

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2018**

### **First Congregational Church of Hartland VT, UCC**

The Board of Trustees operated with a nearly full slate of 8 members in 2018. Pat Richardson-Chair, Linda Genovese-Treasurer ex-officio, Carmen Summarsell-Secretary, Jon Cone, Dexter Cooper, Susanne Inglis, Carol Mowry and Arnie Powell. We will be looking for 2 members for the new year. We have been one member short and my term comes to an end.

The board held ten regular meetings in 2018 as well as two special meetings.

The following tasks were completed:

- Updating of church policy for church building use
- Hiring of a new Administrative Assistant
- New (to this church) organ
- A smoke detector in the dining room and a motion light at the back entrance to the church, a CO detector in the sub basement and a floodlight bulb for the motion light at the side entrance
- The copier and printer have been replaced in the Treasurer's office.

The following tasks are ongoing or nearing completion:

- The selectmen have approved the location of the church sign. This project will be completed as an Eagle Scout project.
- Electrical issues discovered during church tour
- Upgrading remaining church policies including Safe Church and General Receptions.

The Deacons asked each board and committee to identify one or two goals for 2019. The Trustees are looking into the possibility of constructing a ramp from the sanctuary area to the Sunday school wing. They are also going to research the gas use of the kitchen ranges to try to reduce costs.

The Board of Trustees works very hard to keep our church in good physical and financial condition. Please consider joining the board. Simply contact a Trustee for more details.

Submitted by,

Carmen Summarsell, Secretary

## **Board of Deacons (BOD) Annual Report Calendar Year 2018**

### Members of the 2018 BOD

Nancy Cone (Treasurer), Susan D'Anna (Chair), Jean Day, Larissa Dreyer, Cindy Hale (Secretary), Caroline Lee, Thomas O'Neill (until Fall 2018 – left board due to a move)

### Usual Board Activities:

- 10 meetings (summer off)
- Serve communion
- Usher recruitment
- Assist with special services (Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Summer Picnic service)
- Arrange for pastor coverage during absences
- Provide regular feedback to pastor regarding content of services and sermons
- Deliver poinsettias during Christmas season to homebound
- Reach out to people in need

### Accomplishments:

- Updated Covenant with our Pastor (job description) as requested by Treasurer and Board of Trustees
- Spent time each meeting on Board development (understanding role of a Deacon, understanding FCCH relationship to UCC, learning about evaluation tools and process)
- Developed Pastor Evaluation tool
- Completed pastor evaluation - met with pastor to discuss and set goals
- Led Summer Picnic service which was very well attended

Many thanks to Thomas O'Neill, Jean Day and Sue D'Anna who are leaving the BOD.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sue D'Anna, Chair BOD

## **Treasurer's Annual Report December 31, 2018**

First of all, I want to thank everyone who made a pledge for the 2018 budget and fulfilled that pledge (100% of pledge commitments received). We truly appreciate your support. Planning is key to running this small business called First Congregational Church of Hartland. The trustees with input from boards and committees approve a budget each year that takes into consideration the growth and interests our church community can support. You have the opportunity at each year's annual meeting to discuss and approve that budget. Please be involved - attend the annual meeting on the 27th or serve on the board of trustees.

Our 2018 budget approved at the annual meeting January 2018 authorized the spending of \$119,041 with the projected income of \$80,000 in pledges. However, our pledge income for 2018 was only \$75,573. So prudent fiscal management required us to spend less and we did (\$108,318). Fortunately, certain projected expenses came in lower. Luckily, we were able to hire an administrative assistant this fall who has been very helpful to both Lucia and me. The financial reports presented at the annual meeting will be available for your review and open for discussion.

Our church community is very, very generous. In addition to the response to our annual stewardship drive to support the budget, our church community also supported the Youth Mission Trip, the Music Ministries Fund Drive, the Hartland Christmas Project, the Altar Flowers Fund, the Mission Trip to Puerto Rico and supporting fund raising efforts of the Men's Fellowship and Lady B's. We are very fortunate to have this giving spirit alive in Hartland. Your gifts of time and money are so appreciated. You make my job easier when plans and dreams can be accomplished.

The proposed budget for 2019 reflects total expenses of \$121,500 with proposed pledge income of \$80,000. So far we have received commitment for \$77,023 in pledges, very close but not quite there. Your pledges are important but YOU are who fills our church, spreads the spirit and contributes so many volunteer hours. With pleasure, I enjoy serving as your treasurer. Thank you for the opportunity.

Linda Genovese, Treasurer

## Stewardship Committee 2018

2018 was an interesting year for the Stewardship Committee.

In May, we welcomed Susanne Inglis to the Stewardship Committee. Thank you, Susanne, for joining the team – your experience and expertise is most welcome! Susanne joined the committee comprised of Pat Richardson, Tom Ramsey (chair), rounded out by Linda Genovese (treasurer) and Lucia.

