

**ANNUAL REPORT
2014**



**FIRST
CONGREGATIONAL**

United Church of Christ - Portland

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ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
PORTLAND, OREGON
DECEMBER 14, 2013

Opening Prayer	Reverend Sara Rosenau
Presentation of 2015 Budget	Al Horn
Acknowledgements of Leadership	Ann Laskey, Moderator Reverend Michael Ellick
Presentation of Slate of Officers for 2015	Julie Young, Nominating Committee
Closing Prayer	Rev. Michael Ellick

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
PORTLAND, OREGON
ANNUAL MEETING
December 8, 2013

Opening: Rev. Charles Svendsen opened with prayer.

Business: The meeting was called to order at 11:58 a.m. by Julie Young, Moderator. It was determined a quorum was present with 54+ voting members.

Approval of December 7, 2012 Annual Meeting minutes: MSP: Minutes approved as written.

Presentation of Annual Report (Julie Young): Julie expressed appreciation for the uplifting nature of the annual reports and acknowledged the hard work of volunteers and dedicated staff, which is reflected in the reports. She recognized employees present: musicians, custodians, and Cara Rothe.

Presentation of Revisions to By-Laws (Julie Young)

1. Article II – Mission Statement. **Motion:** Replace current Article II with: *We are a progressive Christian community embracing diversity of thought, belief, and action.* **Seconded**, no discussion. **Vote** was unanimous, motion carried.
2. Article VII – Church Council, Section 4 – Church Council Membership. **Motion:** To the list of voting members on Council, add Immediate Past Moderator. **Seconded**. No discussion. **Vote** was unanimous, motion carried.
3. Article VII – Church Council, Section 5 – Executive Council. **Motion:** An Executive Council shall have authority to make such decisions as are necessary to respond to the needs of the church when Council is not in session. The Executive Council shall report its decisions to the Council. It shall be comprised of the following:
 - Moderator
 - Assistant Moderator
 - Immediate Past Moderator
 - Clerk (or any member of the Church Council acting as Clerk)
 - Treasurer (or Assistant Treasurer)
 - The Senior Minister (or Associate or Assistant Minister)

Motion **seconded** followed by discussion:

- Is not the Council executive anyway? The Council includes about 15 voting members. This amendment creates an Executive Council—a smaller group that can be called together in an emergency between Council meetings to resolve issues without having to call a meeting of the whole Council. This was a recommendation from the PSU Capstone group to streamline decision-making.
- We should be clear about what we are doing—functionally replacing Council with officers of the church. This is a significant change in governance, the consequences of which should

be considered carefully. We need to be as informed as possible about our decision.

- Our church is ruled by the congregation—decisions are approved by the congregation. This is a way to eliminate waiting for decisions to be made.
- **Motion** for friendly amendment: Unstrike the word “Emergency” [in proposed revision] and call it “Emergency Executive Council”. **Seconded**.
- What happens if Executive Council and Council do not agree?
- Concern related to making amendments without knowing consequences of the amendments. We do not know what “emergency” means. We are giving Executive committee authority to make decisions on behalf of the church.
- Sometimes decisions need to be made that are not emergencies. The Governance Task Force is moving toward a more fluid, nimble process. This is one step in that direction.

Vote on friendly amendment: Motion failed.

Vote on original motion: Motion carried.

Comment from Rev. Charles: During transitional years it is fun to experiment with change. Bylaws are living documents and can be changed back in another year, if necessary.

4. Article XI – Standing Committees, Section 3 – Personnel Committee. **Motion**: Amend article to read: “The Personnel Committee shall formulate and recommend policies to the Church Council pertaining to all church employees (except called ministers). It shall have three members elected by the congregation to serve staggered three-year terms. The Committee will elect one of these three persons as chair of the Committee. The Assistant Moderator shall be the fourth member of the Committee. The Committee shall meet on call by the Committee chair, the Assistant Moderator, the Senior Minister, or any employee.

Motion **seconded**, followed by discussion:

- This amendment creates conflict within Bylaws. **Motion** for friendly amendment: Revise Article VIII to reflect that the Assistant Moderator will not chair the Personnel Committee, so as not to be in conflict with the current amendment being voted on today. **Seconded**.

Vote on friendly amendment: Unanimous, motion carried.

Vote on original motion: Unanimous, motion carried.

5. Article IX – Ministers, Section 2 – Associate/Assistant Minister. **Motion**: Revise Section 2 to read: “The church may call or employ one or more Associate or Assistant Ministers. Associate and Assistant Ministers shall work collegially with the Senior Minister, assisting the Senior Minister in the performance of that office. An Associate or Assistant Minister shall exercise all the functions of the Senior Minister in the Senior Minister’s absence unless the Council provides otherwise. **Seconded**, followed by discussion:

- This amendment does not clearly differentiate between Associate and Assistant Ministers. An amendment should be proposed that more clearly states the difference.
- Concern stated from a historical perspective about having “Associate” and “Assistant” language in the Bylaws. The church has had a “Minister of Congregational Life” who was neither Assistant nor Associate, but had a specific job description as distinguished from the Sr. Minister’s role.
- Second recommendation to amend the Article to clearly differentiate between Associate and Assistant Ministers, in support of our current Assistant Minister.

Vote: Motion failed. This item will be referred back to Governance Task Force for revision and presentation to congregation at a future meeting.

Presentation of 2014 Budget (Al Horn, Treasurer): This budget is an unbalanced budget based upon our best guess as to the income for next year and costs of an effective ministry. It includes:

- 1.5% COL raise for all staff
- New Director of Marketing position
- Large one-time expenses: stained glass renovation and \$7,500 for Minister Search Committee

\$102,000 deficit is due to a decrease in pledged giving as well as a new set of expenses for marketing. Not only do we hope to increase wedding and event rentals, we want to increase visibility in the community to attract new people. Cara Rothe signed up \$5,000 of new rental business just by being there. Also, she is evaluating where we should focus our energy: wedding, recurring meetings, lectures?

The long-term strategy to pay for this budget includes income from rentals and increasing our donor base by increasing membership as well as the giving of current members. A hopeful sign is that we have reached 85% of the pledge goal. Many households have increased their pledges, we have some new pledges, and some have not yet pledged. If everyone able would make a pledge, no matter how small, we could meet or exceed our pledge goal.

How long we will have a deficit is yet to be determined. Whether it is six months or three years from now, we can say this is working or we can make necessary cuts.

