

Church Annual Report 2023



**First Congregational
Church of Shelburne**

United Church of Christ
Shelburne, Massachusetts

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Pastor's Report

December, 2023

What a year this has been! We have gotten to know each other and worshipped through every season together. We have spent time in conversation, individually and as a congregation, and we are all beginning to be comfortable with the new relationship with each other and with the United Church of Conway.

Early on, I made it a point to make home visits to ask questions so I could get to know you and the community better. You have welcomed me into your homes and generously shared with me your experiences, your concerns, and your hopes. I have made some connections with the community as well, especially with Buckland Shelburne Elementary School. Together we are beginning to define how we function with one another.

I recently sent out a Ministry Assessment Survey to members and friends. The responses back have been helpful and informative. I have learned that you consider my preaching and pastoral care as a priority, but you also consider it important to connect with the needs of the community. I also learned that some are concerned about retaining the history of the church in light of the need to rethink how we function. And at least one person pointed out that I need to remain diligent about how I speak about the challenges we face and the way I express myself. These are very helpful insights that I will take to heart. A copy of all the responses is available should you wish to see it.

As part of this Annual Meeting, I will be asking you again to brainstorm some goals for the coming year. Specifically, I want you to consider how we can be more visible in the community outside the church itself. What needs can we help meet? How can we contribute in positive ways to the Shelburne community? I'm hoping this will define our focus for the coming year.

Finally, I want to express my gratitude to you all for the welcome and hospitality you have extended to me. As we continue our journey together, I remain enthusiastic about the possibilities for ministry and excited about working with you. If there are ways I can be of specific help to you, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me. I remain

In Christ's Service,

Pastor Marianne

Moderator's Report

The past year was supposed to be a year of transition with a new Pastor, newly elected church leaders, including me, and potential new programs and ideas. It was an up and down, rollercoaster, year. Wars in Ukraine and Gaza brought death and despair, political division and discrimination continued in the US, and many say our community is becoming less of a community. However, we are nearly back to “normal” after a world pandemic, our economy while turbulent is improving, and the next generation calls us to be more aware of how our actions impact others, be more accepting of those who are different than us and be more caring for God’s earth than ever before. Thanks be to God.

Your local church leadership worked to move projects ahead, get more member input, and think about our future. Three ideas emerged from the initial membership meeting: 1) How do we organize or reorganize ourselves? 2) Are we really welcoming, open, and affirming to all? 3) Can we revive community outreach and activities like the Second Saturday Suppers? Some feel our current committee organization is not working at all, some want to “tweak” the structure, and some see no reason to change. Some want change to happen yesterday, some want it soon, and some want to move cautiously forward.

We made progress toward the goal of developing a more effective structure in the church, and we will talk more about those ideas at the Annual Meeting. Little movement was seen in the other areas, and the leadership, specifically me, was admonished for being “part of the problem” and not part of the solution.

Frankly, I believe what holds us back is a lack of clear consensus on a VISION for this church. Yes, our stated MISSION is to be “God’s hands and feet on earth” but what does that mean? What are our goals? What do we do as those hands and feet on earth to achieve those goals? What does our community need from us? And, yes, what is Jesus calling us to do today?

Could one of these following examples be our vision?:

To make a lasting difference in your life, in our community, and in the world. Providing worship services and bible study. Helping people find their way back to God. To dispose of our assets and close the church gracefully. To welcome the community with open arms. To be a biblically functional community of believers

so Christ's redemptive purposes can be accomplished in the world. Providing caring, support, and facilities that support our community. To spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. To support the growth and learning of young people into responsible adulthood.

Like some of those examples? Dislike some? Can we agree on a common vision? In the Congregational setting it is the whole church that needs to come together to decide. We are each called to join in the discussion and discernment. It is not the decision of the Pastor, Executive Committee, the local Association or Conference, or the leaders of the United Church of Christ – it is our local collective authority and responsibility. I ask that you pray, think, listen, and participate in determining that vision for the future, have a little patience and compassion along the way.

Respectfully,

John E Taylor

Moderator

Isaiah 61:1-3 (Good News Translation)

The Sovereign Lord has filled me with his Spirit.

He has chosen me and sent me

To bring good news to the poor,

To heal the broken-hearted,

To announce release to captives

And freedom to those in prison.

He has sent me to proclaim

That the time has come

When the Lord will save his people

And defeat their enemies.

He has sent me to comfort all who mourn,

To give to those who mourn in Zion

Joy and gladness instead of grief,

A song of praise instead of sorrow.

They will be like trees

That the Lord himself has planted.

They will all do what is right,

And God will be praised for what he has done.

