

The Old Sloop's Log



A Monthly Publication of
The First Congregational Church of
Rockport, UCC, The Reverend Derek
Van Gulden, Pastor

Our Covenant

We the members of this congregation welcome you with gladness into our lives. We renew our covenant of faith and offer you our support, encouragement and love to the end that all of us may grow in the boundless mercy of God. By loving and being loved, forgiving and being forgiven, serving and being served, let us go forward together with courage as Christ's disciples glorifying God by being fully alive.

Open and Affirming Statement

We the members of the First Congregational Church of Rockport are called upon to love one another as God loves us, freely and unconditionally.

Therefore, we covenant to be an Open and Affirming congregation welcoming persons of every age, ability, gender, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, socio-economic status, nationality, ethnicity and immigration status into full membership and participation in our community life and ministry. We embrace and support those who experience rejection and exile from spiritual community and commit ourselves to the struggle against injustice.



Beloved,

A few weeks ago, I preached about prayer using *The Lord's Prayer* and *Psalm 23* as examples. At the funeral of a friend's mother, I heard a beautiful eulogy by one of the grandsons. He spoke reverently about his grandmother and finished by sharing the prayers that she loved to recite. He added that his grandmother often spoke about the *hope* she found in the prayers.

What he did next was both beautiful and seemingly "out of the box" for many in attendance. He had taken both the Lord's Prayer and Psalm 23 and blended them together in the following way:

Blending of the Lord's Prayer and Psalm 23

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside still waters; He restores my soul.

Give us this day our daily bread.

*You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.*

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

He leads me in the right paths for his name's sake.

*Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me.*

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.*

After the service, I had a chance to thank this young man and ask if he knew what words spoke to his grandmother. He said, "yes, of course." Here are the words which spoke to his grandmother:

- thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
- *I shall not want.*
- *He restores my soul.*
- *You prepare a table before me; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.*
- lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
- *you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me.*
- thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.
- *Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me*

As I drove home, I continued to hear both of these beautiful pieces of scripture in my head. Now as I pray the *Lord's Prayer*, I hear *Psalm 23* in my head at the same time. I find hope in the very beginning of each piece; *Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.... I shall not want... She restores my soul.*

Do you find hope in these or other prayers we use often? If so where is the hope for you?

I encourage each of you to pray the *Lord's Prayer* and *Psalm 23* slowly and see what words jump out to you. No matter what prayers you use, I encourage you to pray daily. If you have trouble getting into a routine of prayer, please come and see me and together we can get you started. For now, I continue to use the blended prayer above as part of my daily prayer life.

Shalom, Rev. Derek

DIACONATE

Reviewed and corrected and excepted. 4/19/2020

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ROCKPORT

DIACONATE MEETING, SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2020 11:40 am

Attendance: Laurie McKenna, James Schell, Janice Ramsden, Andrena Huntsman, David Emerson, and Camilla Ayers. Also attending from noon on, the Rev. Derek van Gulden

Opening the Meeting: Jim Schell gave a prayer.

Distribution of the Corrected December 2020 meeting minutes and Diaconate Contact List

Review and acceptance of the January 2020 meeting minutes

Review and acceptance of the February 2020 meeting minutes

April 1, 2020 Communion:

Bread provider (1): Camilla Ayers

Preparers (2): Janice Ramsden and Camilla Ayers

Servers (4): Janice Ramsden, Laurie McKenna, Andrena Huntsman, and David Emerson

Scripture Readers:

Deacons are responsible for finding invocation and scripture readers for each Sunday and giving the names to Regina in time for her to include in the bulletin. We decided that each deacon should be responsible for a 2-month period. Still needed are volunteers for the last three months of our term.

April	Janice
May	Jim
June	Jim

July	Laurie
August	Laurie
September	Camilla
October	Camilla
November	TBD
December	TBD
January	TBD

A suggestion was made to compile a list of readers for each Sunday during the past year to use by deacons as resource going forward. We will need a volunteer or two to tackle this.

Pastor's Report:

Cabinet unanimously approved our participation in the Thriving Congregations Project, a four-year program of the Vibrant Faith group. Our application was submitted yesterday. Within six months, the Vibrant Faith Leadership team will interview applicant churches and select six. If selected, we will identify a team of six to work closely with them. That team will include Derek (pastor), Katie Welch (Christian Education director), Kristina (music director), a deacon, and two others. This team will work through new programs to build membership and practices of faith.

Ethan Emerson believes he can fashion a baptismal font and a bowl from the white oak available from the steeple. He is working on ideas for the design. We have paid him \$1,000 as a deposit - half of the total project cost of \$2,000.

We now have new paraments for all seasons.

Trustees approved the use of the classrooms on the first floor for quilting at the request of Marjohn Love who wants to organize two quilting sessions per week for church members. The first project is to be quilt comprised of blocks made by church members and their families.

Security cameras are being considered for the church property.

Palm Sunday falls on the first Sunday of the month so it will be a communion service; a Maundy Thursday Service is planned for Holy Week and will take place in Fellowship Hall. Easter is April 12.

A few years ago, committees were asked to put together a wish list from which church members could provide birthday gifts to the church for Pentecost Sunday. He asked us to consider doing so again this year. In Derek's old church each committee was tasked with conducting a fundraiser. One fundraiser was a "pound auction" which involved people bidding for unidentified, wrapped items weighing 1-, 2-, or 3-pounds. Pound auctions can raise \$300 to \$400 dollars.

Derek updated us on visitations and reported that Zack and Nate are working on website development. He also mentioned that Ginny Stansfield is in need of a landscaper. Janice reported that Liz Pszenny was grateful to us for the church funeral services.

Cabinet News:

Kristina Martin's job title will be changed from Children's' Music Director to Assistant Music Director and Katie Welch will be offered the position of Christian Education Director on a permanent basis.

Membership Committee News:

The display boards have been assembled and covered with black cloth. For the Diaconate Committee board, we need to create posters with our names and photos and descriptions of what the diaconate does. This information is to go on 14" by 22" card stock backed by foam. Jim rolled a display board into the meeting and showed us the materials to use to create our display. Ideas to include on the diaconate board include baptism, communion, and the Living Memorial Fund.

Pastor's Review:

This should have been completed in October. Derek offered to get five copies of the new UCC manual on ministry for the new members of the committee. Members who served last year already have a copy of the manual.

