

Annual Report

1st Congregational United Church of Christ, Rapid City, South Dakota
Report of the Ministries of 2013



2013 was a year of
innovations and
new programs.

135th Annual Meeting January 26, 2014

New Holy Week Worship

In place of just one or two special services, the Department of Worship sponsored a unique worship experience for every day of Holy Week. Attendance was great. More people attended Holy Week services in 2013 than in previous years. You can read a complete report of the week on page 3.

Capital Improvements

The Capital Improvements Task Force presented phase one to the congregation in June. The congregation not only approved the capital funds drive, but quickly supported it. The goal was exceeded by more than 10 percent and improvements began as soon as the work could be scheduled. The new sound systems and redecorated fellowship hall are complete. More projects are in the works. Read more on page 11.

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1st Congregational United Church of Christ, Rapid City, South Dakota
Report of the Ministries of 2013



2013—The Year in Review

2013 was a year of taking a fresh look at a lot of different aspects of our life together as a congregation. The year was characterized by fresh energy for worship, mission and a renewed commitment to doing the work required to position our building to continue to serve our community for years to come.

January began with an all-new celebration of the Feast of Epiphany. Since the first Sunday of the new year was Epiphany Day we created a new festival with drama, treats, and activities. Other highlights of the month included:

- The Call Newsletter sported a fresh look with columns by the moderator and church clerk. Department leaders also contributed more articles for the newsletter to keep the congregation informed.
- Members of United Church Youth began preparing for the Mission 4/1 Earth all church stewardship emphasis. They also went on a Destination Unknown and prepared for the Souper Bowl of Caring.

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We focused on our core areas of worship, mission and care as we stepped out in faith into a new year.

- The 1st Congregational Trust launched its “Leave more than an empty place in the pew” campaign inviting members to participate in the program of leaving a meaningful legacy to future generations.
- Regular programs such as Church Chat, Spiritual Practices, Westhills Book and Bible Study, and 4th Tuesday Lunch Group resumed meeting after a brief holiday break.
- We received the Angels of los Guido special offering and commissioned Chuck and Sybil Rounds as our missionaries to our sister church in los Guido, Costa Rica.
- Our Sister Church in los Guido, Costa Rica held Vacation Bible School January 21 through 25 with a paseo on January 27. 104 children were registered for the program.
- A new Men’s Bible Study group was formed.
- As we prepared for the funeral of Ray Valandra, we provided a place for his all-night wake and a place for the blending of traditions.
- The Kerygma Bible study group continued their explorations.
- The Church Board sponsored a Communications Roundtable to coordinate our various church communications.
- The Department of Hospitality began recruitment of volunteers for the new Congregational Connections program.
- The 134th Annual Meeting of the church was held after worship on January 27. We adopted a balanced budget with modest increases for the year.

February was the month of Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent. Beginning with the Souper Bowl of Caring, the entire month gave our congregation many opportunities to reach out in love and service.

- The Craft and Chat Women’s Retreat was held February 1 and 2.
- United Church Youth sponsored the Souper Bowl of Caring on February 3, gathering non-perishable foods and cash donations to help feed hungry people in our community.
- The Capital Improvements Task Force began to identify, prioritize and secure cost estimates for needed major improvements to the church building and grounds.
- The Department of Hospitality sponsored an “All Church Birthday Party” on February 17. Fancy cakes abounded as we celebrated our church family.
- Church Leaders met for a retreat at the church on February 23. New Department members were oriented to their jobs and church leaders participated in setting priorities for the year.
- United Church Youth programs included Bookmarks Bible Study, Destination Unknown, and planning for the Big Brothers/Big Sisters Bowl for Kids’ Sake.



THE WOODCHUCK SOCIETY SET RECORDS

The winter of 2012-2013 was a record-setting year for the Woodchuck Society. Over 50 cords of split firewood were delivered to our partners on the Pine Ridge and Cheyenne River reservations.

But there was plenty of room for growth. Donations of trees kept coming in throughout the year and members of the society worked hard to bring load after load to the woodlot. Teams of workers cut the wood to length with chainsaws and splitting parties added to the pile. By the time deliveries started for the winter of 2013-2014, over 100 cords of firewood were ready.