Clerk's Report

December 3, 2023

Membership – November 20, 2022 96

Additions during the year:

New Members 0

Transfer of Members

Reactivation of Members 0

Losses during the year:

Transfer to Inactive Membership (voted 12/04/2022) 17

Death of Members 5

John Nolan

Ruthe Jubinville

Helen Gould

Beverly Phillips

Arthur Green, Jr.

Transfer of Membership 0

Membership – November 19, 2023 74

Funerals and Memorial Services 0

Marriages 0

Baptisms 1

Dedications 0

Respectfully submitted,

Diantha J. Wholey

Clerk

Annual Church Meeting Minutes

First Congregational Church of Shelburne

Annual Church Meeting

December 4, 2022

The Annual Meeting of the First Congregational Church of Shelburne was called to order by Moderator Roland Giguere at 1:15 pm in Fellowship Hall.

The meeting was preceded by a potluck dinner with Barbara Giguere in charge.

Pastor Marianne MacCullagh opened in prayer. A moment of silence was held in memory of departed members and friends Theresa Nolan, Eric Vinton, Nancy Richardson, and Ronald Kovalchick.

Roll call of members of the church was read with 21 members in attendance.

The following business was transacted:

Article 1: To receive and act on the reports of the officers and committees and any other reports pertaining to church business, with the exception of the reports that are covered in subsequent articles.

Debra Washer made a motion, seconded by Robin Howe, to accept the reports with the exception of the reports that are covered in subsequent articles. The motion passed unanimously.

Diantha noted that since May 2021 Community Meal cash donations total \$1,888 and food donations total \$908 for a final total of \$2,796. On behalf of the Missions Committee, she thanked everyone for their generosity.

Article 2: To receive the recommended budget of the Church Council and take action thereon.

Barbara Giguere made a motion, seconded by Robin Howe, to receive and approve the recommended budget.

Lewis Goodnow reviewed the 2022 YTD income and expenses as well as the 2023 budget. He thanked Joseph Judd for his diligence in working with Dead River to sign a

contract for oil at \$3.90 per gallon. The parsonage is now rented for one year to Jacob Howe. The Music Committee requested an increase of \$2,500 in the music salary line item to allow our pianist to play for 55 services. However, both the Executive Committee and the Church Council recommended a compromise of 45 services, an increase of \$1,500 with \$500 to come from the Dole Music Fund. Funds will need to be withdrawn from invested funds since we are proposing a \$10,290 deficit budget.

The motion passed unanimously. Lewis will meet with the Finance Committee to review the invested funds.

Article 3: To receive nominations and elect officers for the coming year.

Elizabeth Burnham made a motion, seconded by Debra Washer, to accept the report of the Nominating Committee as printed with one correction: the term of Moderator will expire 12/31/2024.

The Nominating Committee decided to wait to fill the Christian Education Committee vacancies until Pastor Marianne began her ministry. Per our bylaws, between annual meetings, the procedure will be for the Nominating Committee to recommend nominees to the Executive Committee. For the Franklin Association, anyone can attend the two meetings held each year and may act as delegates.

Debra Washer made a motion, seconded by James Merriott, to direct the Clerk to cast one ballot for the slate of officers as nominated.

There were no nominations for the vacant positions.

The motion passed unanimously.

Article 4: To see if the church will vote to transfer the following members to the inactive list as recommended by the Diaconate:

Julie Lovell Berez	Leslie Fraser	Katrina Nolan
Abe Davenport	Berta Glawischnig	Donna Noyes
Linda Davenport	Rodney McBride	Amanda Odat
Fredrick Davenport	Timothy McKinnon	Rebecca Stratton
Sylvia Dole	Elise Neumann	Tiesha Sweeney
Judith Driscoll	Rebecca Nichols	Susan Vinton

John Taylor made a motion, seconded by Barbara Giguere, to transfer the listed members to the inactive list. Virginia Peck-Merriott said that Rodney McBride has requested to remain on the active list. She then made a motion, seconded by John Taylor, to amend Article 4 to remove Rodney McBride's name from the list. For clarification, Roland read Article IV, Section 7, of the bylaws which defines Inactive Membership. John Taylor noted that transferring members to the inactive list gives a more accurate reflection of our church's membership. Robin Howe, chair of the Diaconate, explained that they contacted as many people on the list as possible. The amendment passed unanimously.

The article as amended then passed unanimously.

Article 5: To transact any other business that may properly come before this meeting.

The Christmas pageant will be held Friday, December 23, at 7 pm in the sanctuary.

Barbara Giguere offered to organize Christmas caroling on December 18. She will need a list of possible homes to visit as well as those interested in caroling.