Motion: To adopt this budget for 2014. **Seconded**, followed by discussion:

- How is the \$800,000 in our reserves invested? Invested in funds that are 50/50 stocks/bonds in the United Church Funds, which is an arm of the UCC.
- Is there other income besides pledges? What can members do to bring money from other sources, i.e., fundraisers? Is there a committee or someone who can decide how to do that? We need another source of income for the church...this issue has been raised each year with no answer regarding fundraising...
- We can certainly bring in more funds through building rental, grants, and lease income from PCPA. There is no group who stages fundraisers for the church. Fundraisers require a ground-sweeping grassroots effort. Past fundraisers have been a lot of work without generating a lot of income.
- This budget does not reflect that we will have a new Sr. Minister in 2014. What is Finance Commission's thinking on that? The simplest thing is to keep paying this person throughout the whole year. If we need to pay a new person more than what we are currently paying, we will come back to the congregation.
- How is the endowment fund performing? It is performing as well as the stock market is performing. Overall, we are up about 8%.

Vote: Unanimous, motion carried to approve 2014 budget.

Presentation of Slate of Officers and Lay Leadership for 2014 (Paul Adcock and Megan

Walth, Nominating Committee): See Nominating Committee Report

MSP: Unanimous approval, with one correction to misprinted term ending dates.

Recognition of Outgoing Leadership and Welcoming of New Leadership (Ann Laskey, Incoming Moderator) Ann expressed appreciation to those who are continuing in leadership positions, to those rotating from leadership and to Julie Young for her leadership as Moderator.

2014 Officers and Commission and Committee members will be formally commissioned during Worship on Sunday, January 12.

Meeting adjourned at 12:58. Rev. Sara closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Mattox, Clerk

First Congregational Church--Proposed 2015 Budget (Abbreviated)**Income**

I. Giving Income	\$208,200.00
A. Pledge	\$160,000.00
B. General Fund Giving	\$48,200.00
C. Designated Gifts	\$2,900.00
II. Building Rental/lease Income	\$314,524.00
A. PCPA Lease Income	\$190,524.00
B. Building Rentals	\$75,000.00
C. Wedding Income	\$32,000.00
D. Office Sublease Income	\$17,000.00
III. Grants	\$104,500.00
A. Brown Fund #1	\$9,500.00
B. Brown Fund #2	\$95,000.00
IV. Church-Sponsored Events (CSE) Income	\$1,800
A. Oliver Lecture Income	\$300.00
B. Art Reach Gallery Income	\$1,200.00
C. Other CSE Income	\$300.00
V. Gifts-in-Kind (Goods)	\$500.00
VI. Interest Income	\$450.00

Total Operating Income	\$632,874.00
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Expenses

I. Programs and Ministries	\$318,698.00
A. Pastoral Care	\$196,628.00
B. Worship and Music	\$61,880.00
C. Christian Education	\$13,850.00
D. Outreach and Social Justice	\$27,800.00
E. Membership	\$14,300.00
F. Church Sponsored Event (CSE) Expenses	\$4,240.00
II. General and Administrative Expenses	\$583,474.00
A. Personnel	\$204,534.00
B. Building Rental Expenses	\$33,000.00
C. Marketing Expenses	\$3,500.00
D. Building/Facility Expenses	\$275,065.00
E. Office Expenses	\$35,825.00
F. Other General Administration Expenses	\$31,550.00

Total Operating Expenses	\$902,172.00
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Net Operating Income (Income minus Expenses)	(\$269,298.00)
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Total Scheduled Transfers from Investments	\$211,107.00
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Adjusted Net Operating Income	(\$58,191.00)
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CHURCH OFFICERS 2015

Moderator:	Ross Runkel	Assistant Moderator:	Al Horn
Past Moderator:	Ann Laskey	Clerk:	Julie Blanchard
Treasurer:	Bill Sweeney	Assistant Treasurer:	Elta Wilson

Members at Large:	Margaret Baldwin Bill Bradley	Heidi Levy Peace Young
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Building and Grounds Commission:	Andrew Adcock Bob Olsen Jim Laskey	Ellen Bradley Roger Perry
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Christian Education Commission:	Christina Hellums Karen Horn Anne Sullivan	Daniel Hunter Doug Mella Linda Watkins
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Finance Commission :	Paul Adcock Bruce Bishop Emily Rampton Elta Wilson	Clark Binkley Kathy Sheibley Bill Sweeney
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Membership Commission:	Ric Drury Tim Pollard Stephanie Weems	Phil Oliver Nan Wagner
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Outreach Commission:	Ron Clevenger Paula Nielsen	Cheryl Clevenger Mari Schuman
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Social Justice Commission:	Rita DeLamatre Alice Forsythe	Christian Logerstedt Dean Sigler
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Worship Commission:	Barbara Bennett Roger Paulson Layne Young	Pat Kerwin Bruce Swanson
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Pastoral Relations for Michael Ellick:	Norman Bengel Jesika Gavilanes	Ric Drury Ross Runkel
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Pastoral Relations for Sara Rosenau	Margaret Baldwin Tim Pollard	Paris Hancock
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Personnel Committee:	Susan Adcock Al Horn	Bill Bradley
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Nominating Committee:	Ellen Bradley Scott Sorensen-Jolink Layne Young	Jim McPartland Julie Young
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SENIOR MINISTER'S REPORT

Reverend Michael Ellick

“Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of humanity.” - Philippians 2:3-11

It was passages like this that first inspired me to a life of service in ordained Ministry, and this one in particular remains a touchstone for me in all the work I do for the Church. The author of Philippians reminds us that a life of humility is both the path and the reward of living in God's presence, not just as an abstract idea, but as a felt reality that can be expressed within us and between us in community.

As your new Senior Minister who has only been here for one month, I have not been present long enough to meet all of you yet, but what I do know has left me absolutely humbled, and for that I am grateful. I can scarcely believe what has been accomplished here in the last year: few Senior Ministers walk into such fertile territory after an extended period of transition, and it has been exciting to learn what life at First Congregational Church has been and could be.

My first point of contact was the Search Committee, under the solid leadership of Edward Eggleston and our Moderator Ann Laskey, and their professionalism, their transparency, and above all their heart has been a true inspiration throughout my process of starting up. But I also have to thank each and every member of this group, all of whom committed so much of their valuable time to this important task. Naturally I was interviewing them even as they were interviewing me, and this specific blend of individuals could not have served as better representatives of the entire church family.

Here on the ground, this process continued with Rev. Sara Rosenau, and my partnership with her could not have been a more welcome one. Since before I even started the job on November 1, Rev. Sara has been my chief point of orientation and introduction to this community, and in addition to quickly becoming friends, I could not feel more relieved to find someone of such intelligence, maturity, and obvious Ministerial talent in the Assistant Minister role. Let's all thank God for her, because we are truly blessed to have such a leader in our midst.

Likewise, our Music Director Michael Kelly actually was like an old friend before I ever walked in the door, but getting to know him better has been like having a member of my own family here on staff. I don't need to tell anyone reading this how much fantastic talent he brings us week after week, and matched by our Organist and Musician in Residence Grant Edwards (not to mention the AMAZING contributions of Roger Paulson each and every month for Jazz Sunday, as well as our Section Leaders), the musical talent and dedication in place here could not be stronger.