Membership List Review:

Jim and Geof are updating Power Church. In addition, they think an organizational flow chart would be useful.

Fifth Sundays:

The fifth Sundays this year are in March, May, August, and November. Some ideas for a different worship service were discussed including coming to Church to sing and pray or doing something for the community then coming back to the

church for a blessing. Other ideas included a Taize service, a healing service, a service of contemporary music, or bible study on a particular passage.

Time During Worship for Committee Briefs:

We agreed to give committees other than Outreach a chance to speak with the congregation for one to three minutes during service. Jim will mention to Jay that Outreach will not be guaranteed the pulpit every Sunday. Laurie will ask Katie if she is interested in this opportunity for CE and when she might want to present. It would be a good idea to develop a schedule of presenters.

Bible Replacement:

There was an extensive discussion on this during the September 2019 Diaconate meeting. It may be that the committee decided that half of the replacement bibles should be large print. Janice and Jim will look for their notes from this meeting and update us next month.

Ongoing Business:

Scripture Readers Schedule: Get volunteers for the last three months of this year. Compile a complete list of readers for each Sunday last year to help deacons recruit readers this year.

Living Memorial Fund: Fund balance is less than \$14,613.26. Figure corrected 4/19/2020 jcs.

Replacement Advent Banner Update: Karen Chambers, Regina Reis, and Bonnie Gray will get together in October to work on replicating the banners Patricia Reed created using a more permanent medium. They will bring ideas to our committee.

New Members Directory: Jim volunteered to research the possibility of members uploading photos of their choice rather than using the services of a professional photographer.

Smart TV for Morgan Room: Jim has been talking to Geof Lyon about installing a smart TV on the wall in the Morgan Room for video conferencing as well as putting a speakerphone on the table.

Future Agenda Items:

Pastor's review

5th Sundays

Membership list review

Time during worship service for committees to report to the congregation on a rotating basis

Bible replacement

New Member (Photo) Directory

Rocking Chair(s) for the back of the church for use during service

Committee Display Board Creation

Adjournment:

Next meeting: April 1, 2020

Meeting adjourned: 1:15 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie McKenna

MINUTES FEBRUARY

Attendance : Laurie McKenna, James Schell, Janice Ramsden, Andrena Huntsman, David Emerson, Pam Beck, and Camilla Ayers. Also attending from noon on, the Rev. Derek van Gulden

Opening the Meeting: Jim Schell gave a prayer.

Election of Officers: A suggestion was made and adopted that the committee elect both a chairperson and a vice chairperson. Officers for this year are as follows.

Chairperson - Jim Schell

Vice Chairperson - Janice Ramsden

Secretary - Laurie McKenna

Nominating Committee Representative - Jim Schell

Membership Committee Representative - Jim Schell

Old Sloop Fleet for Congregational Care - David Emerson

Cabinet Representative - Camilla Ayers

To facilitate communication, the secretary collected phone numbers and email addresses which will be distributed to committee members separately. There was a brief introduction to the role and function of the Diaconate including our responsibility for writing cards and updating the prayer list which is separate from that printed in the bulletin. The committee also arranges for scripture readers for Sunday services. Jim will call Karen Chambers to find out if readers have been identified for March. Going forward, committee members will volunteer for getting readers for a few months at a time. Janice Ramsden

volunteered to take this on for the months of March, and April. As chairman, Jim is responsible for setting the agenda and adding items to it.

Review of the January 2020 and December 2019 meetings:

A correction to the December meeting minutes was noted. An amended version will be distributed to committee members and the church office. As new members did not have a copy of the January meeting minutes, the secretary will distribute them for discussion and approval at the next meeting.

March 1, 2020 Communion:

Bread provider: Janice Ramsden

Preparers: Janice Ramsden and Camilla Ayers

Servers: Janice Ramsden, Laurie McKenna, Jim Schell, and David Emerson.

Pastor's Report:

Rev. van Gulden reported the theft of a wallet from the church kitchen this week. He advised the committee everyone needs to be vigilant about locking doors and cognizant of people in the church who look out of place.

Derek reminded us the Active Shooter/Armed Intruder Response training will be held in the Sanctuary on Thursday February 27 at 6pm. He encouraged all to attend.

Regarding the search for a baptismal font, Derek is exploring the possibility that Ethan Emerson could make a functional, wood baptismal font for the church for approximately \$2,000. It may even be possible to use some wood from the church steeple for the new font. The committee was receptive to this idea. Rev. van Gulden updated the Deacons on visitations. New deacon Pam Beck has accompanied him on many of these visits and will continue to do so. Rev. Van Gulden provided a progress update on the new website project that involves rebranding the church. A website developer and photographer have been engaged and a videographer has been identified. There was a zoom meeting on January 28. The target date for project completion is Palm Sunday.

Rev. van Gulden also briefed the committee on what he does for our community (in addition to his work for our congregation) in advance of his evaluation. Outside activities and responsibilities include: Sunday service at Den-Mar eight times a year; Seacoast Committee meeting once a month; the prayer or invocation at the Memorial Day Celebration; the Firefighters Memorial Service; the invocation or benediction at the 911 Ceremony; Town Meeting prayer (some years); President of Rotary this year; Disaster Response and Relief Team (DRRT) of the Southern New England Conference, UCC. Regarding the last, Derek is

working on becoming a disaster Chaplin and getting American Red Cross Certification. Also, he spends the week of Labor Day on retreat at the Craigville Conference Center every year. His contract allows for two weeks a year on retreat or in workshops or classes and four weeks of vacation each year.

Cabinet News: No report.

Membership Committee News:

Discussed the cost of the boards that will be used to list committees and their respective duties. The committee approved up to \$1,250 in expenditures from the Living Memorial for this purpose with the intent to reimburse Geoff Lyon and Jim for expenses incurred. Jim will fill out the necessary forms for Janice and Derek's signatures and submit the signed forms to the church office so checks can be issued.

Ongoing Business:

Living Memorial Fund: Fund balance was \$17,281.43 as of December 31, 2019. Jim provided an update on efforts to record services. He ordered a gadget that enables recording from a camera for this purpose. Committee voted to approve up to \$175 for this device. Jim will email the receipt to the Committee.