Roland and Diantha will update keys in January.

Robin Howe announced that there are a few Advent wreath kits available.

Gordon Taylor reminded us about the Sarah Jean Graves Endowed Scholarship and encouraged church friends to make additional donations to reach a goal of \$5,000. This fund is administered through the Mary Lyon Foundation. Gordon also noted that Matthew Taylor is student teaching in Longmeadow, and his supervisor is a Mohawk graduate.

Pastor Marianne thanked us for her gracious welcome. She polled the members present about having a worship service both Christmas Eve and Christmas Day since December 25 is a Sunday this year. Since there is interest, there will be a worship service Sunday, December 25.

Pastor Marianne needs an office space for a desk and two chairs. Robin suggested the room next to the Treasurer's Office and will move the toys to the South Room.

Christmas card boxes have been placed at the Hall, church, library, and Blackmer Insurance. Sherry Taylor and friends will sort the cards prior to the pageant.

In searching for candles in the church, Robin found a “Time Capsule” box from the 1994 Vacation Bible School which was to be opened in 2019, the 150th anniversary of VBS. The box was opened, and it was noted that Nancy Richardson and Connie Richardson were co-directors that summer. Many memories were shared from the box.

Roland thanked all the officers and committee members who have served this past year as well as those who have agreed to serve in 2023. He especially thanked the Executive Committee members he has served with for the past four years as Moderator.

James Merriott made a motion, seconded by Alan Coutinho, to dissolve the meeting. The motion passed unanimously at 2:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Diantha J. Wholey

Clerk

Diaconate Report

As we come to the close of another Church year, one wonders where the time has gone. Such joy for the church with a new shared pastor. Marianne has brought so much energy and wonderful messages to the congregation. With a shared pastor we have embarked on a collaboration with The United Church of Conway. The friendship with the Conway church has sparked a wider community of helpfulness with our mission projects as well as theirs. Part of our collaboration has included joint services on the months that have 5 Sundays.

July 30th - Joint service at our church followed by a Summer Salad Social

October 29th - Joint service at the Conway church

December 31st - Joint service at our church lead by lay speakers from both churches.

The diaconate has finished going over the membership list and contacting members. Removing those from the list who have told us to as they have moved or belong to another church, as well as those who have passed away.

It was decided that Diaconate will take turns on who opens and closes the church each Sunday. The Diaconate continues to work closely with the Music Committee. Our services are blessed with Kasey being our greeter each Sunday and several members helping with taking up the offering, and diaconate members taking turns helping to

serve communion. Also, members take turns providing coffee hour before the church service at 10:30.

The baptism of Helen Jean Cralek was held on September 13th. Robin and Tim provided music on September 17th and September 24th as Laura was on vacation.

On November 25th we will decorate the church and prepare for the Advent season. And on the 26th we will hold an Advent workshop at Fellowship Hall at 2:00. Our Christmas Pageant led by Judy Kulp will be December 22nd at 7:00. We will move our services to Fellowship Hall for the winter on January 7th. In closing the Diaconate are working on 2 projects to start out the new year:

1. Making a gift bag for visitors to the church.
2. Working on pockets to put in the pews to hold information and request cards for visitors and church members.

In Christ

Robin Howe, Libby Burnham, Alan Coutinho, Chris Kovalchick

Auditors Report

We have audited the Treasurer's books including the Sunday School accounts and all invested funds for the 2022 calendar year and found them to be in order.

We have a few suggestions to pass on to the Treasurer and Executive Committee to help make the Treasurer's job easier which in turn will help make the audit easier to do.

This year, we were able to complete the audit over the summer which made it much less stressful and we would encourage future auditors to work with the Treasurer to do the same. Thank you, Lewis, for your help with the audit.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Taylor

Roland Giguere

Stewardship / Nominating Committee Report

The Stewardship theme for 2023 is “Because of YOU our church changes lives”. Stewardship letters and commitment cards were mailed to about 80 people.

Stewardship Sunday was held on November 12, 2023. Our commitment cards were collected and dedicated in the church service that morning. At the time this report is being written to be included in the annual report, the tally of commitments for 2024 is \$48,750. An update will be given at the annual meeting. **Note: \$53,450 at meeting.**

Matthew 6:21 “For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also”.

THANK YOU for all you do for the church and in our community through your time, your talent and your treasure!

With our Nominating hat on, we would like to give a huge **SHOUT OUT** to all of you who we have had conversation with over the past month or so about what committee opportunities are available to you. **THANK YOU** to all of you who have agreed to serve on the various committees for 2024. With the exception of Church School Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, the Stewardship/Nominating Committee and openings as Franklin Association delegates, we are presenting a full slate of committees for the new year (see the full listing later in this annual report).

