



THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SALISBURY

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Salisbury, Connecticut

**THE 270th ANNUAL MEETING
Part II**

REPORTS, BUSINESS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Sunday, April 26, 2015

270th ANNUAL MEETING, PART II OF
THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SALISBURY
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

SUNDAY, April 26, 2015

AGENDA

PRAYER

CALL TO ORDER

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING, PART I

REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF REPORTS:

The Clerk's Report	Board of Christian Action
Board of Deacons	Ushers Committee
Board of Trustees	The Music Committee
Coordinator of Christian Education	Fellowship & Hospitality Committee
Board of Religious Education	

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE'S REPORT

ELECTION Officers and Committees

OTHER BUSINESS

THE PASTOR

PRAYER

ADJOURNMENT

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SALISBURY

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Salisbury, Connecticut

Call To The Annual Meeting

The 270th Annual Meeting, Part II, of the Congregational Church of Salisbury will be held following the worship service on Sunday, April 26, 2015 for the purpose of:

1. Presentation of Reports from Boards and Committees
2. The Nominating Committee's Report
3. The Election of Officers and Committees
4. Other Business

The Agenda

CALL of the Meeting

ACCEPTANCE of the Minutes of the Annual Meeting, Part I, of October 26, 2014

REPORTS as noted above

PASTOR'S REPORT



**270th ANNUAL MEETING of the CONGREGATION, Part I
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SALISBURY – U.C.C.
October 26, 2014**

Moderator Kathy Mera called the meeting to order following the worship service, it having been determined that a quorum of fifty members was present.

The Clerk read the call to the meeting.

The Moderator reflected on events that had taken place since the last meeting and thanked those involved in the blanket project and Fall Festival.

A motion to cast a single ballot for the state presented for the nominating Committee was seconded and unanimously passed. The members of the 2015 Nominating Committee will be:

David Rich – Trustees

Judith Frost – Christian Education

Carol Magowan – Deacons

Dave Heck – At large

Susan Belcher – Christian Action

Bob Weber presented the proposed budget, which is 5.2% higher than last year due largely to personnel changes, provision for church school childcare. There is a change in the allocation of expenses of benevolences, which will now all be segregated in one part of the budget. The total budget is \$431,000 (compared to \$409,000 last year.) There is a shortfall in this year's Every Member Canvass, which should be made up by the end of the year, on a motion made and seconded, the budget was unanimously passed.

Sue Morrill reported that the appeal would now be called the Annual Stewardship Appeal. A letter will go out shortly from the Committee. We are reminded that nurturing the church and its work and facilities includes financial support.

Jeanette Weber reported that the Fall Festival grossed about \$13,000, and all profits will go to local charities.

Pastor Diane thanked the congregation, reflecting on all that had transpired in the eight years since her ordination, noting the labor, love and energy poured into the church. She challenged us to be bolder in reaching out and inviting people in. She reported that Jennifer Weigel will serve as assistant treasurer and thanked Melissa Adams for all she does that members may not see.

A motion to approve the minutes of the previous annual meeting part II as distributed by e-mail (and regular mail to those without e-mail) was seconded and unanimously passed.

After a closing prayer, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Louise F. Brown, Clerk



CLERK'S REPORT

Received into Membership – October 26, 2014 – April 26, 2015

By Reaffirmation of Faith and Transfer

Emily Elliott
Peggy Hayes
Jack Patterson
Nancy Rossi

In Memoriam

Harriet Morrill
Donald Bright Buckley
William I. Fox

March 17, 2015
September 30, 2014
November 20, 2014

Total Membership: 284



BOARD OF DEACONS **ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015**

The Board of Deacons continued to be an active and enthusiastic group as we focused on sharing our faith journeys, assisting Pastor Diane in the life of our church, and being in covenant with the congregation. We welcomed Mike Clulow at the beginning of our year in May and Jack Patterson joined the group as Youth Deacon mid-year. Ashley Allen left in the fall.

1. The Deacons participated in their usual activities: serving communion, being lay readers, distributing flowers, making pastoral visits, and assisting at funerals. This also included hosting the annual breakfast in September for the opening day of Sunday School.
2. Certain new activities have now become tradition and include having the lead Deacon provide the opening prayer at the beginning of each Deacons meeting and Pastor Diane serving communion at the meeting's end. The lead Deacon also accompanied Pastor Diane to Noble Horizons and helped her with the Worship service.
3. For the second year in a row, we developed and conducted the service for the first Sunday after Christmas. This year's service ended with a Hymn Sing, led by Lee Collins.
4. The Deacons continued to write a monthly contribution for the Meeting House Times (MHT). The lead Deacon wrote/was responsible for the contribution for the following month's MHT.
5. The Deacons again hosted a series of Lenten Dinners that were held in the Parish Hall every Wednesday. Again this year, the entire congregation was invited to share a simple meal of soup, bread, and salad and engage in lively conversations. Over 100 people participated in the dinners this year.
6. As part of Holy Week, the Deacons read the Passion story for the Palm Sunday Service. Some also participated in the Tenebrae Service.
7. We arranged for Pastor Supply several times throughout the year and were pleased to have Reverend Kirk Hall, Salisbury School's Chaplain, be one of our new Pastor Supply ministers.
8. The Deacons once again supported the quilt exhibit as part of the Fall Festival celebration. This year's quilts almost filled the church and were a popular event that brought many people into the church building.