Replacement Advent Banner Update: Karen Chambers, Regina Reis, and Bonnie Gray will get together in October to work on replicating the banners Patricia Reed created using a more permanent medium. They will bring ideas to our committee.

New Members Directory: This issue was raised during January but not discussed during this meeting.

Smart TV for Morgan Room: Jim has been talking to Geoff Lyon about installing a smart TV on the wall in the Morgan Room for video conferencing as well as putting a speakerphone on the table.

Future Agenda Items:

Pastor's review

5th Sundays

Membership list review

Time at worship service for committees to report to the congregation on a rotating basis

Bible replacement

New Member (Photo) Directory

Adjournment:

Next meeting: March 1, 2020

Meeting adjourned: 1:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie McKenna

MEETING MINUTES December 1, 2019 (CORRECTED February 23, 2020)

Attendance: Chairwoman Karen Chambers, James Schell, Barbara Reed and Janice Ramsden

Also attending: The Rev. Derek van Gulden

Opening the Meeting: Chairwoman Karen Chambers opened the meeting at 11:53am with prayer.

Review and approval of the November 2019 meeting: Minutes approved.

January 5, 2020 Communion:

Preparers: Karen Chambers and Barbara Reed.

Servers: Karen Chambers, Barbara Reed, James Schell and Janice Ramsden.

Pastor's Report:

Rev. van Gulden reminded the Deacons that he will be on vacation Dec. 3-10.

The Rev. Liz Rice-Smith will be covering the pastor's duties while he is on vacation.

Cabinet News:

Copies of the Cabinet Meeting were distributed.

Membership Committee News:

There was a discussion regarding rolling panels that would display all committees and committee duties. Chairwoman Chambers reminded the committee that if there is a request for funds from the Living Memorial Fund, a written proposal should be submitted to the Deacons. James Schell will research other ways to display the information.

Also discussed was the need to update the church directory.

On Going Business:

Camera to record services:

James Schell reported that the camera is set up and working

Brides Room: Chairwoman Chambers reported that the vote was 6 in favor and

one opposed to refreshing the Brides Room. Regina has begun reupholstering the furniture.

Christmas Eve services: Plans are complete for the 8 pm service. Kristina, Katie and Rev. van Gulden are working on plans for the 4 pm service.

Decorating the church for Christmas:

The vestibule had been decorated for Christmas. (It looks great) Help is needed to repair the wall hangings for the sanctuary.

Rev. Derek reported that the Nativity is not up. The statue of Joseph is broken.

IT WAS VOTED:

To purchase from the Living Memorial Fund (up to \$400) a driftwood nativity.

Regina Reis will be the contact for all Church business.

The Diaconate Meeting end at 12:45.

Respectfully submitted

Janis Ramsden / Jim Schell

CABINET

MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 23, 2020

Present: Jack Reed, Moderator, chair, and Christian Education Committee; Rev. Derek van Gulden, Pastor; Bruce Coates, Treasurer; Jay Reed, Treasurer of Mission Funds; Lou Cannon, Personnel Committee; Bob Cannon, Music Committee; Bonnie Gray, Trustees; Camilla Ayers, Diaconate; Stephen Kalaghan, Christian Outreach Committee; Jim Schell, Membership Committee; Dan Bing, Stewardship Committee; and Geof Lyon, Clerk and recording secretary.

Handouts: Agenda, Draft Minutes of Cabinet Meeting January 19, 2020; Draft Minutes of Annual Meeting January 26, 2020; Year-to-Date Operating Summary and Cash and Investment Summary for January 31, 2020

Action, Discussion, and Follow-up Items

Declaration of a quorum, approval of minutes.

Moderator Jack Reed observed that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. Rev. Derek van Gulden led the assembly in prayer.

The minutes of the January 19 meeting were reviewed. Jay Reed observed that the Outreach Committee was unable to make planned payments to Church World Service

and Heifer International in 2019. Geof Lyon observed that it was the back porch of the Waring Building that was repaired. The minutes were approved as amended by voice vote.

Vibrant Faith

Rev. Derek reminded us that the Vibrant Faith organization seeks to bring vitality to congregations with the help of funds from a Lily grant. Our church is one of 12 in the Southern New England Conference to be evaluated for their Thriving Congregations Initiative, and the organization will select 6. The project could help us build our faith formation program. Rev. Derek, Katie Welch, and Liz Rice-Smith have all expressed interest in participating. Rev. Derek made a motion that the church move forward with the Vibrant Faith Thriving Congregations initiative and apply for one of the 6 slots. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote.

Committee Organization

Several more committees reported their chairs, secretaries, cabinet representatives, and nominating committee representatives, and the list is nearly complete:

Committee	Chair	Secretary	Cabinet Representative	Nominating Committee Representative
Diaconate	Jim Schell	Laurie McKenna	Camilla Ayers	Jim Schell
Trustees	Walter Vining	Mark Jurewicz	Bonnie Gray	Kevin Love
Outreach	Jay Reed	Ann Kistner/ Marge Schell	Stephen Kalaghan	Darlene Spittle
Christian Ed	Jack Reed	Karen Hurst	Jack Reed	Laurie McKenna
Music	Sigi Lindo/Bob Cannon	Bob Cannon	Bob Cannon	Bob Cannon
Stewardship	Louisa Casadei-Johnson	Joe Chambers/ Dan Bing	Joe Chambers/ Dan Bing	Kathie McCarthy
Membership	Sigi Lindo/Ruth Janet Taylor	Jim Schell	Jim Schell	
Personnel	Lou Cannon	Laurie McKenna	Lou Cannon	

Annual Meeting

Jack pointed out that the church is implementing the decisions that were made at the annual meeting. The policy on confidentiality of pledges and contributions was revised. And there will be changes in the pledge process because of the effectiveness of the last-minute plea for pledges.

Active Shooter

Jack reminded us that the active shooter training session will take place Thursday February 27 at 6:00PM. There should be a good representation from every committee.

Christian Education Director Position

Lou Cannon reported that the Personnel Committee believes that Katie Welch, who is now the interim Christian Education director, should be given the permanent position under a one-year agreement. Katie's work has gotten excellent reviews. She is taking coursework on combining children's and adult programs. She would remain at her current hours and salary.

Confidentiality of Pledges and Contributions

Geof Lyon reported that the minister and the chair of the Stewardship Committee have been given PowerChurch accounts with the necessary privileges for them to see information about pledges and contributions. The chair of the Diaconate will be given a similar PowerChurch account.