Do you wonder why we have Franklin Association Delegates? The Association officially meets 2 times per year, once in the spring for a program and once in the fall for their annual meeting which includes electing new officers. As a delegate, you would be a voting member to the Association. Other times of the year, there may be special times like the installation of a new pastor of a church that one should attend. Being a delegate to the Association will most certainly put you in touch with new people - pastors, our area conference minister and those in the congregation just like you.

If we haven't reached out to you but you are interested in one of these positions, please let one of us know. There is always time to round out a committee.

In Faith,

Sherry Taylor

Makenzie Plasse

James Merriott

Property Maintenance Committee Report

Over the past year, the Property Maintenance Committee has stayed busy with the routine, and the unforeseen, issues that can happen within the borders of our Church property. However, thanks to the steady hand of our Pastor Marianne MacCullagh, a supportive Executive Committee, and a faith filled congregation to work with, progress has been made! When you're surrounded by people who speak plainly, share honest opinions together, and remain positive by offering encouragement, that's a rare combination that's worth nurturing. And I believe we have it here, in "Our Church"! That said, the business of our Church continues, and the importance of maintenance, and particularly the need for regular maintenance, cannot be stressed enough. As we all know, there are many good reasons why we must practice regular maintenance with our structures and grounds. Below is an overview of some of things we've accomplished in 2023, and things that continue to be ongoing as we move into 2024!

Unlike past years, 2023 has seen few projects at the Church. However, ongoing maintenance continues. The Property Maintenance Committee has worked this past year with the Music Committee in the care and maintenance of the organ and pianos in both the Church and Fellowship Hall. Our programs with Terminex continue to control squirrels and mice from infiltrating the building, and while our efforts are noble, these critters keep finding a way into the organ room! Close attention will continue to be given to this area in the coming year. Boiler maintenance continues, and we're fortunate to have Glenn White as our technician for all three buildings. And a moisture issue in the Memorial Room is something this committee will be keeping a close watch of in the coming year. Dana Guilbault, a member of the Property Maintenance Committee, is very aware of these matters and has some ideas as to how we can solve them in 2024. And ideas have surfaced about replacing the current handicap ramp at the Church with a better structure, safer surface, and bringing it further out towards the road for easier access. Quotes for this project are currently being explored.

The Parsonage remains a building that requires yearly diligence and upkeep. I'm happy to report that this past year saw much less work needed in that building than the year before. That said, a new well pump was installed to supply water to the Parsonage. I'm happy to report that the old pump gave us decades of service, so it didn't owe us anything in the end. Also, Chimney repairs may be on the horizon? Dana has been monitoring this closely and will keep the Church informed if things start to need attention. Having the Parsonage rented out to responsible tenants has been a great asset to our Church during the past year, and the Property Maintenance Committee hopes this arrangement of having the Parsonage occupied continues!

At Fellowship Hall, plans are still in place for the refuge area to have a roof over it in 2024. We have a contractor, Rodney McBride, who has quoted us a price, and God willing, we can raise the money to get this necessary project completed in 2024. Repairs have been done in the bathrooms over the past year by Hartnett Plumbing, and we appreciate their efforts when called upon. Repairs were also completed on the handicap ramp this past year by John Powell of Hillstreet Concrete. And ceiling tiles were replaced in Pastor Marianne's office which she appreciated. All regular inspections have continued to happen, as normal, in this building.

And so, the work of the Property Maintenance Committee heads into another New Year, as does the work of all our boards and committees. In closing, I'd like to remind the Congregation, of three key elements of Property Maintenance, which are important for the ongoing use of our buildings and property going forward. These key elements are:

Preserving our Heritage: regular upkeep, which includes minimal and small-scale projects, will assist us in maintaining the original features of our buildings while preserving our heritage, and continued history of this place of worship that has now celebrated its 250th year of existence.

Saving Money and Preserving Resources: when things go wrong, it can cost a lot to make it right again. The best way to avoid major repairs is through regular care and ongoing maintenance. The value of maintenance has proven that acting on small repairs now can save up to 20%-25% in costs further down the road.

Guardianship and Community Involvement: historic Churches, like ours, are in our care and trust for the next generation, and it's been this way for centuries. Maintenance keeps them in good repair and lends a sense of pride to people who have a deep sense of caring for their own heritage. Elements of responsibility that are so important for practicing and maintaining good property maintenance habits.

