint meeting of the Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota Conferences, as an example of mission. Mission is friendship.

As part of her Sunday School video project, Reese Uzzell interviewed many of you about your faith journeys. We hope to share the completed videos in worship in April. Faith stories are meant to be shared.

On the journey this year, we have been faithful stewards of our resources. Related to this, the Unity Council has been exploring with Ben Uzzell the possibility of becoming our church's new volunteer security officer. With Ben's years of leadership, military service, and training as an MP (military police), we hope to bless him as our new security officer after paperwork is filed and a job description is written.

Even as I write this report, the nation is grieving a tragic shooting at a Christian school in Nashville. Last fall, our church practiced our first active-shooter drill based on “Run-Hide-Fight” materials from the FBI and Homeland Security. Their video also showed us good practices for coping with an active shooter situation. At our baptism, we promise to resist evil. We learned at the training that no matter your age or ability, there are things you can do to stay safe.

Our church continues to welcome people to the church. Today three churches share our building. First Congregational UCC, Linaje Escogido (downstairs), and Renewed Hope (First Sunday evenings in Fellowship Hall). We create opportunities to worship with our neighbors Trinity Episcopal and First Presbyterian churches. Also, joining together for 2023 Egg Hunt, VBS, and sharing confirmation classes with First Presbyterian Church. May God continue to call us forward to serve God with love and faith.

*--Peace, Pastor Jackie*

**Clerk's Record April 1, 2022 -March 31, 2023**

**Birth/Baptism**

**Confirmands**

**Marriages**

**Additions**

**Transfer Out**

**Death**

Beth Janelle Rhoades, Died April 11, 2022

Phyllis Ames, Died June 23, 2022 Funeral held First Congregational UCC July 8, 2022

Kenneth Hopkins, Died July 29, 2022 Funeral held Roper and Sons Lincoln, August 22, 2022

Jeff Pekas, Died March 6, 2023

**Membership report**

Members as of April 1, 2022	136
Transfer In	0
Transfer Out	0
Removed by request	0
Death	<u>4</u>
Members as of March 31, 2023	132

## April 2022 — March 2023 — Church History

**APRIL 3rd** — Holy Communion. Stewardship Sunday. 5th Sunday of Lent. **4th** — Pastor Jackie presides at graveside services for Sondra Herian. **9th** — Easter Egg Hunt. We hid 1000 eggs and had 32 young children plus families participate. Volunteers helping were Darlene & Gene Korthals, Reese and Grace Uzzell, Barb Koenig, Kay Neuharth and Pastor Jackie. **10th** — Palm Sunday. Worship. **13th** — Book Club met in Fellowship Hall at 10 AM and read I'll Go and Come Back. **14th** — Joint Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service at First Presbyterian Church @ 5:30 with FCUCC. Six members of FCUCC were readers. Light meal served. **17th** — Easter Sunday. **24th** — Worship. Annual Meeting. Worship moves to Fellowship Hall. UCC is asking for support for refugees and other vulnerable people who are displaced within Ukraine and unable to leave. Gifts will provide shelter, food and other care. Make checks out to FCUCC with the note "Ukraine Relief".

**MAY 1st** — Holy Communion. Youth are collecting donations for the Animal Shelter of Northeast Nebraska. Cole Uzzell's church graduation is celebrated with a cake in Fellowship Hall. **7th** — Celebration for Life held for Janet Lane @ 2:00 PM. Pastor Jackie presided. **8th** — Worship. Mother's Day. Celebration of Teachers, Susan Allyn, Darlene Korthals, Bonnie Kroeger, Tom McConnell, Pastor Jackie Perry, Scott Williams, and Jane Uzzell. **11th** — Book Club met in Fellowship Hall at 10 AM and read Nana Upstairs, Nana Downstairs. **14th** — Cole Uzzell's high school's graduation reception party is held from 4-6 PM. **15th** — Worship. **22nd** — Worship. Unity Council meets following worship. The following volunteers Reese, Stacie, Cole, and Grace Uzzell, Adam Gamerl, Darlene Korthals, Charlene Fosdick, and Pastor Jackie donated their time at the Animal Shelter and donated the supplies that were collected at the church. Several helped with the pulling of weeds and putting mulch in the memorial garden along with playing with the puppies. **29th** — Worship. Memorial Day Weekend. Congo Mission & Orphan Grain Train shipment of robes and chairs is still on hold.

**JUNE 5th** — Worship. Pentecost—wear red. Linda Steele was guest Preacher. **8th** — Book Club met in Fellowship Hall at 10 AM and read I'll Go and Come Back. **11th** — Christian Cross Festival at Skyview Lake. **12th** — Holy Communion. Worship. Rev. Kenn Leischner was guest preacher. Free Covid tests are available on the back table. **16th-30th** — Three volunteers help out at the Norfolk Community Pantry from 9:30-11:30 each day. **18th** — Church yard cleanup @ 8 AM. Members of FCUCC and the Linaje Escogido Churches worked together. **19th** — Worship. Father's Day. Pops for pops were given out by Mike Synovec to all the men. **25th** — Deanna Alexander celebrates her 80th Birthday at her daughter's house by Pierce. **26th** — Worship.

