

# Grinnell UCC-Congregational Governing Board

## Meeting Minutes

Sunday October 22, 2023

11:50am – 12:33pm

Members present: Ross Haenfler, Jean Pendleton, Liz Rodrigues; Pastor Jessica Margrave Schirm

Member absent: Julie Eberbach, Nancy Brown, Molly Campe

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Ross Haenfler after an informal checking in with each other.

**MOTION:** Approve agenda as distributed. Approved by unanimous consent.

**MOTION:** Approve Minutes of the September 24, 2023 Governing Board meeting. Approved by unanimous consent.

### Reports/Updates

#### Financial:

- The monthly financial reports are normal for this point in the calendar year.

#### Pastor's Report:

- Pastor Jessica's report covered September and October.
- The report noted that the church, the Preschool, and the Grinnell Children's Choir are jointly planning for a warming/activity station during Jingle Bell Holiday.

#### Our Church's Wider Mission

- We received news from the Conference this past week that our church was a top ten contributor to Our Church's Wider Mission, and specifically we were the number three per capita in the state. As many churches have pulled back on this support during budgetary uncertainty, our church has remained faithful in our commitment to give 10% of the previous year's pledged income.

### Continuing Business

#### Nominations

Julie Eberbach continues working on nominations for next year's open positions.

#### Long term financial planning

Liz Rodrigues plans to attend the meeting with Endowment Committee about legacy giving, tomorrow, Monday Oct. 23 4pm as a representative of the Governing Board.

### New Business

#### Budget

- The board reviewed a draft of the 2024 budget with the most recent information available regarding projections for the year.
- The board discussed the projected shortfall. While this is obviously a concern, the board found nothing in the budget that was not carefully considered and fully

serving the mission of the church. We are operating as leanly as possible, and a faithful path forward is to continue to support our mission as fully as possible.

**MOTION:** Approve the draft budget with a 3% cost of living increase for staff. *Motion carried (including prior affirmative vote from Julie Eberbach).*

Next meeting – Sunday, November 26, 2023, at 11:45.

Closing Prayer – Jessica

Respectfully submitted by Liz Rodrigues