Finally, as I leave the Property Maintenance Committee this year, I would like to acknowledge all those who have supported this committee during the years I have served as Chairman, and especially those who I've served with; Teddy Cromack, Alan Smith, and Dana Guilbault, for their help and guidance during the years that we've worked together. The pleasure of working with each of these men, has been all mine. Pastor Marianne for her support and wisdom, the Executive Committee's that I have worked with for their diligent efforts, and support, George and Buckley Dole for the many years they've kept our parking area's plowed during the winter months, George Sinistore who is retiring this year from hand-shoveling snow around the entrances to

our buildings, Jacob and Kristin Richardson for their work of keeping our lawns mowed, Laura Manners for her continued efforts as Custodian, Alan Coutinho for his efforts of coordinating events in our buildings, and finally, to the many volunteers who have helped, whenever called upon, and who support and care for this Church. Without them, nothing could get done as easily as it now does. To all mentioned here, I want to personally say, “Thank You”, to every one of you!

With respect,

Dana Guilbault

Joseph Judd

Missions Committee Report

We Are God's



Hands on Earth

At the annual meeting in December 2013, our church committed to being *God's Hands on Earth*. The Missions Committee strives to fulfill that commitment as they meet each month.

In January, we committed to serving the Friday evening Community Meal at Trinity Church once a month. Members of the United Congregational Church of Conway have helped with baking, meal preparation, and serving, a partnership that has helped us get to know each other. We will be planning the December 29 meal in a couple of weeks, so please think about helping in some way. If you do not have the time to prepare and serve, monetary contributions are always helpful. And remember, this meal is open to everyone (that includes you) in the community, every Friday night at 5:30 pm.

Souper Bowl Sunday “kicked off” with a soup and bread luncheon. We challenged you to fill 10 soup pots with pantry items as well as a goal of \$1,000, all for the Hilltown Churches Food Pantry.

Final Total: 16 soup pots and \$1,200...thanks to all our Game Changers!

Alan and Deborah Coutinho again accepted donations for the Meals on Wheel Walk-a-Thon held May 6. The First Congregational Church of Shelburne team raised \$4,210 to support home-delivered meals.

Tragically, the Hager Family in Colrain lost a barn, equipment, and animals in a fire in September. We had an offering and sent \$220 to assist the Hagers in their recovery.

Pastor Marianne asked the teachers at the Buckland Shelburne Elementary School for a wish list of what they need to help their students. The answer was tissues, cleaning wipes, and individual snack items...quickly received and delivered!

On October 1, Robin Howe walked in the annual CROP Walk held at the United Methodist Church of Orange and raised \$585 from our church congregation and friends.

As we near the end of 2023, we remember Dick Bole whose motto was "Sharing is Caring," and we are now in the middle of a Sock/Hat/Mitten/Scarf collection. These items will be donated to Hawlemont School, Greenfield Garden Apartments, and a shelter on Wells Street in Greenfield.

The Missions Committee would like to thank everyone who baked, cooked, delivered, donated, participated, purchased, organized, and/or walked for/in any one or all of the projects throughout the year. Every time we do something on behalf of our church, even maintaining our buildings, putting together the weekly bulletin, providing rides for members and friends, preparing agendas, financial reports, and minutes, and working on committees, we are helping to fulfill our church's mission of being *God's Hands on Earth*.

The Missions Committee

Lewis Goodnow, Lora Graves, Robin Howe, and Diantha Wholey

"A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."

Proverbs 11:25

Music Committee Report

At the beginning of the year, we gratefully received some financial assistance in funding from the Dole Music Fund to help with the salary of our pianist, Laura Siersema, in order to assist us in offering her full-time employment.

In the Spring, we requested donations from the congregation in order to further assist us with her salary and we are happy to report we have received enough funding to pay her for the entire year of 2023. Thank you all very much.

Makenzie Plasse and Tim Graves played for the Easter Sunrise and Easter morning worship services again this year.

We are grateful to Pastor Marianne, Matthew Taylor and friends, Judy Kulp, Sarah-Jean Graves and anyone else who shared their gifts of music with us during the year.

In Christ,

Makenzie Plasse

Timothy Graves

Women's Fellowship Report

The Women's Fellowship did not meet formally in 2023, though the group has been called into action for memorial receptions and bake sales.

There are many church and community members who step forward and give their time and talents to these events, and all are so appreciated. For example, the memorial receptions for Bucky and George Dole were huge. Besides church members, we had essential help from the Grange, Kiwanis, and friends in the community. Our partner church in Conway has given us support and peoplepower as well.

The Women's Fellowship held the ice cream sandwich sale at the Shelburne Falls Military Band concert in July, a bake sale at the Grange Fair in August; and a bake sale, chili, and corn chowder sale at the Autumn Market in November. That particular sale earned \$782.