Officer Reports

Treasurer: Bruce Coates distributed the Year-to-Date Operating Summary and Cash and Investment Summary as of January 31. He pointed out that net income is \$3,076.78 better than budget. He reminded us that although encouraging, results for one month of the year aren't very significant. There are no unusual needs for funds looming, so the \$17,730.90 of the contingency fund that is now at Institution for Savings will be moved to the Fidelity investment account.

Committee Reports

Trustees: Bonnie Gray reported that the sanctuary ceiling has been painted. Verizon has added some equipment to their cell tower installation and increased their rent payments by \$250/month. Bob Cannon is working on a questionnaire to find out how people feel about locking doors while the building is occupied but the Trustees decided to wait until after the active shooter training. The gutters need to be cleaned and Walter Vining is investigating gutter cleaning services. Rockport Music would like to rent the preschool room for a brief period. A representative from Pella Window visited to inspect the problematic windows in the Waring Building. Pella will send a report. The

playground equipment belongs to Rainbow Day School, and they will remove it. The trustees are working on installing pans to catch any water that might come through the louvres and vents above the sanctuary ceiling. The grease trap in the kitchen leaked and wrecked the pots and pans that were stored there. New ones have been purchased. The old, inoperative stair lift has been removed, and Walter will install a cabinet for the pots and pans in the vacated space. Jim Schell discovered a minor air leak in the sanctuary fire suppression system. Eagle Fire Suppression will check it.

Outreach Committee: Stephen Kalaghan reported that the outreach treasury and pastor's fund balances are good. The collection for One Great Hour of Sharing will take place in March. The committee discussed the disposition of the Easter offering. The next Family Promise week will be in May.

Stewardship Committee: Dan Bing reported that lessons learned from the last stewardship season will affect plans for future campaigns. The committee is working on thank you cards using artwork by David Arsenault. Rev. Derek encouraged members of the stewardship committee to attend Super Saturday workshops. The committee is working on fundraising improvements.

Membership Committee: Jim Schell reported that the information boards have arrived and are ready for committees to post topics of interest. The committee is working on a church organization chart. The committee would like to create a new church directory but wants to improve the quality of the data in PowerChurch first.

Music Committee: Bob Cannon reported that the committee will create some topic panels for the information boards.

Personnel Committee: Lou Cannon made a motion that Kristina Martin's title be changed to Assistant Music Director. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote. There will be no change in Kristina's hours or salary. The Personnel Manual has not been updated in a long time, and Bob Cannon has offered to help with an update.

New Business

Lou suggested that we conduct exit interview for people leaving committees. Geof added that we should conduct training when people join committees. Jack agreed to investigate.

Date of Next Cabinet Meeting:

The Cabinet will next meet in the Morgan Room at 7:00PM on March 15.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:51PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Geof Lyon, Clerk
SUBJECT TO APPROVAL



TRUSTEES

MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 10, 2020

Trustee Meeting – called to order at 7:01 PM. Jim Schell opened the meeting with a prayer.

Present: Bruce Coates, Treasurer; Mark Jurewicz; Bonnie Gray; Walter Vining; Kevin Love; Bill Elwell; Bob Cannon, CIC; Geof Lyon & Jim Schell, Building Study Committee

Absent: Chip Kistner; Rev. Derek van Gulden

- **Minutes:** Minutes from the January 13, 2019 meeting were reviewed and approved.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Bruce presented the Treasurer's Report. A motion was made and approved to move \$17,730.90 from the savings account contingency fund to the Fidelity contingency fund.
- **Monthly Reviews:**
 - Bank Statements:** Walt reviewed September through December with no issues but did note a discount is available if the propane bill is paid sooner.
 - PEX Statements:** Not available for review.

Old Business:

- **Building Study Committee (BSC) Update –**
 - **Sanctuary Ceiling Paint** – After meeting with Painters Pride representative and a subsequent inspection report from them, the Trustees voted via email to have the peeling areas of the ceiling hand scraped, prepared and painted to match the rest of the ceiling as best as possible. The cornice, center section of the west wall and wall behind the altar will also be painted. Work began 2/10 and is expected to be completed within 1 week.
- **Exit Door Replacement** – Installation is still pending.
- **Steeple Lighting** – Bill will draft a thank you letter to John Weaver who developed the lighting design at no charge to the church. The question of illuminating the façade was

raised. It was decided to evaluate simply using the light fixtures on either side of the blue doors.

- **Critical Incident Committee (CIC) Update** – Armed Intruder/Active Shooter presentation by the police has been confirmed for 2/27. Basic information and links to online video & training program are being made available through bulletin inserts, email and Log article. Members of all major committees, ushers, program coordinators (coffeehouse, pot luck, Family Promise, etc.) and church staff are highly encouraged to attend.
- **Cell Tower** – Verizon will add an additional line inside the steeple. The monthly payments are expected to increase by \$240 beginning in March. There is also some hope another carrier will want to install a line.

New Business:

- **Door Locking Policy** – The Cabinet asked Bob Cannon to raise the need for a door locking policy with the Trustees. It was agreed that this issue would have a very broad impact on the entire church due to the variety of our activities and would require input from staff, all church committees and tenants. Bob will draft a questionnaire and forward to Trustees for review.
- **Smart TV** – A smart TV was donated for use in the Morgan Room to display presentations and possibly for committee members to Skype in to meetings they cannot physically attend. It was agreed to initially place the TV on a stand and monitor its usage. Wall mounting will be considered if needed.
- **Gutter Cleaning** – Walt reviewed estimates from 3 gutter cleaning companies. Questions of liability insurance and workers compensation were raised. Walt will ask the insurance company to clarify what limits we should require when hiring contractors.
- **Rental Space** – Rockport Music has asked to rent the former day school space for a short period in June/July. If the space is still vacant it was agreed the rental rate should be \$150/day with a reduced rate for full weeks. Questions regarding the actual hours and any clean-up still need to be addressed.
- **Pella Consultant** – Broken/inoperable windows in the Law House were discussed. In a subsequent email string Trustees agreed to have a Pella Consultant make an inspection and possibly make repairs.
- **Playground Equipment** – It was determined that Rainbow Day School owns the equipment and will work to have it removed soon.
- **Drain Pans** – Bob Levesque will evaluate installation of drain pans to prevent the potential of water leaking onto the Sanctuary ceiling.
- **Storage Cabinet** – The need to add new storage for pots and pans was identified. Jim Schell has volunteered to remove the inoperable chair lift which frees up space at the top of the stairs just outside the kitchen. Walt will build a platform and install a storage unit there.