It has been a remarkable year. I look forward to the coming year and to further assisting our pastor in serving the congregation as we walk together on our faith journey.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Zarbock
April 2015



BOARD OF TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015

Along with the usual financial and building responsibilities of the past church year, the Trustees have also addressed the formalizing of a number of church administrative policies. These included policies for employee relations, abuse prevention and staff job descriptions. Deb Pastore, utilizing her professional capabilities, and working with Pastor Diane, provided the bulk of the effort in accomplishing this important task. This formalizing of policies will put the administrative efforts on a much more professional/defined basis.

The Trustees and Pastor Diane, after much discussion, formalized both philosophy and policies for the use of the Meeting House and the Parish Hall. There is now a formal sign up and policy for use of the church facilities.

Lee Collins took the lead in preparing the Parsonage for the one-year (possibly three year) rental lease. These tasks included obtaining carpenters, masons, painters and cleanup personnel to get the property ready as well as working with the new tenants to satisfy their requirements. Mark Capecelatro provided legal input for the rental contract.

The major building issue was the kitchen floor, which had never been acceptable. After many discussions, it was decided to cover the floor with linoleum. This seems to have been the proper solution. Some problems still remain with the range hood and they are being addressed.

Work on upgrading the steeple window casings has been delayed due to weather and carpenter unavailability. The outside of the building has probably experienced some winter damage, which will be addressed. The new sexton and the grounds maintenance contractor seem to be working out well.

Due in part to a matching gift, the congregation exceeded the church year Annual Stewardship Appeal budget. This appeal was headed by Sue Morrill, Deb Pastore and Bob Keiter. The Trustees also addressed the question of participating with UCC recommended giving appeals. It was decided to participate in two out of four appeals.

The Trustees also provide some assistance to Pastor Diane in the reorganization of her staff and upgrading of office spaces. The church has certainly been blessed with the high quality of staff personnel who are now helping with our efforts to provide a proper place of worship and to spread the Word of God in the community and further afield.

Several new Trustees will be coming on the board for the next church year. The board will certainly miss John Arnold, who has done such fine work as the church Treasurer and as a Trustee. We will also miss Robert Weber, who will be relinquishing his Treasurer's duties after two years of valuable service. Thanks to all the departing Trustees for their service to the church. Deb Pastore will be missed as she moves on to a new community.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tom Key
Chair, Board of Trustees



REPORT OF THE COORDINATOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015

The Sunday School began its school year in September with *What Does God Look Like?*, a rotation model unit that explored several Biblical images of God, particularly God as shepherd, king, rock, light, parent, potter, and love. The rotation model of learning provides 3-6 activity centers (for example: art, storytelling, drama, games, community life, music), all centered around the unit theme. The children begin each session all together in the gathering room for story and song, then, grouped by age, move each week to a new center, experiencing a different teacher, space, and learning experience.

Angels, Shepherds and the Stable! Was the theme of our Advent rotation as we approached the Christmas story from these different points of view. In January we began *Jesus the Storyteller*, which introduced the children to several parables Jesus used to teach about living in God's way. As we pondered *Who is our neighbor?* With the Parable of the Good Samaritan, we created a beautiful fabric-painted banner for Simply Smiles, which now hangs in the community center at the Indian Reservation in LaPlant, South Dakota. We also learned about the Parable of the Sower and the Seed, the Parable of the Mustard Seed and Yeast, and the Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids. Our final unit of the year, *Oh, Jonah*, which includes our annual musical of the same name, is based on the story of God's recalcitrant prophet, Jonah.

Our third year of rotation model learning has been very successful. Children who miss some Sundays are still exposed to the core stories and tenets of our faith. The traditional commitment and preparation time for Sunday School teachers is no longer an issue. Many wonderful people, both parents and "civilians," have come forward to serve for two or three weeks, teaching the same material each week to a new age group.