May was also the month that we were asked to raise \$4,000 to replace the organ which had recently failed. After coming up with a campaign plan, timetable, and some clever techniques, we were pleasantly surprised to find out that two significant donations had just been promised – which would totally cover the cost of a replacement organ. We regrouped and used some of the ideas to promote Music Ministry Month and the Organ Dedication Sunday held last September. We were also very pleased with the results of the Music Ministry campaign, which raised an additional \$1,000 to cover the final installation and maintenance of the organ, plus additional support for things like the sound system, sheet music and other needed elements for our growing Choir and Music Ministry. It was heartwarming to witness the love and appreciation that became evident – for Clydene – for Ginny – and for music in specific as a part of our church ministry during this memorable time.

As for the more routine aspects of stewardship, in November we sent out 140 pledge letters, asking for support from friends and members in 2019. The number of letters was significantly more than the prior year, so we set our pledge goal for \$85,000. (In 2017 we sent 120 letters in support of a goal of \$80,000.) Although the number of pledges received was pretty much the same as the year prior (57 vs 59), the total amount pledged increased by \$3,000. Your stewardship team would like to express our appreciation for all who responded so generously to our annual pledge campaign.

In closing, and instead of asking for your continued financial support of our church's mission and vision – we'd like to encourage you to help grow our church family. Help us grow the number of members! Invite a friend or two to worship some Sunday. Have them see for themselves the good work we do for the community both here in Hartland and the broader world community. Have them get to know those who swing a hammer for Habitat – those who donate time and sweat on our youth mission trips – those who spend a week helping people they will never know. Have them bring their children to our growing Christian

Education Program and Sunday School. Invite them to enjoy the comfort and inspiration that welcoming Jesus into their lives can bring.

In a broad spirit of stewardship, let's spread the word and grow our church.

Tom Ramsey - Stewardship Committee Chair

### **Music Committee Report 2018**

We are so lucky to have so much support for music in our church. We have a new organ, which was paid for with a very generous donation. It was dedicated in a service devoted to saluting Clydene Trachier's years of glorious music both in the choir and leading it. Over \$1000 was raised for new music and guest musicians. Ginny Dow continues to amaze us, not only with her playing but showing what a life-long learner she is – she mastered that organ! Becky Wood's leadership as choir director just gets better and better. She makes the choir shine and does it with such good humor and enthusiasm. We're looking forward to another great year!

Molly Delaney

### **Altar Committee Report 2018**

Thanks to donations from the congregation to the Flower Fund, the Altar Committee was able to again provide flowering plants at Easter and poinsettias at Christmas to decorate the sanctuary. These plants were then delivered by the deacons to members and friends who were housebound or had suffered a recent loss.

During the summer months we bring fresh flower arrangements to church each Sunday and welcome anyone to let us know when something is blooming in your garden.

Martha McGlinn  
Linda Genovese  
Emily Silver

## **Christian Education Report 2018**

It has been a wonderful year for our Sunday school program. We currently have seven children enrolled, and five teenagers on our volunteer list. The children have settled in very nicely, and they're starting to feel like a little family. They help each other, they get along with each other and the older children are starting to help the younger ones..

We started out our year learning how to be stewards of God's creation and to each other. We followed Moses and the Israelites as they wandered through the desert. We have learned the Ten Commandments and the Lord's Prayer. We made rain sticks to celebrate the sky. We made blessing books, and learned about Bartimaeus through handicap awareness role playing. We studied the rich man in Mark 10: 17-31 and we were each challenged to give something we cherished to someone else. We welcomed our friends from the UU Church to make thankful trees. On the first Sunday in Advent we made Advent Wreath pictures to take home and use in family devotions and took the journey with the wise men to Bethlehem on Epiphany. To end our year we celebrated the birth of Jesus with a beautiful pageant called, "Mary Remembers." Thank you Lucia!

Our church Community joined in our learning by creating multi-colored stick people to practice diversity and tolerance. They helped us by being fishers of people, sharing ways we can help spread God's word. We joined handprints on on a mural to celebrate the community doing God's work. The congregation also joined us in sharing the qualities of leadership.

As outreach projects we have made get-well and thinking-of-you cards for church members in need. These cards included the message "God's love is steadfast like a mountain". The children helped assemble hygiene kits for church World Service. They have made baptism cards to welcome new members to our church, and over the summer collected food for the local food shelf.

I am truly grateful for the support I have received from this congregation. I also wish to thank the many volunteers who have joined me in teaching the youngest members of our congregation. Thank you to Sue Reilly, who has offered to run Sunday School one morning a month to give me an opportunity to stay in worship. I also want to thank Silvia Hale, Madison Bowers, Donna Bowers, Ayla Price, Bonnie Reynolds, Emma Alegretti, Sara White, Sharon Offensend, Carol Mowry, and our two nursery volunteers Carol Williams and Lori Hampton. I couldn't run a successful Sunday School program without these dedicated volunteers.

That being said, there is always room for more volunteers! The more help we have, the smaller the burden on each person. Please prayerfully consider joining us in this important mission.

At this time, we are in need of one or two more board members, to provide oversight and input as our program grows. Please let me know if you can spare an hour or two each month to join us.