As the wood was being prepared, new partnerships were being formed. A new and larger delivery was planned for the southwestern corner of the Cheyenne River Reservation near the Frazier Church. A new partnership with the Episcopal Church at Red Shirt Table meant new partners for distribution. At Wanblee, we made contact with the Assembly of God Church to continue distribution to families with needs and to expand the outreach of the program in that community.

The Woodchuck Society operates with no budget, no meetings and no officers. It is a program focused on partnerships with our neighbors and hands-on work shared to serve those with needs.



HOLY WEEK 2013

A week like no other

Holy Week, March 24—31, featured a special worship service each day.

Sunday, March 24 featured the Liturgy of the Palms.

Monday, March 25, we read the passion story in the Liturgy of the Passion.

Tuesday, March 26, we held a Christian Wake with special foods and the telling of stories about Jesus.

Wednesday's "Sitting with the Blues" concert marked the middle of the week on March 27.

We had a service of Footwashing and Maundy Thursday communion on March 28.

Good Friday, March 29, was marked with the Journey to the Cross service at noon.

We kindled new fire at the Holy Vigil on Saturday, March 30.

Easter celebrations on March 31 included a sunrise service at Main Street Square and a Resurrection Celebration at our church.

The Year in Review—from page 2

- Our Lenten Study focused on "5 Wishes" and offered opportunities to think about end of life decision-making
- We celebrated February 24 as "Bring a Friend to Church" Sunday. The Church School hosted an open house the same day.
- The Women's Fellowship hosted a successful rummage sale on March 15 and 16.
- The Church Drama Group, under the direction of Doris Marie Strom presented the story of Mary anointing the feet of Jesus in worship on March 17.
- On March 24, the Liturgy of the Palms featured celebratory music, children waving palm branches, and many opportunities to celebrate.
- On March 25, the Liturgy of the Passion was a dramatic reading of the story of the last week of Jesus' life on earth.
- The Department of Education sponsored a family night with the theme "Friends of All Ages" on March 3.
- We participated in the One Great Hour of Sharing all church offering on March 10.
- The Kerygma Bible Study group participated in a study of "Parables: Stories for Life in God's World."
- The Lenten Bible Study focused on 5 wishes for the end of life.
- The Pastoral Relations and Personnel Committee held a listening circle on March 10.

Planning for a Successful Campaign

From the beginning of the year the Church Board was actively engaged in planning for the Capital Funds Drive. There was a lot of "behind the scenes" work to envision and plan projects, to obtain accurate cost estimates, and to prioritize the needs of the congregation. The Capital Improvements Process was a part of the agenda at each meeting of the Church Board during the year.

The Church Board adopted the attitude of listening carefully to the congregation. It was the belief of Board Members that if we were careful to reflect the needs and concerns of the congregation and attentive in prayer to the call of God we could come up with a campaign that was the right size for our congregation. Not every wish could become a priority for the first phase of the campaign. Care was taken to make sure that we didn't lose our mission focus in the process.

The Year in Review—continued from page 3

2013 will be remembered as the year of a successful capital funds drive during which we also expanded our mission and outreach.



Lent provides opportunities to study and reflect

In 2013, we focused on the gifts that we can gain from the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. One of those gifts is the opportunity to think about death and how we might face death. The 5 wishes study during Lent invited participants to reflect on some key end of life issues and to put their wishes in writing for their loved ones. Questions considered included:

- The person I want to make care decisions for me when I can't.
- The kind of medical treatment I want or don't want.
- How comfortable I want to be.
- How I want people to treat me.
- What I want my loved ones to know.

The study helped participants to openly discuss topics we all think about, but seldom find ways to address.

