

Congregational Church of Salisbury

275th Annual Meeting, Part II

April 27, 2020

Call to Order: 11:04 am

Opening Prayer

Presentation of Minutes from last meeting - Approved unanimously

1. Moderator welcome - Betsy Beck

- Impressed by all that has happened in the church over the past year.
- There are many ways to be involved in the life of the church without having to be on a board or committee. All are encouraged to volunteer for tasks and task forces as opportunities arise.
- We will get through the challenges of COVID-19 together.
- Gratitude expressed to all who have worked so hard to keep the life of the church vital and active, even during this challenging time

2. Presentation of Reports and Financial update - Jennifer Weigel

- Discussion of 2020 Budget.
- Pledges are down from what was forecasted. There have been a lot of changes and challenges this year, so this is understandable.
- Motion to accept reports - L. Brown, approved unanimously.

3. Vote: Nominating Committee's Slate

- Gratitude expressed to all who have served on boards and committees who are stepping down at the end of the term.
- Kathy Mera presented the slate of nominations for the upcoming year.
- Motion to accept the slate of nominees as presented: S. Wardell, approved unanimously.

4. Gratitude all around to Pastor John, the office staff, Deacons, and Barbara and Lee Collins for all the work they have done to keep us together while we can't gather in person.
5. Pastor's comments - "Smoothness" is not a Christian value, and we are embracing this idea during this difficult time as we figure out technology and virtual worship. A core part of the Congregational way is that the gathered people are the vessel of the Holy Spirit, which means that there can't be an authority like a bishop or a pope. It's the gathering of our congregation that is the governing authority. Gathering is important, whether in the same room or same screen. We are doing something that is at the heart and soul of Congregationalism. This is a time that calls the best of us, revealed in our vulnerability and through our fear and longing.

Special thanks to the church officers as decisions had to be made quickly as the pandemic ramped up, to Barb and Lee Collins for bringing music to our virtual services, to the Deacons for reaching out to members of the congregation.

6. Closing Prayer - Pastor John
7. Adjournment: 11:36 am

Respectfully submitted,

Jenn Oberto, Clerk