- **Sprinkler System Leak** – Jim Schell identified a leak in the system under the Sanctuary. The fire protection company will be notified.
- **Balusters** – Bruce identified 2 broken/missing balusters on the 2nd floor of the Law House. Bill will evaluate.

A copy of this report will be forwarded to the editor of The Old Sloop Log. There being no further business, the Board of Trustees adjourned at 8:21pm.

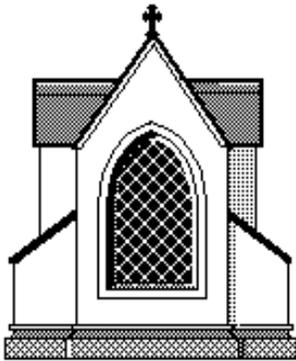
The next scheduled meeting of the Trustees will be Monday, March 9, 2020.

Walter Vining

Chair, Board of Trustees

Mark Jurewicz

Recording Secretary



Stewardship Committee

STEWARDSHIP MARCH-APRIL 2020

The first meeting of the 2020 Stewardship Committee took place on February 18 with Louisa Casadei-Johnson, Kathie McCarthy, Rev. Derek van Gulden and new member Dan Bing in attendance. Joe Chambers was absent. Dan brings valued experience, new ideas and enthusiasm to our group. We discussed the activities and responsibilities of the year ahead. We met again in early March before the Covid mayhem hit and were forced to postpone our April meeting. We plan to hold a meeting via Zoom technology soon. Following is an abridged version of our February meeting minutes and our March minutes.

We hope you had a prayerful Lent and were able to enjoy our beautiful Easter service via Zoom or Facebook. Many of us probably had Easter dinner without the usual loved ones at table with us. We continue to experience life in a different way, at a physical distance but still connected via technology and prayer. The beauty of spring is still out there-- by the ocean, in our gardens as new growth pops up, and in the spirit of those in the front lines and the rest of us, too, as we pray for recoveries, a vaccine, a cure.

I received the following email from one of our assistant treasurers a few weeks ago. I was pleased and proud, but not surprised.

I want you to all know that I processed 15 donations today... many of which were fairly large checks to catch up for the past few missed weeks. As I process receipts, I am often impressed by our parishioners' consciousness and generosity. But I think this is really exceptional.

Thank you all for the financial and spiritual support you give our church and church family.

Louisa Casadei-Johnson, Chairperson, Stewardship Committee

Abridged draft of Stewardship Meeting, February 18, 2020

The meeting began shortly after 4:30 with a prayer led by Louisa.

Louisa asked for someone to take notes for the minutes and I, Dan, offered to for this meeting. I took this opportunity to explain my situation with the care of my mother, which *might* lead to me “moving in” as the 24/7 layer of her care. If this does occur I recommended that I get conferenced in by phone to our meetings. Derek mentioned that this would be another opportunity to build support for the church to install the Smart TV in the Morgan room. Zoom Video Conferencing or another such platform could be utilized to connect remote individuals to meetings. He explained that other committees and office personnel could benefit from this as well.

We then went on to selecting New Officers. (Derek recommended we consider July and December as months that we and other committees take a break and don't meet). Here's the outcome:

Chairperson – Louisa Casadei-Johnson, Thank you Louisa!

Secretary – Dan for this meeting, but one will be chosen for each meeting. This may rotate between Joe, and me. (I deliver narrative notes for the benefit of those not in attendance among other reasons; I feel this is best practice)

Cabinet Rep-- Joe and Dan rather than rotation among the committee. Joe highlighted there would be times when the Rep is given a task, or a topic would carry forward for a few meetings, and continuity is important to maintain.

Nominating Committee Rep – Kathie McCarthy agreed to represent the committee again this year. Thank you Kathie!

We then voted to approve the minutes from the Jan. 7, 2020 meeting with a motion from Dan and a second from Kathie.

Louisa then moved to **Old/Ongoing Business** and the **Pledge campaign** topic and reported an 8% increase in pledges. 6% was the goal/ask so this was great news to the team. There were some good “Lessons Learned” this year. Firstly, clear goals were established at the outset of the campaign. Also a huge contributing factor was the effort made in January 2020 to reach out to people who had yet to renew a 2019 pledge. Louisa sent emails out to these individuals and this resulted in approx. \$24K in renewed pledges in a weeks time. The last lesson learned mentioned was to start earlier next year-This is reflected in the 2020 calendar.

Thank You Cards were discussed. Wording was edited, Kathie will pass this on to Regina and Louisa will reconnect in on March 5 when she returns from vacation in regards to having them signed and mailed. It was recommended that approx. 15 cards be distributed to each committee member for their signature and all of our names be printed on the bottom of the insert.

Kathie brought up that there were numerous inaccuracies on the labels used for the Pledge Campaign. Louisa reported the discrepancies we noted were passed on to Geof Lyon and corrected in the church database, PowerChurch. Dan asked about the database in use by the church. Louisa explained what she knew about PowerChurch and will connect Geof and me on this. This is an area I have experience in and could potentially be of assistance with.

Derek departed the meeting for another commitment and we went on to the **Resolution** approved at Annual Meeting allowing the Pastor and Stewardship Chair, among others, to know the identity of pledgers and the amounts pledged. The committee decided to move discussion of the impact of this change on the pledge drive and strategy to the next meeting.

Fundraisers was a fun topic and we'll talk about these at future meetings as well. Joe will report back on the possibility of holding a similar event to what is done at Shea's each Spring and Fall at the Fish Shack. Dan brought up the possibility of adding events and Louisa added that it would be great if every committee was tasked with developing a fundraising event. Ideas we discussed included a "Time & Talent" auction, a Trivia Night, and a Pound Auction.

Where the **Cookbooks** reside is still up in the air. Marcia Myers would like to find a new home with a committee or individual/individuals.