**JULY 3rd** — Holy Communion. Worship. Stuff the Bus school supplies needed by July 24th. **8th** — Celebration of life for Phyllis L. Ames held in our sanctuary presided by Pastor Jackie Perry. A luncheon was held in the Fellowship Hall following. Burial was in the Laurel Hill Cemetery, Neligh NE. **10th** — Worship. **12th** — Book Club met in the Fellowship Hall @ 10 AM and read Niki Nakayama: A Chef's Tale in 13 Bites. **13th** — FCUCC and Seventh Day Adventist Church holding Blood Drive for the American Red Cross from 12 - 6 PM in Fellowship Hall. Several people volunteered their time and also gave blood. We gave 11 units of blood but 21 people took part. We had 8 deferrals. **17th** — Worship. Stuff the bus will be presented to the Salvation Army on July 25th. Also, monetary donations can be made to them.

**24th** — Worship. **31th** — Worship. 5th Sunday—Potluck in Fellowship Hall following service. Donations accepted for the Scholarship Fund. \$215 was raised.

**AUGUST 7th** — Holy Communion. Worship. **10th** — Book Club met in Fellowship Hall at 10 AM and read Tomatoes for Neela. **14th** — Worship. **19th** — New Hearing Loop installed in the Sanctuary by Sheryl Butler, Loop Engineer for Hearing Assist Solutions. Donating their time was Cole Uzzell and Henry Gamerl in helping with installation. A grant was obtained for the cost of the equipment. The installation cost is being shared by the Gamerl family and the Memorial Committee. Council also approved a loop for the Fellowship Hall. It will be installed at a later date. **21st** — Worship. Memorial reception for Ken Hopkins held in Fellowship Hall from 3-5 PM. **28th** — Worship. Antique Car Club guests' worship with us. Unity Council meets after worship.

**SEPTEMBER 4th** — Holy Communion. Worship. **10th** — To Norfolk With Love. **11th** — Worship. Rally Day. Teachers Commissioning during worship. Those are Darlene Korthals, Susan Allyn, Tom McConnell, Jane Uzzell and Pastor Jackie. New Pictorial directories are available. **14th** — Book Club met in Fellowship Hall at 10 AM and read The Elephants Come Home. Confirmation begins. Reese Uzzell from FCUCC, Alex Hardisty, Avery Beckenhauer, and Joel Montalvo from First Presbyterian, meet every other Wednesday with Pastors Jackie Perry & Brian Johnson at each other's churches.

**18th** — Worship. Donations of chairs and robes to the Democratic Republic Congo in Africa still have not been shipped from the Orphan Grain Train. **25th** — Worship. Active Shooter Awareness Training video immediately after worship.

**October 2nd** — Holy Communion. Worship. Pack Away Hunger Day. We had 9 volunteers. Reese and Grace Uzzell, Rita Woodard, Verletta Olson, Jeff & Evonne Burkink, Charlene Fosdick, Susan Allyn and Pastor Jackie. \$150 was donated. NIN (Neighbors In Need) Offering. \$190 was raised. **9th** — Worship. **12th** — Book Club met at 10 AM in Fellowship Hall and read What's In Your Pocket? **16th** — Worship. Please bring donations through Oct 30 for the Norfolk Community Food Pantry. **23rd** — Worship. Unity Council meets. **30th** — Worship. Heritage Sunday. Those honored for being long term members were Merle Rix, 74 years; Bonnie Dewell, 70 Years; Rita Woodard, 69 years; Patricia Jenny, 66 years; Alice Dudley, 58 years and Verletta Olson, 52 years. Potluck after worship today. Free will donations will go to the scholarship fund. \$213 was received. A large pallet of food was collected by the congregation and delivered to the Food Pantry. Thank you to Darlene Korthals and Grace Uzzell for keeping the goal before us all month.

**NOVEMBER 6th** — Holy Communion. Worship. Remembrance Sunday (All Saints). Those remembered were Ruth Brown, Sondra Herian, Janet Lane, Phyllis Ames, Kenneth Hopkins and other family and friends. **9th** — Book Club met in Fellowship Hall at 10 AM and read Saturday at the Food Pantry. **12th** — Living Waters Association gathers at Pierce United Church of Christ at 9:30 AM. Those attending from our church were Verletta Olson, Jane Uzzell, David Thompson and Pastor Jackie. Elections were held and Verletta Olson will be the LWA Board Vice-President for the coming year. Pastor Jackie celebrates her 16 years of Ordination. **13th** — Worship. National Donor Sabbath. Register to be an organ donor. **20th** — The youth baked about 100 cookies and delivered them to the Rescue Mission on Sunday afternoon. Bakers were Reese & Grace Uzzell, Skylar Indra, Micah Feenstra, Darlene Korthals and Pastor Jackie. **23rd** — Joint Thanksgiving Eve Service with First Presbyterian, Trinity and ourselves @ 5:30 at FCUCC, Confirmands helped lead.

