

**Grinnell United Church of Christ – Congregational
Governing Board Meeting
Sunday, September 24, 2023
11:55 am – 12:45 pm**

Members present: Nancy Brown, Molly Campe, Julie Eberbach, Ross Haenfler, Liz Rodrigues; Pastor Jessica Margrave Schirm

Member absent: Jean Pendleton

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Ross Haenfler after an informal checking in with each other. The Minutes of August 27, 2023 and the agenda were approved by unanimous consent.

Reports/Updates

Financial Report. Julie reported that cash flow is satisfactory. We will need to make an end of the year appeal again this year. The Nominating Committee this year will consider a Finance Team rather than trying to find one person to serve as Treasurer. Pastor Jessica reported that as part of Judy Scheer's discernment process she is required to have a psychological evaluation. To get this assessment in Iowa would require a two-year wait so it has been scheduled at a higher cost in Ohio. The local church is responsible for one-third of this expense, and it will be paid from unused memorial gifts and other contributions. Having a full-time Director of Outreach and Education has made a difference in what our church has been able to accomplish. There is one year remaining on borrowing money from the endowment to help fund this position. It will be a financial stretch to continue the funding, but it will be important to do so.

Building Update. All the remaining gutters not damaged by hail will be replaced at a cost of \$2,300 paid from the budget line for maintenance and repairs. After hours the video screening system installed at the preschool door alerts the preschool teacher in her home if the bell is pushed.

Continuing Business

Suds of Love. The first quarterly collection of quarters today for this new laundry ministry generated \$258.25. Nancy asked if the monthly results of use of the program could be charted so changes from one month to the next can be visualized. Lindsey is still trying to determine what data to collect to meaningfully track the program.

Yearly Programming. The church program is going well. The OWL retreat was a rewarding experience for eleven 9-11th graders (four from this church) participating with seven facilitators.

Legacy Giving. The current plan is for the Governing Board and Endowment Committee to meet in December to plan a congregational meeting on legacy giving.

Pastor Jessica offered a closing prayer.

Next scheduled meeting – Sunday, October 29, 2023 at 11:45 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy E. Brown, Clerk