In May I attended NEAUCE, a three-day conference presented by the New England Association of Christian Educators, an extraordinary opportunity to learn, worship, reflect, and connect with faith formation leaders from throughout New England. I continue as a North Central Region representative to CAUCE (Connecticut Association of United Church Educators). In the process of monthly board meetings, communications, and workshops, I am reminded again and again of what the Connecticut Conference of the UCC has to offer us. Karen Ziel, our Conference Minister of Faith Formation, is an invaluable resource. I am also grateful to have the opportunity to get to know and learn from many of the fine people who are charged with the Christian faith formation and education of the children and youth in our Connecticut UCC churches and beyond.

Barbara Collins
April 2015



REPORT OF THE BOARD OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015

The Board of Religious Education continued its focus on ministry to families with children during the past year, including a variety of activities and opportunities for people of all ages.

The Board helped plan and supervise special activities to enhance “A Technicolor Promise,” a musical play which was presented by the children of the Sunday School and their friends on May 11th.

In the fall, the Board joined the Board of Deacons for the Church School Opening Breakfast. The Board appreciates the support of the Deacons in providing this inviting occasion for greeting old friends and welcoming newcomers to the church school year.

In November, two Board members and a long-time teacher attended the annual CAUCE event in West Hartford, *From A to Gen Z: Nurturing Faith with A New Generation*. The keynote speaker of the day was Ivy Beckwith, the National UCC Faith Formation Team Leader. For reflections on this inspiring day, read the January 2015 Newsletter (salisburycongregational.org).

The annual Christmas pageant featured Emily Tiberio as the baby Jesus with her parents, Alicia and Tim, playing the Holy Family. Emily is the granddaughter of Peggy and Ted Sands. Members of the Board and other helpers costumed an impressive cast of shepherds, angels, wise men, animals and a star. Several families joined us as we went Christmas caroling at Noble Horizons and Geer.

We are grateful to Duane Estes and Theresa Carroll for leading discussion opportunities for our Middle School students.

The members of the Board of Religious Education serve as leaders in the Sunday School activity centers, as nursery caregivers, and as support for the Coordinator of Christian Education. At the Board’s suggestion, there is now a children’s section in the church library. In conversation and action, the Board continues to address the reality that today, more than ever; families have to make difficult choices for their children’s time, with church activities often coming in second. We value Pastor Diane and her infectious enthusiasm as we explore how best to serve the spiritual needs of young families in a secular society.

Barbara Collins
April 2015



BOARD OF CHRISTIAN ACTION ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015

Most who serve on the Board of Christian Action feel that they come away with more than they give due to the tremendous appreciation and gratitude from those whom we help. We have nine members on our board, each with different talents and interests. We work together on a wide variety of projects and are responsible for the outreach of the church. Our mission is to spread God's love locally and globally, and we have found many ways to achieve this.

Within our community we support the Corner Food Pantry (formerly Owls Kitchen) through donations and a percentage of La Bonne's receipts. Our Christmas Giving Tree project brings special joy to both children and parents at the Astor Early Childhood Program and the Grace Smith House in Millerton. We make financial donations to eleven organizations and charities in our local community.

Our global projects include participation in the CROP walk, which benefits Church World Services and helps end hunger locally and abroad. Our Global Crafts sale of "fair traded" items during the annual Salisbury Fall Festival supports artisans in many developing countries. Our donation to Hispaniola Health Partners will help build a new clinic in Haiti.

This year we have been very excited about our increased support of two special projects that our church is committed to: our mission trips through Simply Smiles and our partnership with UCC Bridgeport. We have made a donation to Simply Smiles for the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation and will provide two scholarships for members of our congregation to travel to SD this summer to work on the reservation. For the past three years we have helped prepare Thanksgiving dinner for 500 people at UCC Bridgeport and have also hosted two community suppers, called "Feel the Warmth". Plus we have collected and delivered much needed warm clothing, boots, and gloves for members of their community.

One of the responsibilities of the Board of Christian Action is carrying out the mission of the church. The funds are provided by the generous support of the congregation through the Every Member Canvass, the careful stewardship of the investment accounts conducted by the Trustees, and the proceeds of the Fall Festival which are directed to local organizations. Because our church's budget now has separate line items for both Silver Lake and UCC Bridgeport, those contributions no longer come out of the Board of Christian Action's budget.