**24th** — Thanksgiving Day. Potluck at 12:30 for those who wish to come. Bring a dish to pass. About 30 attended. **27th** — Worship. Advent 1. Hanging of the Greens immediately following service. Soup & sandwiches following.

**DECEMBER 4th** — Holy Communion. Worship. Advent 2. Unity Council meets after worship today. **11th** — Worship. Advent 3. Christmas Symbols & Their Traditional Meaning Christmas Program. Those participating were Mike Synovec, Brian Seier, Skylar and Kennedy Indra, Reese, Grace, Ben and Jane Uzzell and Susan Allyn, along with Pastor Jackie. Mike Synovec offered the idea and the symbols from his collection of Christmas cards were scanned and used. Potluck followed. Two trees have been provided for Outreach by Faith Development. One will be for Norfolk Little Panthers Preschool and the other for Norfolk Furbaby Rescue (Norfolk Animal Shelter). A list of items is available to buy and decorate the tree. **14th** — Book Club met in Fellowship Hall at 10 AM and read Red and Green and Blue and White. Those serving as Salvation Army Bell Ringers at Hy-Vee West were (the Confirmations Class) along with some adults. Reese Uzzell, Avery Beckenhauer, Alex Hardisty, Joel Montalvo, Pat Jenny, Jane Uzzell and Pastor Jackie from our church. Myrtle Smith, Larry and Mary Birch, and Pastor Brian Johnson from the Presbyterian. **17th & 18th** — Sheryl Butler, along with Katie, Henry and Adam Gamerl finished installing the Hearing Loop in Fellowship Hall. **18th** — Worship. Advent Four. Christmas Fund dedication. \$506 was collected to assist retired church clergy. **24th** — Christmas Eve Service @ 5:30. Holy Communion. **25th** — Worship. Christmas Day. No Sunday School.

**JANUARY 1st** — Worship. Susan Allyn read the message. **8th** — Holy Communion. Worship. Undecorating of the church today. **11th** — Book Club met in Fellowship Hall at 10 AM and read Hello Lighthouse. **12th** — Pastor Jackie attends training in Omaha. **15th** — Worship. Jeff Rhoades visited and reported that Beth Janelle Rhoades estate gave a donation of \$750 toward the scholarship fund. **22nd** — Worship. Remaining 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary ornaments free. **29th** — Worship. Potluck. Donations going toward the Scholarship Fund. \$180 was collected. Touch of Brass will perform at the Cox Activities Center. **23rd** — Pastor Jackie at the Yankton Peace Center tonight and Tuesday to lead a clergy art retreat.

**FEBRUARY 5th** — Holy Communion. Worship moved to Fellowship Hall. **8th** — Book Club met in Fellowship Hall at 10 AM and read The Undefeated. **12th** — Worship. Youth is collecting donations for the Animal Shelter of Northeast Nebraska. **19th** — Worship. **22nd** — Joint Ash Wednesday services at Trinity Episcopal Church @ 5:30 PM with FCUCC and First Presbyterian; canceled due to weather. **26th** — Worship. Lent 1 “Grace in the Gaps”. Dedication of donations collected for the Animal Shelter.

**MARCH 5th** — Holy Communion. Worship. Lent 2 “Invitation to a New Start”. **8th** — Book Club met in Fellowship Hall at 10 AM and read Wolf in the Snow. **12th** — Worship. Lent 3 “The Saving Goodness of God”. **19th** — Worship. Lent 4 “Darkness Cannot Overpower the Light”. Dedication of Stewardship and One Great Hour of Sharing. Unity Council meets. **26th** — Worship. Lent 5 “Rewrite Those Epitaphs”. Randy Neuharth reads the message. Support Committee meets.

Bonnie Kroeger  
Church Historian

## **Cradle Roll Report for 2022**

The Cradle Roll as of January 1, 2023 has 3 children, age 6 and under on its enrollment chart. There were no births in 2022. Enrollment cards are mailed out to all the children on their births, and their name is added to the bootie chart. All children of members of our congregation are mailed 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday cards, but those that are not members, but only relatives, or grandchildren of our members are only sent enrollment cards. Our Cradle Roll Bootie Chart, which was started in 1982, hangs in the Church Office. Each time an addition is made to the Cradle Roll, a new pink or blue bootie is added to the chart with the child's name and birth date.