A huge thank you to everyone who has done so much for our community and our church.

Libby Burnham

Secretary

Women's Fellowship Treasurer's Report

Balance on Hand - November 21, 2022 \$1,911.25

RECEIPTS

Ice Cream Social/Band Concert	243.00
Grange Fair Bake Sale	372.00
Quilt Show at Grange Fair	200.00
Farmers Market Bake Sale (from 2022)	4.00
Cookbooks, Stationary Interest	0.53

TOTAL RECEIPTS \$819.53

EXPENSES

Carnations	31.88
Church Pledge	1,000.00
Autumn Farmers Market vendor fee	30.00

TOTAL EXPENSES _____ \$1,061.88

BALANCE ON HAND - November 19, 2023 \$1,668.90

Respectfully submitted,

Diantha J. Wholey

Treasurer

CORI Officer's Report

The First Congregational Church of Shelburne, MA is committed to being a community of Christian fellowship. The Church's goal is to ensure that all who participate in its life, including children, adults, and church workers, whether paid or volunteer, will have a safe, secure, and nurturing environment in which to work and explore their relationship with God and each other. To that end, all individuals who hold a position of elected or appointed responsible in our Church, especially those responsible for the care of our children, youth, and the elderly, will continue to be required to comply with all Safe Church Policies which include CORI checks. A safe Church is a Church where people feel trust in one another. Our hope is, as it has always been, to nurture an environment that is rich in this trust. And where we can all interact comfortably while building trust together. Our Safe Church Policy was written to document the Church's activities, safeguards, and procedures in a way that will provide everyone the opportunity to worship in our Sanctuary. Over the years we have attempted to perform this requirement in a setting that allows for sensitivity and privacy, while understanding the importance of completing this task with thoroughness and efficiency. And we hope those in our Church, who have been subject to a CORI check, have felt comfortable when asked to engage in the process. We pray that this policy supports our ministry, and in no way ever stops us from doing what the teachings of Jesus Christ would want us to do.

Our Safe Church policies and procedures apply to all activities which take place within the buildings and properties owned by the FCCS, as well as all programs, activities, and events scheduled as part of the ministry of the Church that might take place elsewhere. The Safe Church Policies and Procedures apply to all members, associate members, friends, volunteers, and employees of the Church. But nothing in our Safe Church Policies and Procedures supersedes the responsibilities of the employees, volunteers, and administration of the FCCS under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 6, section 167-78B and Chapter 19, Section 51A.

While 2023 was not our busiest year ever, 2024 will very likely be a busy year for us! So, we would like to remind everyone, if you are asked to submit to a CORI check based on a position you hold within our church, to please return the CORI forms to either Joseph Judd or Diantha Wholey within the period requested. This helps make the submission work much easier and ensures that we are following the guidelines set forth in regard to what it means to be a Safe Church. We also continue to recommend that this policy be reviewed every 2 years and remain subject to amendment by the Church Congregation at any time.

Sincerely,

Joseph Judd, Administrator

Diantha Wholey, Submitted

Nominating Committee Proposed Officers - December 2023 (for 2024)			
An asterisk (*) indicates the member will reach their "term limits" as set forth in the bylaws.			
A hashtag (#) indicates the term expiration is being realigned.			
We are voting on the names in BOLD print.			
Moderator (two year term)	Debra Washer (to fill unexpired term)	12/31/2024	
Clerk (one year term)	Diantha Wholey	12/31/2024	
Assistant Clerk (one year term)	Barbara Giguere	12/31/2024	
Treasurer (one year term)	Lewis Goodnow	12/31/2024	
Assistant Treasurer (one year term)	Debra Washer	12/31/2024	
Diaconate (6) (two year terms)	Roland Giguere	12/31/2025	
	Robin Howe	12/31/2025	*
	Joseph Judd	12/31/2025	
	Elizabeth Burnham	12/31/2024	*#
	Alan Coutinho	12/31/2024	
	Christine Kovalchick	12/31/2024	
Church School Superintendent (1 year term)	Vacant	12/31/2024	
Ass't. Superintendent (1 year term)	Vacant	12/31/2024	
Christian Education (2) (two year terms)	Martha Wholey	12/31/2025	
	Judith Kulp	12/31/2024	#
ex-officio: Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent			
Music Committee (2) (two year terms)	Makenzie Plasse	12/31/2025	*
	Sarah Jean Graves	12/31/2024	#
ex-officio: Organist and Choir Director			
Property Maintenance Committee (2) (two year terms)	Dana Guilbault	12/31/2025	*
	John Taylor	12/31/2024	#
Stewardship/Nominating Committee (4) (two year terms)	Sherry Taylor	12/31/2025	*
	Vacant	12/31/2025	
	Makenzie Plasse	12/31/2024	*
	James Merriott	12/31/2024	
Missions Committee (4) (two year terms)	Phylinda Redeker	12/31/2025	
	Lora Graves	12/31/2025	*
	Robin Howe	12/31/2024	*
	Lewis Goodnow	12/31/2024	
Franklin Assoc. Delegates (3) (one year terms)	Vacant	12/31/2024	
	Vacant	12/31/2024	
	Vacant	12/31/2024	
SNEUCC Delegates (2) (one year terms)	John Taylor	12/31/2024	*
	Sherry Taylor	12/31/2024	*
Auditors (one year term) (2)	Alan Coutinho	12/31/2024	
	Roland Giguere	12/31/2024	*
Pastoral Relations (3) (three year terms)	Tim Graves (to fill unexpired term)	12/31/2024	
	Sylvia Smith	12/31/2025	*
	James Merriott	12/31/2026	
Nominating Committee - Sherry Taylor, Makenzie Plasse, James Merriott			