New Business was next and Louisa recommended I, Dan, be put on the agenda for the next meeting, primarily to offer an overview of my background so we can decide collectively what benefit my skills could be to the team. I mentioned one being my experience with relationship management platforms. I'm a big advocate of audience engagement as a way to improve involvement with an organization both from a financial and volunteering perspective. I also added that I'm comfortable using the telephone as a tool to achieve effective engagement.

Prior to leaving the meeting, Derek had raised a few bits of new business. One was the possibility of doing another **Narrative Budget for the 2021 campaign**. Another was for the **committee to have a goal this year of making it possible to donate and pledge on-line**. Many people have approached him about this and it does make sense to make this a reality.

He also gave a quick update on the **new website**. It should be up by Palm Sunday and each committee will need to do a brief write up. (Maybe Louisa can do this for us?) The site is the main feature of our rebranding effort and will deliver the "Welcoming" theme we are known for. Finally, he discussed **Concept/Public Bulletin Boards for the church**. Derek mentioned an 8-panel option with pictures to highlight what our church community does. They would be placed in various locations around the church and would satisfy the many comments about our church being seasonal and/or used only for occasions like funerals and weddings. Great idea!

The **Next Meeting** will be held on March 10 or 12 at 7:00 where topics will include identifying New Ideas, discussing the Resolution, and Dan's introduction.

Meeting **adjourned** at 5:57...how about that for time mgmt.?!

Submitted by Dan Bing

Stewardship Committee Minutes—March 10, 2020

DRAFT

In attendance: Louisa Casadei-Johnson, Kathie McCarthy, Joe Chambers. The meeting began at 7:10 pm with prayer led by Louisa.

Discussion opened on the topic of the Stewardship meeting minutes.

- Minutes should be produced in DRAFT form shortly after each meeting and distributed via email to the group for comments/corrections. If any corrections are necessary, they should be completed as soon as possible.
- DRAFT version should be sent to Susan Lillis sglillis56@gmail.com for inclusion in the Old Sloop Log.
- Once approved at the next cabinet meeting the FINAL version should be sent to Regina for archival.
- Joe noted that minutes should not include a detailed recap of the meeting so that members feel free to speak openly in our setting.
- The recording secretary should determine the appropriate level of detail to be included.

Thank you notes for the Stewardship Campaign are ready for mailing.

Offering Envelope updates will be addressed by Geof Lyons and the treasurers.

A brief discussion was held on the next campaign, should we start earlier? Who should receive pledge packets? It was agreed to add an agenda item for the next meeting to discuss a more strategic campaign.

Fish Shack is willing to hold a Fundraiser Dinner for us in which we would receive 15% of food sales. Joe is sending our preferred dates of either 4/30 or 5/7.

Automated pledging (ACH transfers from bank) was briefly discussed as was the desire to do a narrative budget for this year.

- What do we need for a narrative budget?
- Who do we work with?
- What about website?

It was agreed to table both topics until next meeting. Louisa will bring a copy of the previous Narrative Budget.

Next meeting was set for 4/9 at 7 PM

Meeting Adjourned at 7:58 pm

Membership Committee

MEETING NOTES FEBRUARY 20, 2020

- I. Pastor Derek Van Gulden. Geof Lyon, Ruth Janet Taylor, Jim Schell
- II. Prayer Pastor Derek open with Prayer.

- III. The minutes of January Membership Meeting reviewed and approved with one change to date of February meeting, Feb. 20 in Morgan Room.
- IV. Review of Membership position
 - a. Chair shared position Ruth Janet Taylor and Sigi Lindo.
 - b. Secretary position Jim Schell.
 - c. Representative to Cabinet Jim Schell.
- V. Discussion of new members and those possibly interested.
- VI. Rolling Panels
 - a. Geof will circulate instructions for panels to committees.
 - b. Covered with black cloth. Works well with push pins.
 - c. Supplies and instructions in back office.
 - d. Computer set up for working on panels with laser printer.
 - e. Be sure to produce in triplicate.
- VII. Church organization chart. This will be finalized in coming weeks.
- VIII. The committee decided that the Power Church data base and updates comes under Membership's responsibility. Geof will start to create forms for us to proceed in collecting and correcting information. It was decided to do this by telephone in most cases.
- IX. Next meeting will be Thursday, March 19, 2020.

Respectfully submitted

Jim Schell

Practices of Faith in the United Church of Christ

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee is continuing to offer a writing on one of twelve practices of faith in the United Church of Christ. This month, we offer the UCC's discussion of scripture. We hope that considering these will stimulate your thinking about your faith and the First Congregational Church of Rockport (FCCR). We invite you to read the following, whether you are new to the church or have been here a long time.

Practices of Faith in the United Church of Christ

Scripture

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:1

The United Church of Christ looks to the Word of God in the Scriptures, and to the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, to prosper its creative and redemptive work in the world.

Preamble to the Constitution of the United Church of Christ, 1997

What is the Bible? What is Scripture?

The Bible is a book that contains the sacred writings of both Jews and Christians. These writings are called Scripture. The words Bible and Scripture are used interchangeably. Scripture means “sacred writings,” and Bible means “library.” It is a book made up of many books. Before the Bible was written, the Scriptures were passed down from generation to generation as songs and stories. They tell the human story and the relationship and action of God with humankind. For Protestants, the Bible contains 66 books -- 39 in the Old Testament (sometimes referred to as the Hebrew Scriptures) and 27 books in the New Testament. The New Testament Scriptures begin with the birth of Jesus. Christians refer to the Bible and the Scriptures as Holy since the Bible is believed to be “God’s Book, one that tells the story of God with the creation, one through which God speaks” (from “The UCC and the Word,” Avery D. Post (1980), Office for Church Life and Leadership). Christians look to the Bible for the Word of God.

How is Scripture used in the United Church of Christ?

Scripture holds authority for the life and mission of the United Church of Christ. It is the foundation of our faith and practice. What we do as a church is rooted in Scripture. We baptize because Scriptures tell us to do so. In the stories of God acting in history, of Jesus’ life, teachings, death, and resurrection, we begin to understand who God is and how God works with us. The stories that form us as a people of God are found in the Scriptures. In these stories we find our identity. Scripture helps all Christians to understand who they are, their calling or mission, and how they need to act both individually and as a church – God’s people gathered. That is why the Bible is read both privately and publicly in a variety of settings. In our church services, the readings from Scripture provide a focus for the sermon, which is intended to expand and provide relevance for the worshiper. The Scripture provides the basis for the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion. Bible stories provide the foundation for church school education. Often, people within a community form Bible study groups. Some people read the Bible daily for their own personal devotions.