Bonnie Kroeger  
Cradle Roll Chairman

## ANNUAL REPORT OF FAITH DEVELOPMENT MINISTRY TEAM

April 2022-March 2023

The Faith Development Ministry Team of First Congregational United Church of Christ in Norfolk, Nebraska meets as needed on Sundays immediately following regular church services; this year we met four times. Members include: Katie Gamerl, Barb Koenig (Council Representative), Darlene Korthals (Presiding Chairman), Kay Neuharth (Secretary), Stacie Uzzell, and Pastor Jackie Perry.

Each year presents changes and challenges as we continue to provide educational opportunities for all age groups. We currently have Sunday School for elementary and junior high students. These classes meet at 9:00 am prior to church services. A book club for adults meets monthly on the second Wednesday morning at 10 am.

Pastor Jackie and volunteers have provided various activities and outreach projects for our youth. These have included: volunteering at the Animal Shelter, helping with Pack Away Hunger, collecting food items for the Norfolk Food Pantry, helping with church outdoor cleanup, baking cookies for Rescue Mission, ringing bells for Salvation Army at Christmas, and interviewing church members about their faith journey, as well as taking part in church services.

Regular events have taken place this church year. *Teacher Appreciation Day* was held on May 8, 2022, with liturgy and prayers during church service and special gifts for each teacher. *Rally Day* was held on September 11, 2022 with ice cream sundaes and balloons. Reese was involved in a special interview Faith Journey project of church members; Grace was in charge of the food pantry project. (There was no Vacation Bible School this year, but plans are to have it back in 2023.)

Special events were celebrated this church year. *Lenten and Easter Services* were held. A *Graduation Recognition* was held to honor Cole Uzzell on May 1, 2022. A *Bible Presentation ceremony* was held for Grace Uzzell on September 25, 2022. Youth and adults participated in the annual *Christmas Program* entitled, "Christmas Symbols & Their Traditions" on December 11, 2022. A potluck Christmas dinner followed the program. Special Christmas treat bags were given to youth. Our *Giving Tree project*, one for Norfolk Little Panthers Preschool and one for Norfolk Fur Baby Rescue, was held during the Christmas season. *Confirmation classes* are currently being taught by Pastor Jackie and Pastor Brian Johnson.

Upcoming events include: the annual *Easter Egg Hunt* scheduled for April 1<sup>st</sup>, *Ash Wednesday and Easter services*, *Confirmation Recognition* for Reese Uzzell on April 30<sup>th</sup>, *Teacher Appreciation Day* on May 7<sup>th</sup>, and the last day of *Sunday School* on May 14<sup>th</sup>. No date has yet been set for *Vacation Bible School*.

## ANNUAL REPORT FOR WORSHIP MINISTRY 2022-2023

Worship Ministry meets the first Wednesday of every month at 10 AM.

April celebrated Easter and our annual meeting. After Easter, we moved to Fellowship Hall for worship.

May was a celebration of life for Janet Lane and an organizational meeting for June and July as no meetings were held in those months. Mother's Day was celebrated by giving all women in the church carnations delivered by Reese and Grace Uzzell.

June was Pastor Jackie's vacation. Linda Steele was invited June 5 and Kenn Leischner came June 12 to celebrate communion. June 19<sup>th</sup> was Father's Day and all men were given candy bars.

July was a joint American Red Cross Blood Drive with Seventh Day Adventist Church Where Pastor Sandro Sandoval leads.

Communion in Fellowship Hall will be at the tables. Servers will bring to all members. Words of institution should be spoken while serving.

August was Antique Car Club visitation.

September was Rally Sunday to begin Sunday School. Active shooter videos from Homeland Security and the FBI were presented. Ben Uzzell offered to be our security person. Jackie was on vacation the 15<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>. Dr. Randall Neuharth delivered the sermon. Chaplain Jim Wonnacott is on call for emergency needs.

October 30 Heritage Sunday and carnations were given by Grace Uzzell to all members who have belonged to First Congregational UCC for 50 years or more.

November 6 Remembrance Sunday. The 23<sup>rd</sup> was Thanksgiving Eve service here with Trinity Episcopal and First Presbyterian. The 27<sup>th</sup> was Hanging of the Greens and a return to the sanctuary. Soup and sandwiches provided by Worship Ministry followed the decorating.

December 11 was the Christmas Program followed by a potluck with pulled pork provided by Ben and Stacie Uzzell. Christmas Eve was a candlelight service.

February 5 return to Fellowship Hall for worship. The 22<sup>nd</sup> was Ash Wednesday held at Trinity Episcopal. No service held because of weather.

March was Stewardship month. Jackie on vacation 24-26. Dr. Randall Neuharth read the sermon.

April 2 return to sanctuary for Palm Sunday.

Next Worship meeting scheduled for July 5, 2023.