But just as important to the ongoing functioning of our church is all the people you don't see in our Sunday Worship, the dedicated staff who work hard each and every week to keep this ship afloat. Last year's new hire Cara Rothe, our Director of Marketing and Community Relations, has proven to be an auspicious blessing, and there is simply no space to relay in this letter all she does to bring FCUCC into the 21st Century. In the same way, Jonathan Dyer our Office

Manager, John Behrens our Bookkeeper, Batya Podos our Youth Ministry Coordinator, and of course Doug Emmons our Facilities Manager and the entire custodial staff, all do so much to make this place work, I would need a full page of praise for each to truly do them justice.

Building off this strong foundation, this coming year is going to be an exciting one for First Congregational Church. Most obviously, the fine work of our Governance Task Force continues to percolate, and in the coming year we have a series of workshops planned not only to help us understand and appreciate the new “core ministries,” around which the church could be structured, but also to help each and every one of us discern where we are most called to give our gifts of love in community. In 2015 we’ll be hosting quarterly workshops for the entire congregation on:

- Justice & Witness (winter)
- Worship & Welcome (spring)
- Fellowship & Formation (summer)
- Facilities & Resources (fall)

Throughout this process all of us will have a chance to “make the road by walking it,” and not only will this give us all clarity on where we’ve been, the work will serve as a living reminder that there is absolutely nowhere we can’t go if we go there together.

There is so much more to say, but what I want to leave you with for now is this: our church could not have a stronger future ahead of it, and I could not be more grateful to be part of this new chapter in our ongoing story together.

ASSISTANT MINISTER’S REPORT

Reverend Sara Rosenau

My second year at First Congregational began with my sermon on open and affirming Sunday, “House of Welcome.” We have indeed have been a welcoming house this year, with new members, programs, and finally the arrival of our new minister, Rev. Michael.

Some highlights of the year:

Children, Youth, and Family Programs:

- I continued to build the children and youth program with our new Youth Coordinator, Batya Podos. Batya and I work to provide enriching spiritual programming based in the stories of our faith. I attended three trainings on Godly Play taught by national facilitators. This year we returned to the church school model of all ages learning a story together followed by art reflection for younger children and conversation for older grades.
- Creation and Creativity, our summer program with children, went deeper into the ancient and contemporary understandings of the seven days of creation. Children and youth worked on seven art panels expressing their learning, which will be hung in the CE stairwell.
- Six of our children also attended “Abraham’s Tent,” an interfaith summer camp, and I accompanied two youth to the UCC Western Regional Youth Event in Seattle.
- A Family Cluster Potluck, a regional snow trip with youth, and a well attended Family Camp in August added to our opportunities for families and youth to have fun and support one another.

Spiritual Development – Adults:

- We’ve deepened our offerings of adult spiritual formation with weekly Spirituality Book group on Wednesdays at 10 a.m., Lectio Divina on Sundays at 9:30 a.m., and Lydia’s Table monthly gatherings for dinner and worship. Support of the Downtown Lenten Soup and Supper, Lenten centering prayer, and wonderful Eve’s Circle women’s retreat opened space for exploring our spiritual journey’s in community together.

Other:

- This year I continued monthly preaching, supporting the Called to Care Team, leadership, support on the Safety Task Force and Governance Task Force, and support of CE, Membership, and Social Justice Commissions.

It has been a wonderful year of welcoming new ideas and people into our traditions and patterns here, and exploring new ways of doing things as well. I feel excited to welcome the new year and all that it will bring to each of us and this community.

MODERATOR'S REPORT

Ann Laskey

Much of this report was shared in the December *Pilgrim* Moderator Message. Some words bear repeating.

2014 has been a very productive year for our church. We have grown! In January we worked with Rev. Svendsen to simplify our vision statement to: We are a progressive Christian community embracing diversity of thought, belief and action.

My mantra has been open communication, thus the Council Notebook was developed and is in the church office weekdays and in the church library on Sundays for all to review the latest business of the church. We also began monthly Moderator Moments on the third Sunday during the church services to share updates.

Our Council goals for 2014 were: 1. Financial Health, 2. Community Connection, 3. Building Membership. Under the leadership of Ross Runkel, we began raising funds to restore our Bell Tower. The Governance Task Force developed a new model for consideration. The Building and Grounds Commission worked with our new Director of Marketing, Cara Rothe, to transform our facilities. We added wi-fi; refreshed and updated our Fellowship Hall with new paint, new chairs, new carpet and new lighting; renewed our sanctuary with new arch lighting and the beginning of restoration of our Povey stained glass windows. Under Cara's leadership and with the help of our staff, we transformed and opened our annex offices to welcome subleases with the non-profits Young Musicians and Artists and Portland Piano International. We have opened our entire facility for use/rent by many different groups in our community. In February, through table groups we envisioned our near future to assist our Pastoral Search Committee in the preparation of a new church profile. Our new profile was posted, and candidates applied for the position of our new Senior Minister. A candidate was chosen and our congregation voted to covenant with Rev. Michael Ellick. We said farewell to our Interim Senior Minister, Rev. Charles Svendsen. We greeted new custodians Ryan Sotomayor and William Stitt as Bruce Charles retired and Wyatt Salcido moved on to a new position. During the month of September, we prepared for new beginnings by taking time for meditation and anticipation.

The church staff, including Sara Roseneau, Assistant Minister; Jonathan Dyer, Office Manager; Cara Rothe, Director of Marketing; John Behrens, Bookkeeper; Doug Emmons, Facilities Manager; Michael Kelly, Choir Director; and Grant Edwards, Musician in Residence, are top notch! I thank them for their faithful and outstanding service.

Our church leaders and "doers" have been busy all year. Please read the reports of our many leaders in this Annual Report to learn the highlights of ALL they accomplished this year. I encourage you to know our Council members and other church leaders. You vote for them in December. Keep the list, ask them any questions you may have in 2015 and THANK THEM for their leadership. I thank the Council for working together for positive actions this year. We have said, "YES" to many new beginnings. Leaders have kept our social outreach and social justice activities fresh and vital. Past Moderator Julie Young and Assistant Moderator Ross Runkel have offered valuable support and council this year. I am thankful for their gifts of time and talent.

The Pastoral Search Committee began its work in the fall of 2013, but most of this task was accomplished in 2014. Members, Margaret Baldwin, Barbara Bengel, Rita Delamatre, Ric Drury, Paris Hancock-Egan, Bob Larsen, Layne Young, Ann Laskey, ad hoc, and Chair Edward Eggleston, worked diligently to represent our church in our new Profile, to review applicants, and to choose the best possible candidate for new Senior Minister. They put in many hours, days and months on this task - for which we are all very grateful.