Church Assets

CHURCH ASSETS	<u>As of Sept. 30, 2022</u>	<u>As of Sept. 30, 2023</u>
Greenfield Savings Bank		
GSB Checking	\$4,302.19	\$2,542.13
Sunday School Account	\$915.00	\$915.00
Bardwell Cheer/Long - CD	\$1,857.92	\$1,862.09
Dole Music Fund	\$9,773.00	\$9,870.73
Total GSB	<u>\$16,848.11</u>	<u>\$15,189.95</u>
Wells Fargo		
Cash Fund	\$3,014.16	\$248.06
Federal Home Loan Bank	\$15,983.25	\$15,511.80
Exxon	\$1,309.65	\$1,763.70
JP Morgan	\$15,675.00	\$21,763.00
Total Wells Fargo	<u>\$35,982.06</u>	<u>\$39,286.56</u>
Fidelity		
Fidelity Balanced Fund	\$22,637.31	\$24,297.36
Total Fidelity	<u>\$22,637.31</u>	<u>\$24,297.36</u>
United Church Fund		
Fixed Income Fund	\$16,012.27	** \$0.00
Total UCF	<u>\$16,012.27</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
Cornerstone		
Endowment	\$17,692.61	\$17,692.61
Sunday School	\$10,029.79	\$10,029.79
Total Cornerstone	<u>\$27,722.40</u>	<u>\$27,722.40</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>\$119,202.15</u></u>	<u><u>\$106,496.27</u></u>

** Used for septic tank replacement

Capital Campaign

Checking	\$7,209.97 *	\$7,009.97
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*Restricted to Missions projects

**Note: The Sarah Jean Graves Scholarship Fund is held by The Mary Lyon Foundation
The current balance in the fund is \$3690.**

Proposed Budget 2023

	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 YTD 10/30/2023	2023 YE Projected	2024 Budget Proposed
Income						
Hall and Church Fees	750.00	2985	2000	5675	6000	5000
In-kind donations						
Bulletins	900.00	900	900	900	900	900
Snow Plowing	600.00	600	600	600	600	600
Total In-kind donations	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Interest & Dividends	400.00	469.62	1800	531.11	1500	1500
Loose Collections	2,000.00	3514	2200	3407	3800	3500
Music Committee Receipts						
Dole Music Invested Fund	0.00	0	1300	0	1300	0
Total Music Committee Receipts	0.00	0.00	1,300.00	0.00	1,300.00	0.00
Parsonage rent	11,400.00	7700	12600	10500	12600	12600
Pledges	52,000.00	55055	54000	48744	54000	55000
Shelburne Grange	1,400.00	1400	1400	0	1400	1400
Water Usage	100.00	100	100	100	100	100
Ways and Means Income						
Special Events	0.00			581	3000	5000
Supper - Drawings	0.00			0		
Suppers	3,200.00	0	0	0	0	0
Total Ways and Means Income	3,200.00	0.00	0.00	581.00	3,000.00	5,000.00
Wells Fund Monies	1,200.00	1395	1200	0	1200	1200
Women's Fellowship	1,000.00	1000	1000	0	1000	1000
Total Income	74,950.00	75,118.62	79,100.00	71,038.11	87,400.00	87,800.00