This year the Board voted to support the following organizations and special projects:

Local Organizations

\$1,000 to the Corner Food Pantry
\$1,000 to Chore Service
\$1,000 for two scholarships to Silver Lake for children from Grace Smith House
\$500 to EXTRA's enrichment program at Salisbury Central School
\$500 to SOAR's after-school program at Salisbury Central School
\$500 to Housatonic Day Care
\$500 to Grace Smith House, which aids victims of domestic violence
\$500 to Salisbury Visiting Nurse Association (SVNA)
\$500 to Operation Fuel
\$500 to Housatonic Youth Service Bureau for youths and families in Region 1
\$500 to Greenwood Counseling
\$500 to Science and Tech Center at HVRHS

Special Projects

\$2,500 to Simply Smiles for the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation in SD
\$3,000 for two scholarships for travel to SD next summer
\$2,000 to Hispaniola health Partners for a clinic in Haiti
\$110 for 21 pairs of gloves for UCC Bridgeport

We are not a large church, but we have a large heart for meeting the needs in our own community and in the larger world. This is what Christian Action is all about and this is what we love to do!

They will know we are Christians by our love!

Peggy Heck, Chair

Jeanette Weber, Co-Chair

Board of Christian Action



**USHERS COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015**

Report Pending



**MUSIC COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015**

Members: Peggy Hayes (chair), Tim Hughes, Jo Loi, Karin Noyes, Deb Pastore, Sarah Sprague

Committee meetings held

6/11/14, 8/13/14, 10/ 15/14, 11/19/14, 12/17/14, 2/11/15, (5/20/15 scheduled)

Musical Events September 2014 – April 2015

Choir & Handbell Concert: Sunday, December 14 at 2:30

Chorus Angelicus: Sunday, December 21 at 4:00

Al Sly Retirement Party: Saturday, January 3 at 6:30

Cornell Glee Club: Friday, January 16 at 7:00

Student Recital: Sunday, February 22 at 3:00

Berkshire Bach Society: Saturday, March 7 at 6:00

30 New music folders purchased

Old folders donated to Silver Lake

New Minister of Music, Jack Bowman, hired March 9

Respectfully Submitted,
Peggy Hayes



FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015

The Committee, responsible for coffee hour, arranging for flowers for the Meeting House each Sunday, including the holiday seasons of Christmas and Easter, hosting collations following funerals and memorial services, as well as special events.

In April, a group attended the Serv Safe Program in Kent. After taking the final exam, we are now certified for our new kitchen.

We passed a surprise kitchen inspection by the Torrington Health District on March 11th and passed with a PERFECT SCORE of 100!!!

Linda Estabrook, Rosanne Lamson, Jane Capecelatro, Deborah Mark, Cynthia LaPier, Sarah Rydingsword.

**OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES OF THE CHURCH
2015-2016**

Moderator: Sara Wardell*
Treasurer: Jennifer Weigel*

Assistant Treasurer: Roger Crain*
Clerk: Louise Brown

Board of Deacons

		Richard A. Dwelley --Deacon for Life		
Sarah Zarbock	'16	Malcolm Brown	'17	Theresa Carroll '18
Betsy Beck	'16	Larry Blades	'17	Chico Aller '18
Linda Estabrook	'16	Carol Magowan	'17	Karin Noyes* '18
Jack Patterson	'16	Mike Clulow	'17	Bob Maxwell* '18

Board of Trustees

Mark Capecelatro	'16	Lee Collins	'17	Scott Frost* '18
John Estabrook	'16	Sue Morrill	'17	Tom Key '18
Susan Hassler*	'16	Tony Good	'17	David Heck* '18

Church Council Member - at - Large

Mike Fitting	'16	Judith Frost*	'17	David Rich* '18
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Board of Religious Education

Carrie Smith	'16	Jennifer Kronholm Clark	'17	Judith Frost '18
Bob Maxwell	'16			Jenn Good '18

Board of Christian Action

Amanda Roberts	'16	Peggy Sands	'17	Jano Fairservis '18
Susie Belcher	'16	Anne Hughes	'17	Jeanette Weber '18
Peggy Heck	'16	Cynthia LaPier	'17	Laura O'Niel '18

Music Committee

Jo Loi	'17	Tim Hughes	'18
Karin Noyes	'17	Peggy Hayes	'18

Ushers Committee

Stephanie Tierney	'16	Bob Weber	'17	Kathy Mera* '18
Martin Nweeia	'16	Vincent Hanlon	'17	Orin Rydingsword '18
Bob & Debra Palmer	'16	Eric Rydingsword	'17	Ellie Owens '18
Kevin Wolgemuth	'16	Sal Acardo	'17	Sharon Tingley * '18

Fellowship and Hospitality Committee

Janet Kaufman	Sue Bucceri	Amy Rasner Clulow
Sheryl Knapp	Clare Rashkoff	Christie Olson
Rosanne Lamson	Cynthia LaPier	Debby Mark
	Sarah Rydingsword	

Delegates to State Conference and Litchfield North

To Be Filled

Nominating Committee 2015

Carol Magowan	David Rich	Judith Frost
David Heck	Susie Belcher	Janet Kaufman

BLUE = Current Nomination

* = First Term