Now we are beginning our covenant with our new Senior Minister Rev. Michael Ellick. He will minister to us, but **we must remember to minister to him and to one another** in order to nurture and grow together. In November and December we have been meeting with Rev. Ellick in members' homes for Fireside Chats to get to know Rev. Ellick and for him to get to know us. Rev. Ellick has put in many hours during his first few months to get to know us, to encourage our continued growth and to care for us all. He needs our care of him. We must remember to allow Rev. Ellick times of rest and rejuvenation. Be mindful of how you can serve our church, and what you can do to lighten his load.

Thank you all for supporting me in my role as your Moderator in 2014. It has been a privilege to serve my church family in this way and an amazing opportunity for personal growth. Many of you have held me in your prayers this year. I truly believe those prayers have led me and given me strength and inspiration. I am genuinely thankful for your love, support, and prayers. Many of you have held leadership roles. Others have served by providing food or flowers, decorating tables, serving food, and cleaning-up after church activities, and serving those in our greater community. I have often asked for leaders of different activities and for specific service, such as serving on task forces or organizing some form of hospitality or to reach out to those in need. Many of you said "yes." Thank you! Together we accomplish much. Together we make the church.

It is my hope that as you remember my time as your Moderator in 2014 you will always remember that each month I have asked you to serve one another. This is especially true of our members suffering illnesses, injuries, and other crises, and of those who are caring for them. Please look around each Sunday and notice who is missing from church. Remember our elders who are no longer able to attend church. Reach out to them with a loving note, a phone call, or a visit to let them know that you, that we, their church family, have not forgotten them and we do care about each one in our church family. In August at Camp Adams Rev. Gene Ross suggested, "...Give yourself over to compassion." And in the words of Rev. Ellick, "We'll find each other through the path of the heart..." and "...walk the road together."

Thank you for walking this road with me.

TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT

Paul Adcock

The Finance Commission consists of Paul Adcock, Treasurer; Bruce Bishop, Assistant Treasurer; Emily Rampton, Secretary; Kathy Sheibley; Al Horn; and Norman Bengel. Clark Binkley joined the Commission in November, replacing Greg McMahon.

This has been a successful year for the church financially due to large memorial gifts and bequests received earlier this year. Total giving income was \$603,739. This is \$427,248 over budget. (Note that all money amounts mentioned in this report are as of November 1, 2014.)

We received \$121,446 from pledges and \$31,676 from non-pledge giving. Each of these amounts are currently below budget by about \$10,000. Over the past several years our pledge giving and non-pledge giving have declined. We cannot continue to rely on reserves and large bequests to balance our budget indefinitely.

Building income for 2014 was \$213,579 or 117% of budgeted amount. The 2014 Brown grants from the Oregon Community Fund totaled \$105,560. This was \$5,560 more than we had anticipated.

We have a total of \$241,607 in our checking and savings accounts. Investments in the UCC Fund total \$1,255,970. Of this amount, \$104,363 is permanently restricted; \$12,655 is temporarily restricted (as the Pastor's Discretionary fund); and \$1,138,949 is unrestricted.

There was a large budget deficit projected for 2014. This was partially due to a number of deferred maintenance projects that were funded by gifts and bequests made in 2013. In 2015, we anticipate an increase in all income areas except for pledges and non-pledge giving. Our projected budget deficit for 2015 (after scheduled transfers) is \$58,191. This is approximately half the deficit of 2014. I am optimistic about the future of our church. I believe 2015 will be a time of new leadership, fresh ideas, and new beginnings. We will not only survive as a congregation, but I believe we will thrive.

BELL TOWER FUNDRAISING ANNUAL REPORT

Ross Runkel

Fundraising kickoff was May 18, 2014.

\$490,000 is the fundraising goal.

- \$452,000: Labor and materials
- \$10,438: Emergency repairs in 2014
- \$27,562: Fundraising (grant writer, printing, postage)

\$271,737 (55% of the goal) has been secured or pledged

- \$123,237: Individuals
 - \$83,725: Pledged by members
 - \$23,335: Members' contributions in addition to pledged amounts
 - \$16,177: Non-member contributions
- \$27,500: Foundations
 - \$20,000: The Kinsman Foundation
 - \$ 5,000: The Samuel S. Johnson Foundation
 - \$ 2,500: Restore Oregon
- \$111,000: First Congregational Church
- \$10,000: In-Kind

Recent items:

- Listed by Restore Oregon as one of Oregon's 2015 Most Endangered Places.
- Grant applications submitted to The Collins Foundation, M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust, Meyer Memorial Trust, ESCO Foundation, and others.



Bell Tower circa 1990



Bell Tower today

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMISSION

Donna Clatworthy, Chair

I would like to thank the members of Building and Grounds: Andrew Adcock, Jim Laskey, Ted Molskness, Roger Perry, and Jim Sikkel. Their energy through planning and work parties was most appreciated. Doug Emmons and his staff have been great, throughout all of the projects that we have accomplished this year. Cara Rothe has helped us in getting organized and pushing forward on our list. Without all of their help we could not have made it through this very busy year.

Our list of projects this year included new sanctuary arch lighting; restoration of the north stained glass window (this project continues); Fellowship Hall and basement recarpeting and painting; and redecorating and cleaning various rooms in the church building. Doug also changed all of the Fellowship Hall light bulbs to LED. We purchased new equipment to keep our carpets, pew cushions, and upholstered furniture clean. We have updated some furniture to make the smaller rooms more versatile for use by the congregation and rentals. We have worked on the sound system and now have the equipment to put the sermons up on the church website. We are looking forward to next year with the growth in rentals that is expected.

We appreciate the input and financial support from the congregation for the projects that needed our attention. We want to thank Finance for their backing and consideration during this time of change.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMISSION

Karen Horn, Chair

Our year started with well-nourished souls and grateful hearts as we entered our second year with our beloved Pastor Sara Rosenau, Assistant Minister, who guided our Christian Education offerings here at First Congregational Church UCC, Portland.

I am motivated to find identification terms other than “children/youth; adult.” Let me try “new to our faith tradition” and “nurturing our life faith journey.” I will continue to use the term “intergenerational” to mean “all of us together—those new to life and UCC and those mature in life and UCC.”

2014 – “New to our faith tradition”:

Nursery: FCUCC Christian Education members are very pleased with our Nursery Early Childhood Educator Staff, Natasha Pree. We pay her from 10 a.m. to noon each Sunday to be present in our Nursery. This is our “lovingly guided play” space for children birth through age 4 (and any older children who need supervised “free play” rather than structured curricula).

Children’s Lesson in Worship: This is a delightful time in worship when all children (including adults who are children at heart and want to come forward) are invited forward for a brief lesson often based upon the Scripture on which the adult worship is focused. After the children’s lesson, all youth go down to either Godly Play or Kiva Classroom. (High Schoolers and any child who wants to are welcome to remain in worship.)