- The Christian Wake Service on March 26 was designed for families with storytelling, a catered dinner and pictures and memories of Jesus.
- Sittin' with the Blues was the concert offered on March 27 to a packed house with lots of energy and enthusiasm.
- Two services were held on Maundy Thursday: A Footwashing Service and a traditional Maundy Thursday Communion Service.
- The Good Friday Journey to the Cross service was held at noon on March 29.
- The Holy Vigil of Easter service, based on ancient traditions, featured the lighting of new fire, a review of the Bible, Baptism Remembrance and Communion.
- On March 31, Easter began with a sunrise service at Main Street Square sponsored by the ministers of downtown Rapid City churches. An Easter breakfast of fruit, pastries, juice, coffee and other refreshments was served from 7:30 to 9 am at the church. Our Resurrection Celebration at 9:30 a.m. was a joyous celebration of music, liturgy and prayer.
- Chuck and Sybil Rounds returned from their 16th trip to visit our sister Church in los Guido Costa Rica. They brought a thank you letter from Pastor Dorotea Yucra for the contributions to the Angels of los Guido program.
- The Department of Ministries served 104 participants at the Cornerstone Mission Meal on March 29.
- **April** began with the Mission 4/1 earth program emphasizing planting trees, donating hours of earth care and writing letters of environmental advocacy. Other April events included:
 - We made preparations for the coming of the brothers from the French Taize community to Red Shirt Table for a young adults event. Youth and Young Adults from our congregation hosted a lunch for Brother Emile and Brother John and other interested people from our community.
 - The Young Adults group met for Bible Study. They also met for dinner one evening and attended Jami Lynn's *Cluck and Croon* CD release party.
 - The Capital Projects Task Force continued to obtain cost estimates for priority items.
 - The Sunday School presented their offerings to Love INC to support projects in our community.
 - We received new members on April 21.
 - The Church Board formed the Capital Funds Description Committee and they began working diligently to plan the projects for the coming year.
 - United Church Youth participated in the Bowl for Kids' Sake at Robbinsdale Lane.
 - The Good Morning Circle hosted their 41st Bridge Marathon and luncheon.



- The Men's Bible Study group started their study of *Quiet Strength* by Tony Dungy.

May is the month of graduations and celebrations of the year of teaching and learning. May was a busy month in the life of our church:

- Placerville Sunday was celebrated on May 5 with stories, remembrances and opportunities to sign up for camp.
- We welcomed new members on May 5.
- The Department of Building, Equipment and Grounds hosted the annual Spring Church Yard Clean Up Day.
- The Women's Fellowship hosted the Spring Luncheon May 11.
- The Department of Hospitality served "Muffins for Moms" on Mother's Day, May 12.
- May 19 was the day for our church school celebration with a ceremony to honor graduates. There were also special play day activities for children and a celebration picnic for all ages.
- We participated in the Strengthen the Church all church offering on May 19.
- May 19 was the conclusion of our Mission 4/1 Earth participation. Members of our congregation reported 813 hours of earth care, 55 trees planted and 15 letters written.
- First Congregational Trust awarded Power of One scholarships to high school

seniors. Honored with scholarships were Malaika Burke, Luke Deurmier, Landon Gallentine, Arie LaCroix and Layne Putnam.

- United Church Youth played mini golf and had a May Day Mission project.
- Applications were received for the White and Willard Scholarships. The Zona White scholarship was awarded to Kortney Brunner. The Inabelle Willard Scholarship was awarded to Tyler Lanam.
- Toward a New Solidarity, a pilgrimage of trust on earth, brought together young people from across North America and around the world for a weekend of prayer and faith at Red Shirt Table over Memorial Day Weekend. Our congregation provided transportation and logistical support for the gathering.

June might be the time when school vacations begin, but in 2013, it was a busy month for our congregation.

- A special meeting of the congregation held on June 2 approved the Sustaining the Mission/Shaping the Vision Capital Campaign with a goal of \$100,000. Projects included solving drainage problems, resurfacing our parking lot, replacing our sound system, carpet and paint for the fellowship hall, and new concrete and doors for our main entryway.
- The South Dakota Conference Annual Meeting was held in Custer June 7-9, with J. Bennett Guess, Executive Minister for Local Church Ministries as the key-

PLACERVILLE CAMP Building Community and Character

For more than 50 years, our congregation has enjoyed a relationship with Placerville Camp as a place of retreat, community and Christian education. Our Placerville Sunday on May 5 provided an opportunity for members to sing camp songs, share testimonies of how camp has impacted the lives of our people, and to share in a special offering in support of our camp.