Expense	2022		2023			2024
	Budget	2022YE	Budget	YTD	YE	Budget
Kitchen supplies	300.00	0	300	0	0	300
Miscellaneous	50.00	0	50	0	0	50
Office Expense						
Cell phone	0.00	0	0			
Copying, postage, mailings	58.00	0	60	43.36	43.36	50
Supplies	150.00	0	150		0	100
Total Office Expense	208.00	0.00	210.00	43.36	43.36	150.00
Outreach						
Community missions	500.00	500	500	0	500	500
Dues & Subs & OCWM	3,830.00	3830	4000	0	4000	4000
Total Outreach	4,330.00	4,330.00	4,500.00	0.00	4,500.00	4,500.00
Programs						
Christian Education	100.00	100	100	0	0	100
Diaconate						
Bulletins	0.00	0	0	0	0	0
Bulletins - IKD	900.00	900	900	900	900	900
Church Growth	50.00	0	50	0	0	50
Fellowship Time	0.00	0	0	0	0	0
Worship Supplies	50.00	0	50	0	0	50
Total Diaconate	1,000.00	900.00	1,000.00	900.00	900.00	1,000.00
Music						
Tuning and repairs	600.00	150	1100	920	1100	1100
Total Music	600.00	150.00	1,100.00	920.00	1,100.00	1,100.00
Stewardship	100.00	60	100	0	65	100
Youth Expense	100.00	0	100	0	0	100
Total Programs	1,900.00	1,210.00	2,400.00	1,820.00	2,065.00	2,400.00

	2022 Budget	2022YE	2023 Budget	2023 YTD	2023 YE	2024 Budget
Property						
Total Building Maintenance	4000.00	3207.38	3500	6006.58	6500	4000
Church						
Electricity	1,600.00	2048.5	2000	1272.77	1400	1800
Heat #03081	3,360.00	5649.24	4290	2042.03	4000	4107
Terminix	950.00	912	950	1028.28	1200	1200
Fire Inspection	220.00	211	220	235	235	250
Total Church	6,130.00	8,820.74	7,460.00	4,578.08	6,835.00	7,357.00
Custodial Supplies	200.00	0	200			
Hall						
Electricity	2,400.00	3117.65	2800	3322.07	3500	3500
Heat #03083	2,585.00	3085.49	5070	2496.39	2600	2770
Terminix	850.00	831	870	760	900	1000
Fire Inspection	220.00	223	230	249	249	275
Total Hall	6,055.00	7,257.14	8,970.00	6,827.46	7,249.00	7,545.00
Insurance	9,000.00	9303	9500	7758.72	10000	10000
Lawn mowing	1,500.00	895	1000	567.5	1000	1000
Parsonage						
Electricity	0.00	282.93	0	0	0	0
Heat #03082	1,710.00	1285.28	2340	2575.39	2575.39	2675
Real Estate Tax	4,000.00	4509.37	4600	4499.44	4499.44	4500
Total Parsonage	5,710.00	6,077.58	6,940.00	7,074.83	7,074.83	7,175.00
Refuse Removal	1,150.00	1173.84	1260	1238	1300	1400
Snow Plowing - IKD	600.00	600	600	600	600	600
Snow removal	300.00	300	300	300	300	300
Total Property	30,645.00	34,427.30	36,230.00	28,944.59	34,358.83	35,377.00

	2022 Budget	2022YE	2023 Budget	2023 YTD	2023 YE	2024 Budget
Staff						
Custodian/Cleaning	1,000.00	836.25	1000	894	1000	1000
Musician	3,000.00	2900	4500	3400	4500	4500
Interim Pastor's Package						
Annuity	0.00		4620	4258.98	4620	4620
Auto Reimbursement	0.00					
Housing Allowance	0.00	12081.67	12500	10416.7	12500	15000
Insurance	0.00					
Professional Expense	0.00	0	1500	1315.15	1500	1500
Salary	30,000.00	18845	16380	13640	16380	13880
Social Security Offset	0.00					
Total Pastor's Package	30,000.00	30,926.67	35,000.00	29,630.83	35,000.00	35,000.00
Payroll Expenses	250.00	64	100	970.97	75	100
Supply Pastor	2,600.00	1000	800	600	800	800
Workers Compensation	1,100.00	594	800	444	444	600
Total Staff	37,950.00	36,320.92	42,200.00	35,939.80	41,819.00	42,000.00
Search Committee Expense	500.00	70	0	0	0	0
Ways & Means Expense						
Special Events Expense	0.00	0	0	134.14	0	500
Supper	800.00	0	0	0	0	0
Total Ways & Means Expense	800.00	0.00	0.00	134.14	0.00	500
Total Expense	80,683.00	79,565.60	89,390.00	72,888.47	89,286.19	89,277.00
	-5,733.00	-4,446.98	-10,290.00	-1,850.36	-1,886.19	-1,477.00