Godly Play: Godly Play is the curricula Pastor Sara Rosenau leads for our children in kindergarten through 5th grade. We have between 4-10 youth most Sunday mornings. Teachers who assist Pastor Sara are Middle/High School Teacher Batya Podos and member and Montessori School and Kindergarten teacher Rita Delmarter. Godly Play lessons included Epiphany, Baptism, and the Parables.

Youth Ministry Coordinator: Time with our paid Middle/High Educator Batya Podos Sunday mornings in the Kiva started with a study of Covenant, involved creation of a play based on the story of Joseph, and the value of dreams in our life of faith. Batya meets with MS/HS youth 6th -12th grade.

High School Youth: On First Sundays Sara met with HS youth following Fellowship Hour.

Mission Trip Planning for 2015 & 2016: 2015 to be determined. In 2016, we plan to go in June to Re-Member with Lakota Peoples in South Dakota and at the end of July to UCC National Youth Conference in Florida.

Sunday Morning 9:30-10:20: Sara led 6 sessions exploring our UCC identity. Lectio Divina reading, meditating, and sharing on scripture resumed March 9.

Real to Reel: Real to Reel focused on spiritual issues in movies and met 10 weeks led by Dale Hess.

The Lemon Tree: A discussion group hosted “Islam & Human Rights” conversation on January 19, 2014, centered around *The Lemon Tree: An Arab, a Jew & the Heart of the Middle East* by Sandy Tolan

Spirituality Book Group: The Spirituality Book Group resumed in March. Books included *Naked Spirituality: A Life with God in 12 Words*; *Religion & Science: The Basics* and *Painting the Stars: Science & Religion and an Evolving Faith*; *A Life of Being, Having and Doing*; and *Eager to Love: The Alternative Way of Francis of Assisi*.

Lydia’s Table: Lydia’s Table began meeting monthly on first Mondays for dinner worship.

Samden Ling: Jacqueline Mandell, a Buddhist Practitioner, offered a meditation class the first Wednesday of each month.

Christian Education Annual Calendar:

- Mardi Gras / Pancake Breakfast served approx. 80 people raising a record \$425 for Mission Fund for sending MS/HS youth to Western Regional Youth Event.
- February Snow Play day with youth and adults from 4 area UCC churches led by Sara.
- In Spring Worship gave Bibles to 3rd graders.
- Easter Celebration: Egg hiding & seeking
- Family Seder Potluck, Saturday, April 19 hosted by Batya Podos.
- Spring Fling MS/HS Retreat at Camp Adams
- Portland Crop Hunger Walk, Sunday, April 27
- Saturday, May 3 Youth Volunteered at Clay Street Table.
- June 8 Pentecost Sunday & Summer Creation & Creativity Kick-off.
- Family Cluster trip to Sky High
- Western Regional Youth Event Sara, Christina Hellums & Colin Horn attended June 29-July 3 with theme: Being Sent Out - The Great Commission.
- June & July: Camp Adams Summer Camps
- August 23/24: 4th S’More Family Camp
- August 24: First Outdoor Worship at Camp Adams and dedication of Sarah Bishop “Story Bench”
- September Kick-Off Sunday and beginning of 1st Sunday of month “Intergenerational Worship” and Communion
- October 26: Reverse Trick-or-Treating at Terwilliger Plaza.



- November 23: Annual Pie Sale for Mission Fund.
- December 6: Annual Cookie Baking
- December 7: Children host Hospitality serving baked cookies
- December 15: Advent Spiral
- December 20: Overnight at Ainsworth UCC for area MS/HS.
- December 22: Posada (Family Cluster will make tamales together at Gavilanes home on Saturday, December 21.)
- December 24: Christmas Eve early Family Service

And we begin again January 2015, with renewed energy!

MEMBERSHIP COMMISSION

Tim Pollard and Mary Louise Sevetson

The Membership Commission reports that 15 people formally joined our congregation this year, in addition to the increasing number of people who have visited us occasionally or who continue to participate with us but not formally join. These people joined partially because of contact from our ministers and the Membership Commission activities, but the big reason for the increase is the welcome that all our members have rolled out to visitors. Good job, everyone!

Two efforts were specifically aimed at bringing in new people. The “Lurkers,” a group of people who intentionally watch for guests, invite them to fellowship, and then introduce them to another member, is continuing to develop. This year we began to refer to this group as the Welcome Team.

Membership Commission has also hosted Find Out More meetings on a few Sunday mornings in 2014. At these gatherings, we serve a continental breakfast, present a little information about the church and our activities, and get to know more about the people who are interested in us.

Hospitality after the church service has also grown this year. Working with a backbone of people who have been contributing to hospitality, we came up with a schedule so that some individual or group took responsibility for hospitality on each Sunday of the year. Whether our members and guests were served snacks or a full lunch, everyone enjoys eating together, and the number of people who stay for the fellowship time has noticeably increased. We increased our reimbursement amount from \$50 to \$75 as this gathering gained in attendance and interest.



One focused activity added to our understanding of how new members find us and why they stay. Interim Pastor Charles Svendsen hosted a potluck gathering at his home of all the people who had joined in the past two years. We had a lively discussion from these people as to what we did right and how we can improve.

We have new name tags, mounted on nice magnetic badges. These can be stored at the church between Sundays, and members are encouraged to wear the name tags. Whether you are a new member or one of long standing, we all appreciate the help in matching up names and faces.

Working with Building and Grounds and the Membership Commission, the church has installed Telecoil in the sanctuary to make our service more accessible to the hearing impaired. Telecoil works with the hearing aids worn by some of our members. We also have some hand-held devices that are available from the ushers. We want to do more in 2015 to make sure people know this resource is available and to inform people on how they work.

Small Relational Groups (SRGs) continue to grow in our congregation. We hosted a summer event during hospitality time to let people know that absolutely anyone can convene a small

group. If they have any hobby, interest, or activity that they would like to share with others the church can provide space and announcements and even small amounts of money to support that effort. Groups have coalesced around Centering Prayer, the making of Prayer Shawls, Lectio Divina, and learning the ukulele to name just a few.

Lastly, a word about the All Church picnic. This year we had a small affair that was incorporated into the usual Sunday hospitality hour. In 2015, we would like to do something a little more elaborate, something that will not only bring our members together but will also give us some exposure to the community. If you have any interest in helping to develop the idea of a summer picnic, please contact the Membership Commission or one of the staff.

OUTREACH COMMISSION

Ron Clevenger, Chair

I applaud and recognize the volunteers and their achievements in 2014 and look forward to continuing and perhaps expanding our many projects into 2015. None of the Outreach Commissions accomplishments could be done without the help and commitment of our very special volunteers.