The Placerville Schedule for the summer of 2013 included:

- Women's Camp, June 10—14
- Shining Stars, June 10-14
- Seekers, June 16-21
- Grand Camp, June 21-23
- Faith Explorers, June 23-28
- Crossroads, July 14-20
- Family Camp, July 21-27
- New Journey, July 28-August 1

In addition to other kinds of support, our church provided camperships and adult leaders to help with Placerville participation and programs.

The Year in Review—continued from page 5

The Phase One Capital Funds Drive quickly exceeded its goal and work began on much needed projects around the church.



PHASE ONE EXCEEDS GOAL!

Church leaders are pleased to announce that as of the end of 2013, the pledges and gifts for the first phase of the “Sustaining the Mission—Shaping the Vision” capital funds drive are \$113,607.77, exceeding the goal by 13%!

The generosity of the congregation enabled the completion of several of the Phase One projects including:

- Drainage work and re-sealing of our parking lot. The lot was also striped and new accessible parking provided.
- New flooring, paint and lighting improvements in the fellowship hall.
- A new sound system in the sanctuary and in the fellowship hall.

Work has begun on structural repairs to the steel beams at the main entryway. Concrete work and new energy-efficient doors will follow as soon as possible.

note speaker. The Conference voted to call Rev. Marc Wessels as our new Conference Minister.

- The Department of Hospitality sponsored Donuts for Dads on June 16.
- The Woodchuck Society held regular splitting parties throughout the spring and summer.
- Walking with Jesus was the theme for our annual Vacation Bible School held June 24 through 28.

July saw the Independence Day Ice Cream Social cancelled along with fireworks displays throughout the Black Hills, but there were plenty of other opportunities for fellowship.

- Rev. Kathleen Batchelder attended the United Church of Christ General Synod held in Long Beach, California June 28—July 2. She represented our congregation and the South Dakota Conference.
- Members of the church worked hard to prepare the space and serve the reception for the Kangas-Umenthum wedding, the first to have a reception in our outdoor shade shelter.

The Department of Hospitality held an ice cream social after worship on Sunday, July 7.

- The Spiritual Practices Group continued to meet through the summer.

August was a month of planning and preparation for a new year of programs and activities.

Members of Church Departments, Committees, Task Forces and the Church Board met in retreat on August 24 to plan programs, discuss capital improvements and coordinate work.

- A small group of church members began working on stained glass projects on Friday afternoons. The group continued to grow and attract interested participants and now has become the Rescue Glass Project.

The Church Board committed to participation in the Habitat for Humanity Apostle’s Build set for the summer of 2014.

- The Memoir Writing Group shared stories as they met on August 22 and invited new members to join them.

The Woodchuck Society held splitting parties on Saturdays, except for the week of the Rummage Sale.

- The Women’s Fellowship sponsored another successful rummage sale August 16 and 17.

The Department of Ministries served the mission meal on August 30.

September saw the return to a full schedule of programs and events.

- September 8 was our second “Bring a Friend to Church Sunday.” Once again we gained some new regular participants from the day of welcome.

The Church School held their September Fair with a bounce house, fun activities,



the Sunday School Kickoff and more. The weather didn't fully cooperate, but the bounce house was set up in the fireside room and activities proceeded as planned.

- We began our observance of 40 Days of Prayer for Children on September 8.
- The Capital Projects Task Force held an informational meeting following worship on September 15.
- The new Congregational Connections group began its visits of home-bound and shut-in members of our church family with a kickoff event on September 15. Fourteen members began the first round of visits.
- The 7-week Women's Bible Study "Quilting Class" began. Sheila Long coordinated the class on God's love. The group began its study on September 23.
- The Church Chat group began a discussion of *A New New Testament* edited by Hal Taussig.
- United Church Youth activities included a "Destination Unknown" event, a pizza party and a hike in the hills above the church.

We planned to participate in the Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering on Worldwide Communion Sunday, October 6. The blizzard forced rescheduling of these events to October 13.