Mary Jo Ramsey, CE Director

### **Ladies Benevolent Society 2018 Report**

The Ladies Benevolent Society in 2018 rose like a Phoenix from the ashes, inspired by several women in particular. Carol Williams, Janie White, and Laura Lee Dukeshire are notable contributors, not to take anything away from many others. Thanks to all, we mounted impressive fund-raising results with a quilt raffle spearheaded by Janie and Susanne Inglis with the help of many others; the now-annual Cookie Walk, which Jeannie Frazer continues to lead, also with the help of many who donate; and a Silent Auction that takes place during the winter Roast Beef Suppers, which Carol Mowry oversees.

These events helped add to the modest LBS Treasury, and enabled doubling of our Church pledge this year. That is quite an achievement, after several years of declining support.

The group also sponsored several outings, including to St. Gaudens and Wellwood Orchards, and enjoyed a special ladies' tea in the spring with many guests. Other opportunities for fellowship have been work parties related first to the Fourth of July quilt and now a second quilt, as well as the Christmas potluck luncheon and Yankee Swap.

A new nickname, the Lady BeeS, maintains the original LBS initials, and perhaps signals new enthusiasm for an organization whose founding documents date to 1840. If your name does not appear above, that is not your fault but rather mine, and you are likely one of the many whose faithfulness makes it all come together.

Patricia Richardson  
Treasurer, Ladies Benevolent Society  
11 January 2019

## Clerk's Statistical Report for 2018

### Baptisms :

On Oct 21 2018 – Jackson Felix Labarge. Born: Oct 31, 2017, son of Nicole Labarge and Craig Labarge by Rev. Lucia Anne Jackson.

On Dec. 30, 2018 - Lillian Mae Bacon born Feb 2, 2016 , dau. Of Amanda Chase and Zachary Bacon by Rev. Lucia Anne Jackson.

On Dec. 30, 2018 – Amanda Sue Bacon born Oct. 17, 1985 by Rev. Lucia Anne Jackson.

On Dec. 30, 2018 – Zachary Isaac Bacon born June 13 1988 by Rev. Lucia Anne Jackson.

### Funerals and Memorial Services:

Virginia White Ide Oct 1, 1935 to April 16 2018 – graveside service on June 12, 2018.

Ulric Alfred Johnston Aug 23, 1923 to Nov 17 2017 service on June 30, 2018.

William Edgar Campbell July 25, 1927 to Feb 1, 2018 service on Feb 10, 2018.

### Weddings:

Amanda Chase and Zachary Bacon on May 12, 2018 by Rev. Lucia Anne Jackson.

New Members: None

Letters of Transfer: None.

## **First Congregational Church of Hartland, VT Church Officers, Boards and Committees 2019**

### **Officers**

Clerk	Carmen Summarsell	436-2300
Assistant Clerk	Cordie Merritt	436-2043
Treasurer	Linda Genovese	436-2137
Assistant Treasurer	Susan Motschman	436-2561
Moderator	Brian Porto	674-9505

### **Board of Deacons**

Cindy Hale	2014-2017, 2017-2020	436-1434
Caroline Lee	2018-2021	
Larissa Dreyer	2018-2021	
Nancy Cone	2018-2021 (associate member)	436-2117
Betty Powell	2019-2022	457-4096
Linda Johnston	2019-2022	359-2370

### **Board of Trustees**

Linda Genovese	(Treasurer ex-officio)	436-2137
Jon Cone	2014-2017, 2017-2020	436-2117
Arnie Powell	2014-2017, 2017-2020	457-4096
Pat Richardson	2016-2019, 2019-2022	436-2362
Dexter Cooper	2017-2020 (non-voting)	436-2640
Susanne Inglis	2018-2021	457-1202
Martin Dole	2019-2022	436-3653

### **Board of Christian Education**

Mary Jo Ramsey, Director		436-3094
Jill Allegretti		698-8702
Sue Reilly		436-2564

### **Board of Outreach and Missions**

Karen Lewis	2014-2017, 2018-2021	457-4521
Maggie Moore	2014-2017, 2017-2020	436-2369
Edith White	2016-2019, 2019-2022	436-2384
Carol Withington	2016-2019, 2019-2022	295-9561
Sharon Offensend	2019-2022	793-4792

**Nominating Committee**

Member-at-large Martha McGlinn 436-2159

**Music Committee**

Virginia Dow, organist 436-2417

Rebecca Wood, Choir Director 436-2847

Martha McGlinn 436-2159

Molly Delaney 436-2640

Harriet Dumas 436-2880

Nancy Smith 436-2616

**Altar Committee**

Linda Genovese 436-2137

Martha McGlinn 436-2159

Emily Silver 436-2681

**Pastoral Relations Committee – to be convened by Trustees****Stewardship Committee**

Pat Richardson 436-2362

Tom Ramsey 436-3094

Susanne Inglis 457-1202

**Investment and Endowment Committee****Auditor**

Martin Dole 436-3653

**Delegates to Windsor-Orange Association**

Carmen Summarsell

**Delegates to Vermont Conference Annual Meeting**

Daun Smith 295-7982

Connie Moser 484-3230

**Custodian**

Diane Williams

**Office Administrator**

Mary Sutton-Smith