Goose Hollow Family Shelter – This program provides a meal for homeless families with children. The second Saturday of each month volunteers use the facilities at the First United Methodist Church to provide meal planning, preparation and serving; providing ‘helping hand’ assistance to the parents; preparation of the nighttime apartments; ‘kid time’ hosting; and, if possible, overnight hosting if volunteers can be found. Kim Swennes is our team leader and responsible for the Goose Hollow project. She has done a splendid job of organizing, assembling numerous volunteers, and ensuring the meal and support services are done to a high standard. She is one of a kind; we thank her!

Transition Project – This project provides meal planning, procurement and serving about 100+ men the third Saturday of each month in the Clark Center in downtown Portland. Four teams (one a month) assemble a total of 5 or 6 volunteers to help them do the meal procurement, prep and serving. A special thanks to our super team leaders Myrna Lawlor, Tim Pollard and Rick Togiai, Rita DeLamatre, and Paul and Susan Adcock and dozens of volunteers throughout the year who assist them.

Our House – On the third Wednesday of each month two of our special volunteers purchase, prepare, deliver and serve an evening meal to about 30 residents and staff at an AIDS home/shelter in southeast Portland. A huge thanks to Suzanne Mattox and Anna Parker – they have assumed responsibility for the monthly meal at Our House during the past few years.

Potluck in the Park – The church provides beverages (procure, prepare, deliver, and serve) for about 500 to 900 hungry and thirsty (many homeless) persons in O’Bryant Square park every Sunday afternoon. A huge thanks to our special volunteers - week 1: Peace Young & Betsy Camp; week 2: Alan Pierce & Tre Farmer; week 3: Rita DeLamatre & Alice Forsythe; week 4: Ron and Cheryl Clevenger. The occasional 5th Sundays are covered by one of the above teams.

We are always looking for volunteers to help serve. Particularly for teenagers, it’s a wonderful and safe way to gain an understanding of the poor and hungry that live in our community. Signup sheets are in the main floor hallway.

Spare Change - During the latter part of 2011, we initiated a quarterly ‘spare change’ offering for various Portland non-profit organizations. In 2014, this program has directed the donations to Friends of the Children, Pear, Clay Street Table, Transitional School and similar organizations in the Portland area.

Drives - During 2014 we initiated two contribution drives for Community Warehouse. This non-profit collects and redistributes donated items to low-income individuals and families. The Warehouse helps over 6000 people a year by providing them with the basics a family needs. Our drives included a basic household items drive and a used furniture drive.

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

Alice Forsythe, Chair

Rita DeLamatre, Alice Forsythe, and Dean Sigler have been the most recent three members of this committee. Reverend Sara Rosenau has been our spiritual advisor.

The four of us first met at a coffee shop across from the Multnomah County Library approximately a year ago. We agreed that we wanted to introduce a variety of topics to the congregation and that in doing so we wanted to engage the congregation in diverse ways, without being dogmatic. We agreed to at least three topics: prison injustice, including the death penalty; food poverty and food injustice, which included the topics of food deserts in large urban areas; and water justice, which included the philosophical discussion of whether access to water was a human right.

We developed the approach of each of us writing a short piece which would appear in the weekly e-blast as well as a longer contribution for the monthly *Pilgrim* newsletter. The e-blast would use a distinctive beginning ‘Did You Know..’ which we each used to then launch into an expanded discussion of a sub-topic of the larger theme, usually including a generous amount of web links that the reader could click on for more details. Dean enjoyed writing the longer *Pilgrim* pieces and became our go-to source for those.

During this past year to further engage with the congregation we also hosted one hospitality hour around the subject of food justice and two different movie nights which included the serving of popcorn, chocolate and wine.

Also discussed was the role that Social Justice should play in finding funds for the late Reverend Trudy Bradley’s son, Kevin Gregory, to continue the pursuit of his educational goals, whether this happens in prison or out. For the moment we have tabled the discussion until we can find a clearer path forward. It has also been suggested that this project might be better suited to a different group, perhaps one that organizes under the new governance model being proposed for our church.

Mid-summer Rev. Charles told Alice that the Social Justice committee of downtown First Presbyterian was interested in establishing a dialogue with our Social Justice group about doing some mutual activities. Rita and Alice have each attended at least two separate meetings with First Presbyterian. We weren’t able to make their last meeting; however, we’ve made sure to let them know we’re still interested in a collaboration, but given that we’re still “under construction,” we will jump in when and where we are able. Meanwhile the committee’s secretary Roberta Badger Cain has been faithful in including us in her e-mail chain copies of the minutes of each of their meetings. Due to scheduling uncertainties we have yet to be able to invite one or more of their representatives to one of our meetings.

What has mattered to us is that the congregation understands that Social Justice is a viable committee once more at First Congregational Church. We’ve largely focused on providing information and ideas to the larger congregation. At Rita’s suggestion, we did volunteer to participate in the Outreach Commission’s Potluck in the Park providing the beverages and continue to do so through the present.

In the past year our committee has created a foundation upon which to build future Social

Justice projects. Going forward we will also welcome one new member, Christian Logerstedt. We intend to meet one final time in mid-December to discuss what has been accomplished in 2014 and begin to plan for 2015.

WORSHIP COMMISSION

Julie Blanchard, Chair

Commission members during the year: Roger Paulson, Pat Kerwin, Bruce Swanson, Elta Wilson, Layne Young, Julie Blanchard, Chris Hyde. Ex-officio: Senior Minister Michael Ellick, Assistant Minister Sara Rosenau, Interim Senior Minister Charles Svendsen, Musician in Residence Grant Edwards, Music Director Michael Kelly

During 2014, the Commission met most months to assist the ministers in planning and supporting Lydia's Table, special worship (Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Christmas Eve), and Sunday morning worship services including greeters, ushers, lay readers, and preparing communion. Highlights included:

- Support to the Open and Affirming Committee to sponsor the Open and Affirming Anniversary in January with jazz music and preacher Sara Rosenau.
- Jazz Music for ten worship services during the year led by Roger Paulson and the Park Avenue musicians with vocal leadership provided by the choir section leaders, usually the fourth Sunday of the month.
- Grant Edwards, Michael Kelly, and the choir provided music leadership during worship services, with special musicians for an extended work during Lent.
- During Lent, First Congregational UCC hosted one of five downtown church Wednesday suppers, coordinated by Layne Young, followed by a worship service led by one of the downtown church pastors.
- Sara Rosenau and Chris Hyde provided leadership for Lydia's Table, an informal worship-meal-communion, generally the first Monday evening of the month throughout the year. One person plans for the meal and participants help with preparation and set up. In March, Lydia's Table was combined with the Ash Wednesday service. Usually 15 to 30 people participate.
- Layne Young coordinated and regularly updated the email Prayer Chain of prayers, joys, and concerns among members and friends of the church. New people are welcome to connect to the Chain by contacting Layne.