How is the Bible interpreted in the church?

The church turns again and again to the Bible for God's word of promise in and for the community of faith. The church in every place and time must be deeply involved in discerning the relevance of the message of Scripture to contemporary issues and our constantly changing culture.

How do we read the Bible?

There are many ways in which we can read the Bible. Some like to begin at the beginning in the book of Genesis and read book by book through to the end. Others may choose to read the Bible thematically. A common way of reading the Bible is through the *lectionary*, a list of readings from the Bible (Scriptures) for the church. Although there is more than one style of lectionary, the one in most common use is the Revised Common Lectionary and the one used in the United Church of Christ. The widespread use of the lectionary makes it possible for people in various denominations to share the same stories during the same week, at the same time of year. The cycle of readings is spread over three years, organized as years A, B, and C. The lectionary provides great variety for Sunday worship as it winds its way through the Bible stories and the seasons of the church year. For each Sunday, there is a selection from the Old Testament, a psalm, and Epistle (a letter, from the writings of Paul, for example), and a Gospel reading from Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John. The idea dates from very early times in the church, as the lectionary was used as a way of educating people into the Christian life. Some pastors of local churches in the UCC do not use the lectionary, but instead make their own Scripture selections. Some hymnals and curricula are based on the lectionary.

What about translations?

"Translation" refers to a particular version of the Bible in a particular language. The original Scriptures were primarily in Greek and Hebrew. Throughout the history of the church, these original Scriptures have been translated into various languages. Earliest translations were in Latin. One of the early English versions is the King James Version of 1611, still in use today. Others include the Revised Standard Version, published in 1952, and the Jerusalem Bible in 1966. Today in the United Church of Christ, the Bible is read in many languages and translations. The New Revised Standard Version, published in 1989, is now used with great frequency in the United Church of Christ. There are also *paraphrases* of the Bible. These are written in contemporary language and take some liberties with the original text. Examples of these are *The Living Bible* (1971), *The Cotton Patch Bible*, and the *Contemporary English Version*. Reading from a variety of paraphrases or translations can add much interest to a Bible study group.

At the First Congregational Church of Rockport, all are welcome. We are happy to receive new members and welcome friends with gratitude, who for various reasons, have decided not to become members. Many of these friends function the same as members, taking leadership positions in the church and giving many volunteer hours to church activities. In fact, at FCCR, membership is required only for voting on congregational issues and serving as a Deacon or on the Membership Committee.

Foundation

For where two or three are gathered in my name. I am there among them.

– Matthew 18:20 (NRSV)

Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for one another, a tender heart, and humble mind. Do not repay evil for evil or abuse for abuse; but, on the contrary, repay with a blessing. It is for this that you are called that you might inherit a blessing.

– 1Peter 3:8-9 (NRSV)

I enjoy attending the church. Isn't that enough?

Is it necessary to actually become a member?

Joining a congregation is an important step and not one to take lightly. It is significant not only for the individual who becomes a member, but also for the congregation. In becoming a member, a person says, "Yes, I am a part of the church. This community is central to my life." A congregation says, "Yes, you are part of this congregation. We are blessed by the gifts and perspective of persons who are new among us."

Why become a member of a congregation?

One of the distinctive characteristics of Christian faith is that it is shared. It occurs in community, in the company of others. From its Old Testament beginnings -- Genesis 12:2, "I will make of you a great people" -- to the New Testament -- Matthew 18:20, "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am in the midst of them" -- this faith has drawn people into community with others who share their vision, story, values, hopes, and dreams. While personal faith and individual commitment are essential, it is God's purpose to create a *people*, who are "salt of the earth and light of the world" (Matthew 5:13-14).

Furthermore, a congregation, said the early Christian teacher Paul, is like a body. He described the church as "the body of Christ." No one person is the whole body, each is a part. We need each other's gifts to complement our own. Our own faith is strengthened, tested, and deepened as we share in the life of a community of faith.



Christian Education Youth Ministry News

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND FAITH FORMATION

Welcome to the world of virtual ministry! As we are adapting we have created some new ways to connect on line. We started of the “stay at home” with an on line scavenger hunt and various games to keep us occupied during this time.

Our new schedule, via zoom, is as follows:

Sunday nights @ 7 pm. Youth Group check-in. Grades 6 – 12.

Tuesday/Thursday nights @ 7 pm. Trivia Game Nights (All ages welcome)

Wednesday nights @ 7:30 pm. Young Adult check-in (High school grads, college students and college grads welcome)

We have been able to connect from all of the US, from Colorado to Iowa to Florida. If anyone is interested in joining, please email me and I will get you the zoom links.

Derek and I also have our Wednesday night Bible Study @ 5 pm via Zoom.

I am also working on a couple of projects on line including a photo project (more to come if you haven't been asked to participate), a video project and a virtual art show. If you have any item of art that you have worked on during this “stay at home” please email me. Anything goes!

Katie Welch
Youth Director
Welchkaitlyn9@gmailcom

Christian Outreach Committee



MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 9, 2020

PRESENT: Steve Kalaghan, Ann Kistner, Jay Reed, Marge Schell, Darlene Spittle,
Diane Westman, Wendy Woodbury

Jay called the meeting to order at 11:30 and read 1 Corinthians 13.

The Committee elected the following: Chair, Jay Reed; Cabinet Representative, Steve Kalaghan; Recording Secretaries, Marge Schell and Ann Kistner; Nominating Representative, Darlene Spittle.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The balance in the Wider Mission Treasury as of January 31, 2020 is \$4347.54. Each month the Outreach Committee receives 13% of pledges received under the unified budget. The Committee decided to leave our budget as is and see how monies come in. This allows flexibility to increase monies to groups we initially decreased. Basic Support will remain the same under a unified budget.

PASTOR'S FUND: The Pastor's Fund has a good balance for this time of year. We discussed a recent request for help through the Fund. The Committee is discussing the most appropriate way to help the person requesting assistance. No decision was made.