Submitted by Suzan Podliska, Secretary of Worship Ministry

## Transformation 2022-2023

Our church participates in donating funds for 5 for 5 of the United Church of Christ. We contributed this year to:

OCWM	\$ 6,491.00 (This is collected weekly)
Strengthen the Church	\$ 25.00
Neighbors in Need	\$ 190.00
Christmas Fund	\$ 531.00
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$ <u>416.40</u>
	\$ 7,653.40

Members supported the Community Food Pantry with \$200. Pastor's Discretionary was given \$200. Mercy Meals was \$150 and Good Neighbors was \$244.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Surber

### **Youth Fund**

Beginning balance	3-31-2022	\$ 6,948.66
	<u>Interest</u>	<u>11.04</u>
Balance on	3-31-2023	\$ 6,959.70

### **Gift Cards**

Beginning balance	3-31-22	\$ 887.45
Deposits to account		\$ 7,050.00
Hy-Vee cards purchased		\$ -3,395.00
<u>Lou's cards purchased</u>		<u>\$ -2,910.00</u>
Balance on	3-31-23	\$ 1,632.45

#### Cards on hand

Hy-Vee	\$ 765.00
Lou's	\$ 575.00

### **Kitchen Fund**

Beginning balance on	3-31-22	\$ 252.69
Interest		0.15
Balance on	3-31-23	\$ 252.84
Paid in cash		\$ 202.00
Cash on hand	3-31-23	\$ 88.00

**Scholarship Fund**

Beginning balance on 3-31-22	\$ 3,398.75
Loss	1,086.20
Donations given	<u>1,143.00</u>
Balance on 3-31-23	\$ 3,455.55

**Restricted Endowment Fund**

Beginning balance on 3-31-22	\$122,835.65
Loss	<u>\$ 6,649.63</u>
Balance on 3-31-23	\$ 116,186.02

**Elkhorn Valley Savings**

Beginning balance 3-31-22	\$51,237.09
Correction for 3-31-22	\$ 903.33
Deposit from Ruth Brown estate	\$10,000.00
Deposit from anonymous giver	\$ 5,000.00
Deposit from Linaje Escagido	\$ 5,400.00
Transfer to General Account	\$15,995.00
Interest	<u>\$ 243.78</u>
Balance on 3-31-23	\$56,789.20

## Treasurer's Annual Report 2023

Thank you for your continued generosity to our congregation! With your steadfast support, the financial picture of the church is positive.

### Balance Sheet

Overall, the cash position of the church is in a better position this fiscal year compared to last year. One thing to note - there is a decrease in the value of the Restricted Endowment due to the overall condition of the market.

### Profit & Loss Previous Year Comparison

The fiscal year once again ended with a positive net income of \$8,461.87. With a beautiful gift of \$10,000 from Ruthie Brown's estate, an anonymous gift of \$5,000, steadfast offerings from the congregation, and the rental income of \$900 per month from Linaje Escogido, our overall income for the year continues to be healthy.

**Account 514.013 Technology Expense:** An additional expense of \$3,700 was paid to Quickbooks for a 3 year subscription which inflates the expense for this fiscal year.

**Account 515.004 Natural Gas:** Gas rates have increased substantially as reflected in the increase of the utility expense from year to year.

**Account 515.011 Church Insurance:** Although it appears the premiums for insurance declined from the prior year, timing of the premium payments affected the total expense listed in the fiscal year.

In 21-22, five quarterly payments were disbursed to the property insurance carrier. Subsequently, in 22-23, only 3 payments were disbursed. **Actual package premiums for last fiscal year were \$10,871. This past fiscal year, they were \$12,502.**

The package premium was scheduled to increase another \$1,625. The support committee moved the insurance coverage to another carrier for a savings of \$3,755.

Workers' Compensation premiums continue with an annual premium around \$900.

### Profit & Loss Budget Overview

The budget was prepared before pledges were received. Based on the pledges received in the last two years, pledges were again budgeted at \$120,000. Salaries were increased 5% to somewhat trend with current inflation percentages. As usual, the budget projects a loss for the upcoming fiscal year. And yet, through God's gifts through our congregation, the church continues to prosper.

Thank you for allowing me to be the treasurer of our church!