Thank you to the faithful ushers, choir members, lay readers (liturgists) and reliable greeters Roger and Debra Perry. Our appreciation to people donating flowers each week and to Frank Blanchard, Julie's brother, who arranges purchase and delivery of Easter flowers and poinsettias for Advent.

ARTREACH COMMITTEE

Elaine Molskness, Chair

Members:

Doug Emmons, Kim Swennes, Susan and Paul Adcock, Donna Clatworthy, Marge Powell, Debbie Knudson, Elaine Molskness

Activities:

During the 2014 year the ArtReach Gallery has had a variety of art shows, different each month. Artists have shown oil and acrylic paintings, photographs, and textiles.

During February and March, the gallery was closed for painting and installation of new carpet in Fellowship Hall. We did have a show of art from members of the church for the last two weeks of March. There was a variety of art media.

Most artists have given 20% of their sales to the ArtReach Gallery which goes into the General Fund of the church.

Kim Swennes has continued to play her Celtic harp at most of the First Thursday openings for each month's show.

Volunteers who sit in the gallery during the week are Marge Powell, Debbie Knudson and Donna Clatworthy. We could use more volunteers. If you should be interested in sitting for a 4 hour time slot on Mondays, Wednesdays or Thursdays, please let Elaine Molskness know.

If you know of an artist who is interested in showing her/his art, please refer her/him to Elaine Molskness or the church office.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Susan Adcock, Chair

The Personnel Committee for 2014 was made up of Ross Runkel, Assistant Moderator; Norman Bengel; Bill Bradley; and Susan Adcock.

The committee worked closely with Interim Minister Charles Svendsen during the year. We assisted Charles in reviewing annual job performance of church staff members. In addition, several staff job descriptions were updated.

Committee members continued the staff mentoring program instituted in 2013. We reviewed staff salaries and several salaries were increased during the year.

At this time, the committee is meeting with Senior Minister Michael Ellick to determine the direction for the Personnel Committee during 2015.

SOUL FORCE PORTLAND

Ric Drury, Chair

Current members of the above Open & Affirming Committee are Ric Drury (2015 chair), Pat Kerwin (2014 chair), Debbie Knudson, and John Paulk. New members are Joe and Samuel. Pat has asked me to step up early as chair while he is in recovery, so I submit this report by his request.

Highlights for the 2014 year:

1) January 26: Anniversary Service, Rev. Sara Rosenau, Speaker. Music by Park Avenue Jazz Ensemble.

2) April 23: Rev. Sara Rosenau, Alice Forsythe (Social Justice) and Pat Kerwin (O&A) attend Community Prayer Breakfast on day oral arguments to overturn ban on same sex marriage begin.

3) June 13: Pride Weekend, no FCUCC events. However, the Central Pacific Conference maintained its annual Pride booth and parade march.



Vision for the 2015 year:

1) December 9, 2014: A meeting took in the church library. Agenda was to secure a January 25 speaker and other worship hour details, as well as usher, greeting, and fellowship hospitality coordination. Also to address the vision for 2015 beyond traditional events. The new primary one being reaching out to local church congregation leaders ready to properly address their own LGBT members within their communities. To empower our own SFP members to have intelligent, informed, relevant information for conversations possibly leading to an open & confirming congregation. This would involve educating our group members with resources to successfully make this outreach viable.

2) O&A Taskforce name was considered to replace O&A Committee. But O&A SoulForce Portland sounds less administrative and militant, and better represents the end path to the hearts and souls of the LGBT Portland community. There is a national emerging organization (see soulforce.com) whose mission is to nonviolently end the religious and political oppression of LGBT people. They envision a world in which social justice movements are inclusive and collaborative as we help make it possible for all people, regardless of chosen or inherent identities, to have access, opportunity and security. I hope we can become a Portland chapter of this cause, thus the name change.

3) January 25: Host the Annual O&A worship service, usher greeting and fellowship hour. Speaker TBA. Michael and I have met to discuss potential candidates. We are looking local first to save on travel expenses, but Michael has out of state options. Advertise in PQ Monthly.

4) June 12: Pride Weekend. Host a new, second annual (Sunday, June 14) O&A worship service and fellowship hour. Other pride events (pride booth and parade march) TBA. Advertise in PQ Monthly.

5) Annual member home-hosted O&A potluck - TBA.

OLIVER LECTURE COMMITTEE

Don Sevetson

The Oliver Lecture was established in 1977 by Dr. Egbert Oliver, in memory of his wife Helen. Since that time the lecture has been renamed to honor, in addition to Helen Oliver, both Egbert himself and his second wife, Marguerite. Dr. Oliver stated this as his vision: "Subjects may include examination of a broad range of current public issues as well as the church's life as an organization and its relationship with other religious and secular institutions and movements."

The endowment supporting the lecture is invested with United Church Funds.

During the year the committee has developed plans to build on insights gained from reflections upon the outstanding success of the November 2013 lecture by Susan Emmons, Executive Director of Northwest Pilot Project, "Ending Homelessness in Portland." The committee's understanding of its work is expressed in this paragraph:

"We believe that we have a duty to search for solutions that will help break down those barriers that stand in the way of building equitable communities for all peoples. We collaborate with other community organizations and institutions to continue our church's historical legacy, offering outstanding community, national, and world leaders a forum to express their ideas."

As 2014 draws to a close, plans are moving forward for the lectures in both 2015 and 2016. Materials that describe the history and purpose of the lectures have been prepared. Those resources will accompany invitations sent to potential lecturers. Financial strategies have been reworked, in consultation with the Finance Commission of the church.

Two members of the committee, Suzanne Mattox and Don Sevetson, continued from the previous year while a new member, Donna Brunstad, came on board early in the year. The committee's work has been supported and enhanced by the diligent, enthusiastic work of staff members Sara Rosenau and Cara Rothe.

You can expect to be hearing more about the next lecture early in the new year!

CALLED TO CARE

Kathy Sheibley, Coordinator

The mission of the Called to Care Team is to visit and maintain contact with the homebound who have given their time, talent and resources to the church and are still deserving of a meaningful connection to the church. The role of the team members is to "be present," to listen compassionately, and to offer a personal connection to the church.

Reverend Sara Rosenau serves as the Called to Care Team adviser and support. The team met three times during the year to share experiences and offer support to each other. The team has maintained regular contact with 17 individuals over the year. Each month members submit a written report to Sara on the contacts made during the month. Contacts include visiting, phone calls, delivering flowers for Christmas and Easter and sending cards and notes. The 2014 Called to Care Team members were Judy Bishop, Ric Drury, Patty Hammond, Emily Rampton, Kathy Sheibley (Coordinator), LaVonne Ving, Megan Walth, and Bill Young.