POT LUCK: An average of 20 people have been participating in Pot Luck. Wendy said that the problem with the grease trap under the sink has been repaired. The area under the sink needs to be painted with special paint before pots and pans can be stored there. Water temperature in the kitchen still does not seem hot enough for the sterilizer. A temporary cabinet has been put in a corner by the back stairs for pots and pans.

FAMILY PROMISE: Our Family Promise host week finished this morning. There were a few changes in guests' schedules during the week. The Center kept us very well informed of changes and updates. This helped the week run smoothly. Our next host week is May 10- 17, 2020. Sign-ups will begin in early April.

ACTION LUNCHES: Lunches were prepared and delivered to Action on Jan 28. Our next date is April 28, 2020.

OPEN DOOR: A meal was prepared and served at Open Door February 1, 2020. There have been changes in Gloucester Board of Health policies for serving at Open Door. We will need to prepare the meal in a certified kitchen or at Open Door. We are discussing which option would work best for us. Derek suggested that 4-5 people from the congregation be Serve Safe certified. Serve Safe trains persons to cook according to Board of Health regulations.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING: Requests for support will begin in April. One Great Hour of Sharing Sunday is March 22, 2020.

EASTER OFFERING: The Committee discussed possible programs that the Easter Offering could support. No decision was made.

HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS: Rockport High School has contacted us regarding 2020 Scholarships. We will review applications in April. We grant three \$500 Scholarships.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING: Jay has attempted to arrange a conference call with Andrew DeFranza to discuss our next steps to support affordable housing in Rockport. The meeting was adjourned at 1:00.

Next meeting is March 8, 2020.

Respectively submitted, Marge Schell

CHURCH SCHOLARSHIPS

The Church through the Outreach Committee awards three \$500 scholarships to high school graduates attending higher education in the Fall. Two scholarships are funded by the McLean-Hooper endowment of the church, intended for Rockport High School graduates. The third scholarship, from the Outreach treasury, may be awarded to a graduate of another high school.

Those attending RHS may seek a church scholarship through Rockport High's scholarship committee. For other high school seniors, you will find the scholarship application on the church website, rockportucc.org. Deadline for submission of applications is April 1. Place the completed application in the church office's Outreach mailbox.

Scholarships are awarded according to three criteria: strength of association with the church, financial need, and demonstrated interest in community service.

One Great Hour of Sharing

Imagine that a neighbor's child has been orphaned by some calamity, or that the breadwinner of a family on your street has been felled by illness. What if a fire has consumed the home of a close friend? Would you help?

Of course, you would do whatever you could do to help. That is why the United Church of Christ conducts this special offering called One Great Hour of Sharing. Somewhere, a neighbor cries out and we can help.

Whether our neighbor flees violence or oppression, natural disaster or crushing poverty, whether our neighbor needs the tools to improve life for oneself and one's family, One Great Hour of Sharing enables the United Church, with our help, to give hope to the despairing.

This is some of what your offering does:

- Since December, nearly a million Syrian civilians have fled violence in Northern Syria as the Assad regime seeks to destroy the last vestiges of a rebellion that began in 2011. Eighty percent of these displaced people are women and children, squeezed between advancing Assad forces and the Turkish border, and most shiver in makeshift unheated shelters in sub-freezing conditions. UCC Disaster Ministries, using OGHS resources, is helping the Fellowship of Middle East Evangelical Churches support families with blankets and heaters and cash for fuel and winter clothing.
- After Hurricane Dorian, in collaboration with Orthodox Christian Charities, UCC Disaster Ministries is supporting orphaned, abused, neglected or abandoned children at Ranfurly Children's Home on Grand Bahama Island.
- Partnering with the Near East Council of Churches, UCC Disaster Ministries is responding to health issues of Palestinians in Gaza after a recent Israeli bombardment.

One Great Hour of Sharing gives impoverished, desperate people reason to hope. Your support provides clean water, food, medicines, healthcare, education, and so much more. You can help with your offering. Please give what you can.



The First Congregational Church of Rockport is now a member of the Congregational Library and Archives located at 14 Beacon Street, 2nd Floor, Boston, MA 02108. The

following is a selection of upcoming programming. Go on line to sign up for their online newsletter for more details.

Weekly Church Events

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT
POTLUCK DINNER
6 PM
FELLOWSHIP HALL**



POTLUCK DINNER



**THURSDAY MORNING
BOOK GROUP**

**MORGAN CONFERENCE ROOM
9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.**



The Fellowship Hour Schedule

March 1 Liz Rice-Smith and Louisa Johnson
 March 8 Diane Westman and Joe Chambers
 March 15 Geof and Celene Lyon
 March 22 Michelle Coates and Liz Rice-Smith
 March 29 Debbie Welch and Kevin Love

If there are any questions or concerns or if you would like to be a part of our fellowship hour by baking or hosting, please contact Liz-Rice Smith or Wendy Woodbury.

With Gratitude for our Church Servants for February

Ushers

February 2 Barbara Sachs and Celene Lyon
 February 9 Kate Desmond and Joe Chambers
 February 16 Sue Herron and Joe Chambers
 February 23 Sue Herron and Joe Chambers

Readers

February 2 Bob Cannon
 February 9 Sue Herron



February 16 Rick Kasten

February 23 Rick Kasten

CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p>First Congregational Church of Rockport, UCC</p> <p>12 School Street Rockport, Massachusetts 01966</p> <p>Phone: (978) 546-6638 Email: office@rockportucc.org Website: www.rockportucc.org</p> <hr/> <p>During non-business hours:</p> <p>Rev. Derek van Gulden can be reached at (508) 818-0616 or revdvan@yahoo.com</p> <hr/> <p><i>The Old Sloop's Log</i> Susan Lillis, Editor Please submit articles to: oldslooplog@rockportucc.org</p> <p>** All articles are due on the 18th of each month. **</p>	<p>Church Office Hours</p> <p>Tuesday – Friday 9 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Sunday Worship Service</p> <p>Nursery Care is available</p> <p>Sunday School</p> <p>No Sunday School in August</p>	<p>Church Staff</p> <p>Pastor Rev. Derek van Gulden</p> <p>Office Manager Regina Reis</p> <p>Music Director Dr. Phil Swanson</p> <p>Youth Choir Director Kristina Martin</p> <p>Youth director and Interim Christian Ed. Director Kaitlyn Welch</p> <p>Sexton Phil Bynarowicz</p>
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