Respectively submitted,

Lori Williams, Treasurer  
Office (402) 371-0792  
Cell (402) 750-3516

9:33 AM

04/06/23

Accrual Basis

## First Congregational United Church of Christ

**Balance Sheet**

As of March 31, 2023

	Mar 31, 23
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
General Account	4,377.02
Gift Card Account	1,632.45
Kitchen Account	252.86
Youth Account	6,961.23
Elkhorn Valley Savings	56,789.20
Memorial Account	14,833.51
Total Checking/Savings	84,846.27
Total Current Assets	84,846.27
Fixed Assets	
Gift Cards	
Lou's Gift Cards	575.00
Hy-Vee Gift Cards	765.00
Total Gift Cards	1,340.00
Pers Prop-Storage	9,514.00
Building-Storage	1,986.00
Pers Prop-Church & Office	354,728.00
Building-Church	3,378,487.00
Scholarship Fund- Ed Jones	3,455.55
Restricted Endowment-Ed Jones	116,186.02
Total Fixed Assets	3,865,696.57
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>3,950,542.84</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Payroll Liabilities	1,333.65
Total Other Current Liabilities	1,333.65
Total Current Liabilities	1,333.65
Total Liabilities	1,333.65
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	126,221.51
Perm. Restricted Net Assets	3,887,725.47
Unrestricted Net Assets	-73,199.66
Net Income	8,461.87
Total Equity	3,949,209.19
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>3,950,542.84</b>

04/05/23

## Profit &amp; Loss Previous Year Comparison

Accrual Basis

April 2022 through March 2023

	Apr '22 - Mar 23	Apr '21 - Mar 22
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
050.000 Elkhorn Valley Savings		
050.001 Interest	243.78	5.51
050.000 Elkhorn Valley Savings - Other	15,000.00	16,861.65
<b>Total 050.000 Elkhorn Valley Savings</b>	<b>15,243.78</b>	<b>16,867.16</b>
100.000 Memorial		
100.001 Interest	43.23	6.90
100.002 Deposits	3,990.00	1,500.00
<b>Total 100.000 Memorial</b>	<b>4,033.23</b>	<b>1,506.90</b>
200.000 Madison County Bank		
200.001 Interest	0.00	61.18
<b>Total 200.000 Madison County Bank</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>61.18</b>
250.000 Kitchen Account		
250.002 Interest	0.17	0.00
<b>Total 250.000 Kitchen Account</b>	<b>0.17</b>	<b>0.00</b>
300.000 Youth Group		
300.001 Interest	12.39	0.56
<b>Total 300.000 Youth Group</b>	<b>12.39</b>	<b>0.56</b>
400.000 Ourselves-Pledges		
400.001 Ourselves Current	116,026.00	116,298.00
<b>Total 400.000 Ourselves-Pledges</b>	<b>116,026.00</b>	<b>116,298.00</b>
401.000 Other Income		
401.001 Loose Offerings	734.35	728.31
401.002 Church Space Rental	1,940.00	1,150.00
401.003 Funeral	360.00	0.00
401.006 Gift Cards	195.00	210.00
401.007 Checking Acct Interest	18.24	7.64
401.008 Miscellaneous	1,187.55	12,323.52
401.010 Memorial Money	0.00	2,172.83
401.011 Scholarship Money	213.00	1,000.00
401.013 Poinsettias	227.50	169.00
401.014 Lilies	109.00	73.00
401.015 Rent Linaje Escogido	10,800.00	10,140.00
<b>Total 401.000 Other Income</b>	<b>15,784.64</b>	<b>27,974.30</b>

	<u>Apr '22 - Mar 23</u>	<u>Apr '21 - Mar 22</u>
<b>415.000 UCC Benevolence Offer</b>		
415.001 OCWM	6,491.00	6,667.00
415.002 Strengthen the Church	25.00	215.00
415.003 OGHS	461.40	501.28
415.004 Neighbors in Need	190.00	310.00
415.005 Christmas Fund	531.00	275.00
<b>Total 415.000 UCC Benevolence Offer</b>	<b>7,698.40</b>	<b>7,968.28</b>
<b>416.000 Other Mission Offerings</b>		
416.001 Food Pantry	200.00	181.00
416.003 Transformation Ministry	527.00	0.00
416.004 Youth Mission Receipts	0.00	5,000.00
<b>Total 416.000 Other Mission Offerings</b>	<b>727.00</b>	<b>5,181.00</b>
<b>416.005 Pastor Discretionary</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>50.00</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>159,525.61</b>	<b>175,907.38</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>159,525.61</b>	<b>175,907.38</b>
<b>Expense</b>		
<b>500.000 Pastoral Services</b>		
500.001 Pastor's Salary	39,395.76	38,145.84
500.002 Housing Allowance	12,999.84	12,999.84
500.003 Mileage Expense	545.02	401.52
500.009 Pastor's Continuing Ed	560.00	515.00
500.010 Substitute Minister	278.67	700.71
500.014 Pension	7,350.00	7,175.04
500.015 UCC Health	5,258.40	2,653.36
500.016 UCC Dental	517.00	510.00
500.017 Life/Disability	787.56	768.84
<b>Total 500.000 Pastoral Services</b>	<b>67,692.25</b>	<b>63,870.15</b>
<b>510.000 Faith Development</b>		
510.002 Resource Materials	660.52	280.78
510.010 Faith Development Misc	67.23	74.40
<b>Total 510.000 Faith Development</b>	<b>727.75</b>	<b>355.18</b>