EVE'S CIRCLE

Heidi Levy, Coordinator

Eve's Circle, a fellowship of and for church women, continued to meet every fourth Saturday for activities, community outreach, good works, and good times together. We continue to build a warm and supportive sisterhood among us.

Eves began 2014 by putting the finishing touches on our final projects of 2013, that is, counting and packing up all of the undergarments we solicited through our "Undies the Tree" drive, and loading up backpacks with school supplies for a "Second Semester" donation to local children in need and newly-arrived Somali refugee children. Undergarments donated totaled well over 600 pieces and were donated to Portland Public Schools' PTA Clothing Closet, Goose Hollow Family Shelter, and the Transition Project.

Throughout 2014, Eves twice crafted jewelry for upstART, part of The New City Initiative, to support their women's program; visited the Portland Art Museum to view the exhibit *Venice: The Golden Age of Art and Music*; held an "unfinished projects" work day; visited the Japanese Garden; explored how to preserve joy in our lives; attended a nutrition presentation at a local natural food market; and finished off the year with an essential oil workshop.

No report on the doings of Eve's Circle would be complete without mention of the annual retreat, held again this year at Camp Adams on a weekend in mid-May. Our theme was "Forgiveness" and we explored what it genuinely *is*, why it is important, what it means in the context of our faith, and how to manage to get it "right." The retreat grows each year and leaves us buoyed by possibility and expectation, joy and hope. Our retreat this year was supported by a generous donation from the Membership Committee and a generous individual donor of scholarships.

Eve's Circle Coordinators

Judy Bishop
2010-2013

Marcia Yeater
2012-2013

Heidi Levy
2013-2015



CONGREGATION MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Membership as of December 4, 2013	328
Received into membership	15
By baptism	1
By transfer	1
By confession or reaffirmation of faith	13
By confirmation	0
Removed from membership	9
By death	3
By transfer	1
By request	5
By removal	0
Membership as of December 9, 2014	334

IN MEMORIAM

Members and friends who died December 1, 2013—December 1, 2014

Tom Barron
Eric Bishop
Ellen Borich
Noble Chima
David Johnson
DeWitt Morgan
Ruth Weinhardt

WEEKLY AND SPECIAL EVENT CHURCH VOLUNTEERS

“Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord.”

Romans 12:11

ArtReach Gallery

Paul Adcock
Susan Adcock
Donna Clatworthy

Debbie Knudson
Elaine Molskness
Marge Powell

Church Archivist

Bob Larsen

Library Staff

Carol Lynch

Gladys Smalberger

Office Support

Ruth Abbott
Daniel Fitzgerald
Bob Hinson
Daniel Hunter
Pat Kerwin

Jim McPartland
Emily Rampton
Kathy Sheibley
Linda Watkins

Ushers

Julie Blanchard
Debb Chapman
Cheryl Clevenger
Ron Clevenger
Sandra Hill
Jim Laskey
Jim McPartland

Emily Rampton
Ross Runkel
Kathy Sheibley
Conrad Walth
Layne Young
Keith Zilk

CHURCH STAFF

Ministerial

Rev. Michael Ellick
Senior Minister (starting November 1)

Rev. Sara Rosenau
Assistant Minister

Rev. Dr. Charles Svendsen
Interim Minister (through September 30)

Worship

Dr. Michael Kelly
Music Director

Roger Paulson
Jazz Sunday Director

Grant Edwards
Musician in Residence

Mary Brandenstein
Soloist

Lindsey Cafferky-McMahon
Soloist

Greg McMahon
Soloist

Josh Randall
Soloist

Sheryl Wood
Soloist

Christian Education

Batya Podos
Youth Education Coordinator

Natasha Pree
Nursery Attendant

Office

John Behrens
Bookkeeper

Jonathan Dyer
Office Manager

Events and Weddings

Cara Rothe
*Director of Marketing and
Community Relations*

Doug Emmons
Facilities Manager

Donna Clatworthy
Wedding Coordinator

Dena Bateman
Event Coordinator

Michael Bautista
Facilities Staff

Bruce Charles
Facilities Staff

Tom Fay
Facilities Staff

Wyatt Salcido
Facilities Staff

Ryan Sotomayor
Facilities Staff

William Stitt
Facilities Staff

PASTORS

Rev. Horace Lyman, DD	1851-1854
Rev. P.B. Chamberlain	1855-1862
Rev. G.H. Atkinson, DD	1863-1872
Rev. J.D. Eaton	1873-1876
Rev. J.A. Cruzan	1877-1881
Rev. Frederick R. Marvin, MD, DD	1882-1885
Rev. T. Eaton Clapp, DD	1886-1894
Rev. George R. Wallace, DD	1894-1896
Rev. A.W. Ackerman, DD	1896-1902
Rev. Elwin L. House, DD	1902-1906
Rev. Luther R. Dyott, DD	1907-1917
Dr. W.T. McElveen, PhD	1919-1923
Rev. Clement G. Clarke	1923-1928
Rev. Raymond B. Walker, DD	1929-1959
Rev. Royald Caldwell, DD	1960-1970
Rev. Lincoln Y. Reed, DD	1971-1986
Rev. John Rogers, DD	1987-1994
Rev. Patricia S. Ross, DMin	1994-2008
Rev. Anton DeWet, DMin	2010-2013
Rev. Michael Ellick	2014-

MODERATORS

Harold Cake	1960	Julie Blanchard	1998-2000
George Geist	1961	Ted Liljeholm	2000-2001
Reginald Titus	1962	Bob Groves	2001-2002
Robert Dressler	1963	Carol Lynch	2002-2003
Dwight Schwab	1964	Tim Pollard	2003-2005
George Culbertson	1965	Elaine Molskness	2005-2006
Egbert Oliver	1966	Carl Toland	2006-2008
George Woodworth	1967	Debbie Knudson	2008-2009
Keith Sime	1968	Alan Koch	2009-2010
George Smith	1969	Ellen Bradley	2010-2012
Calvin Van Pelt	1970	Richard Moody	2012
Winthrop Wells	1971	Julie Young	2013
George Casterline	1972	Ann Laskey	2014
Robert Jack	1973		
Laura Lusk	1974		
Leonard Garmire	1975		
Howard Campbell	1976		
Polly Casterline	1977		
David Johnson	1978		
Elmer Moke	1979		
Shelly Reece	1980		
Dawn Dressler	1981		
Ron Zahler	1982		
Margaret Shafer	1983		
Ron Stites	1984		
Julie Blanchard	1985		
Megan Walth	1986		
Ervin Hummel	1987		
Marcia Yeater	1988		
Scott Tetrick	1989		
D'Anne Gilmore	1990		
Charles Knapp	1991		
Marguerite Oliver	1992		
Charles Hinkle	1993		
Cathy Tinker	1994		
Bruce White	1995-1997		
Becky Koch	1997-1998		