	<u>Apr '22 - Mar 23</u>	<u>Apr '21 - Mar 22</u>
<b>511.000 Worship Ministry</b>		
511.001 Worship Items	496.25	645.79
511.002 Organist	2,520.00	2,800.00
511.003 Substitute Organist	840.00	1,120.00
511.004 Instrument Maintenance	250.00	200.00
511.006 Worship-Other	0.00	19.69
<b>Total 511.000 Worship Ministry</b>	<b>4,106.25</b>	<b>4,785.48</b>
<b>514.000 Church Administration</b>		
514.001 Secretary	13,440.00	13,092.50
514.003 Bulletins & Newsletters	1,542.19	1,293.32
514.004 Administration Supplies	534.27	822.89
514.005 Postage	592.00	508.94
514.006 Funeral Expenses	90.42	0.00
514.007 Conference Expenses	443.18	20.00
514.008 Living Waters Dues	316.00	280.00
514.009 Office Machines Mainten	0.00	98.00
514.010 Devotionals	271.10	213.50
514.013 Technology Expense	5,928.91	3,064.53
514.014 Office Expenses Misc	60.32	0.00
514.015 Advertising	1,152.65	1,237.79
514.016 Lease on Equipment	832.62	828.00
<b>Total 514.000 Church Administration</b>	<b>25,203.66</b>	<b>21,459.47</b>
<b>515.000 Church Maintenance</b>		
515.001 Custodian	6,716.25	9,727.96
515.002 Garbage	412.50	450.00
515.003 Natural Gas	7,064.61	4,275.76
515.004 Electricity	6,843.57	6,839.26
515.005 Water & Sewer	1,205.70	1,220.64
515.006 Telephone	1,146.68	939.95
515.007 Supplies & Equipment	3,781.94	2,972.23
515.008 Groundskeeping	2,690.09	1,293.53
515.009 Church Repairs	3,041.92	2,659.16
515.010 Maintenance-Other	0.00	557.90
515.011 Church Insurance	9,047.40	15,638.25
<b>Total 515.000 Church Maintenance</b>	<b>41,950.66</b>	<b>46,574.64</b>

	Apr '22 - Mar 23	Apr '21 - Mar 22
<b>516.000 Charitable Contributions</b>		
516.001 OCWM	6,491.00	6,667.00
516.002 One Great Hour Sharing	461.40	501.28
516.003 Strengthen the Church	25.00	215.00
516.004 Neighbors in Need	190.00	310.00
516.005 Christmas Fund	531.00	275.00
516.006 Food Pantry	200.00	181.00
516.007 Pastoral Discretionary	200.00	151.40
516.008 Transformation Ministry	527.00	0.00
516.010 Misc. Giving	370.00	0.00
<b>Total 516.000 Charitable Contributions</b>	<b>8,995.40</b>	<b>8,300.68</b>
<b>517.000 Miscellaneous Expenses</b>		
517.001 Poinsettias	231.00	217.80
517.002 Lilies	90.00	84.00
517.005 Scholarship Payments	213.00	1,500.00
517.009 Miscellaneous	219.99	522.32
<b>Total 517.000 Miscellaneous Expenses</b>	<b>753.99</b>	<b>2,324.12</b>
<b>650.000 Kitchen</b>		
650.001 Expenses	15.45	0.00
<b>Total 650.000 Kitchen</b>	<b>15.45</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>700.000 Youth Group</b>		
700.001 Expenses	0.00	137.25
<b>Total 700.000 Youth Group</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>137.25</b>
<b>800.000 Memorial</b>		
800.001 Expense	248.35	0.00
<b>Total 800.000 Memorial</b>	<b>248.35</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Payroll Expenses</b>	<b>1,369.98</b>	<b>1,373.48</b>
<b>Reconciliation Discrepancies</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.30</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>151,063.74</b>	<b>149,180.75</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>8,461.87</b>	<b>26,726.63</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>8,461.87</b>	<b>26,726.63</b>

# Proposed Budget for 2023-2024

	<u>Apr '23 - Mar 24</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
050.000 Elkhorn Valley Savings	
050.001 Interest	0.00
050.000 Elkhorn Valley Savings - Other	0.00
Total 050.000 Elkhorn Valley Savings	0.00
100.000 Memorial	
100.001 Interest	0.00
100.002 Deposits	0.00
Total 100.000 Memorial	0.00
200.000 Madison County Bank	
200.001 Interest	0.00
Total 200.000 Madison County Bank	0.00
300.000 Youth Group	
300.001 Interest	0.00
Total 300.000 Youth Group	0.00
400.000 Ourselves-Pledges	
400.001 Ourselves Current	120,000.00
Total 400.000 Ourselves-Pledges	120,000.00
401.000 Other Income	
401.001 Loose Offerings	0.00
401.002 Church Space Rental	1,560.00
401.006 Gift Cards	0.00
401.007 Checking Acct Interest	0.00
401.008 Miscellaneous	0.00
401.010 Memorial Money	0.00
401.011 Scholarship Money	0.00
401.013 Poinsettias	0.00
401.014 Lilies	0.00
401.015 Rent Linaje Escogido	10,800.00
Total 401.000 Other Income	12,360.00
415.000 UCC Benevolence Offer	
415.001 OCWM	0.00
415.002 Strengthen the Church	0.00
415.003 OGHS	0.00
415.004 Neighbors in Need	0.00
415.005 Christmas Fund	0.00
Total 415.000 UCC Benevolence Offer	0.00
416.000 Other Mission Offerings	
416.001 Food Pantry	0.00
416.004 Youth Mission Receipts	0.00
Total 416.000 Other Mission Offerings	0.00
416.005 Pastor Discretionary	0.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>132,360.00</u>

**Expense**

**500.000 Pastoral Services**

500.001 Pastor's Salary	41,500.00
500.002 Housing Allowance	13,000.00
500.003 Mileage Expense	600.00
500.009 Pastor's Continuing Ed	0.00
500.010 Substitute Minister	300.00
500.014 Pension	7,677.50
500.015 UCC Health	5,500.00
500.016 UCC Dental	531.00
500.017 Life/Disability	<u>771.96</u>

**Total 500.000 Pastoral Services** 69,880.46

**510.000 Faith Development**

510.002 Resource Materials	300.00
510.010 Faith Development Misc	<u>75.00</u>

**Total 510.000 Faith Development** 375.00

**511.000 Worship Ministry**

511.001 Worship Items	500.00
511.002 Organist	3,920.00
511.003 Substitute Organist	0.00
511.004 Instrument Maintenance	250.00
511.006 Worship-Other	<u>0.00</u>

**Total 511.000 Worship Ministry** 4,670.00

**514.000 Church Administration**

514.001 Secretary	14,400.00
514.003 Bulletins & Newsletters	1,600.00
514.004 Administration Supplies	600.00
514.005 Postage	600.00
514.007 Conference Expenses	450.00
514.008 Living Waters Dues	316.00
514.009 Office Machines Mainten	0.00
514.010 Devotionals	210.00
514.013 Technology Expense	2,400.00
514.014 Office Expenses Misc	0.00
514.015 Advertising	500.00
514.016 Lease on Equipment	<u>828.00</u>

**Total 514.000 Church Administration** 21,904.00

<b>515.000 Church Maintenance</b>	
515.001 Custodian	6,000.00
515.002 Garbage	450.00
515.003 Natural Gas	6,600.00
515.004 Electricity	7,000.00
515.005 Water & Sewer	1,320.00
515.006 Telephone	1,152.00
515.007 Supplies & Equipment	3,600.00
515.008 Groundskeeping	3,050.00
515.009 Church Repairs	3,000.00
515.010 Maintenance-Other	0.00
515.011 Church Insurance	<u>12,000.00</u>
<b>Total 515.000 Church Maintenance</b>	<b>44,172.00</b>
<b>516.000 Charitable Contributions</b>	
516.001 OCWM	0.00
516.002 One Great Hour Sharing	0.00
516.003 Strengthen the Church	0.00
516.004 Neighbors in Need	0.00
516.005 Christmas Fund	0.00
516.006 Food Pantry	0.00
516.007 Pastoral Discretionary	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Total 516.000 Charitable Contributions</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>517.000 Miscellaneous Expenses</b>	
517.001 Poinsettias	0.00
517.002 Lilies	0.00
517.005 Scholarship Payments	0.00
517.009 Miscellaneous	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Total 517.000 Miscellaneous Expenses</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>700.000 Youth Group</b>	
700.001 Expenses	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Total 700.000 Youth Group</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Payroll Expenses</b>	<b>2,004.00</b>
<b>Reconciliation Discrepancies</b>	<u><b>0.00</b></u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u><b>143,005.46</b></u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<u><b>-10,645.46</b></u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><u><b>-10,645.46</b></u></u>

## Nominations for officers

Vice Moderator	Term-3 years	
Moderator	Term-2 years	Scott Williams
Past Moderator	Term-1 year	Erik Gamerl
Clerk	Term-1 year	Jane Uzzell
Treasurer	Term-1 year	Lori Williams

***Our purpose:*** *We bind together, to worship God and discern God's will*

**Annual Meeting, April 23, 2023**

### Commissioning of Officers

*Introduction*

*Installation & Covenant*

**People:**

**We gather in celebration of the joy that is ours to be partners with you in service of Jesus Christ. We promise to love you, honor your leadership, and assist you that together we may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ.**

*Prayer*

*Declaration*

**Leader:** In the name of Jesus Christ...you are installed.

**People:** Thanks be to God.