- Our church partnered with Black Hills Works and Break Through Inc. for a one-day workshop for churches called "How Wide is Your Welcome?" on October 12. The conference offered practical ideas on expanding participation and ministry with persons who have disabilities.
- Sunday, October 13 was a day of special celebrations of ordained ministry. We celebrated our covenant with Rev. Kathleen Batchelder, celebrated with Jane Ireland the 25th anniversary of her ordination, and celebrated with Rev. Susan Huffman and Rev. Ted Huffman the 35th anniversaries of their ordinations.
- United Campus Ministries began the Friday Forum with speakers from across the community.
- The fellowship hall was painted and lighting upgrades were completed.
- The Pastoral Relations and Personnel Committee held a listening circle on Worship on October 20.

October brought the surprise of a huge autumn blizzard that had our community shut down for several days, damaged and destroyed thousands of trees and brought out the Woodchucks to assist with clean up in town and at Placerville Camp. It was also a month of continuing mission and ministry.

November was filled with a busy schedule of events and activities as we hosted a community worship service and conducted our annual pledge drive.

- We welcomed new members into our church on November 10.

United Church Youth: building relationships

One thing that we hear from youth who grew up in our church is how the relationships they developed in our church have been lasting sources of meaning for them after they have gone away to college and moved on with their lives.

United Church Youth focuses on strengthening relationships through a variety of specialized programs:

Destination Unknown is a surprise for the youth, not a secret from parents. Events include a meal and a visit to a site of ministry connected to our church. The groups also visit the workplaces of members to see faith in action in the world.

Bible Study and theological reflection offer opportunities to youth to speak honestly of their faith and to explore their doubts in a caring setting.

Meals and fellowship activities provide opportunities for youth to experience Christian community and learn practices of faith that can be applied to everyday living.

The Year in Review—continued from page 7

The year ended with the hosting of the Community Thanksgiving Service, the celebration of Advent and Christmas



COLORS

The Department of Stewardship and Budget, in an effort to reflect the priorities of the congregation, decided that the expense of color printing for this year's annual report was not a priority given other needs of our congregation.

A couple of members of the congregation, however, wanted to continue our tradition of producing high-quality full-color reports as a show-piece of our congregation and its work. Therefore these annual reports have been funded by a special designated gift. The costs of paper and printing were funded by this gift.

We are grateful for the generosity of our donors and will continue to be diligent in the careful use of all of the gifts that are given to our congregation.

- The Annual Turkey Taxi and firewood delivery to Eagle Butte was made on November 23. The Woodchucks were honored with a traditional meal with wojapi at the Eagle Butte Learning Center.
- Our church partnered with the Front Porch Coalition to provide the International Survivors of Suicide Day program on November 23.
- Stewardship Dedication Sunday was November 24.
- We participated in Church World Service's Blanket Sunday on November 24.
- Our church hosted the Downtown Rapid City Ministerial Association's annual Community Thanksgiving celebration on November 26. Our newly re-decorated fellowship hall provided a great setting for fellowship following the service.
- Volunteers erected our Sanctuary Christmas Tree and decorated for Advent on November 30.
- Our Ads for Advent program resulted in sponsored advertisements for our church being aired on television.
- The Advent Fair focused on the theme, "A Baby Shower for Jesus" and featured opportunities to provide supplies for several area ministries as well as crafts and art for the homes of our members.
- We received Christmas decorations for Church Response and supplies for Cornerstone Women's and Children's Shelter.
- The Women's Fellowship Christmas Tea featured a presentation of "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" by Church Ladies on Stage.
- The children of the church led worship on Sunday, December 15 with special music, readings and a pageant.
- The Altar Guild once again made a special display of poinsettias for our Advent and Christmas worship.
- The Young Adults held a Christmas party and dinner, hosted by Ryan Webster on December 21.
- We participated in The Christmas Fund all church offering on December 22.
- Our Christmas Eve services were very well attended. The 11:30 service attendance was so large that the tolling of the Christmas bell was 15 minutes late to accommodate the number of people taking communion.

December was filled with the signs of Advent as we prepared for our Christmas celebrations.

- The Woodchuck Society made deliveries to Wanblee and Red Shirt Table. They also delivered firewood to McLaughlin in the longest Woodchuck run to date.
- We raised funds for our sister church in Costa Rica through the Angels of los Guido fund.

Shaping the Vision

Moderator Rebecca Umenthum

After a year of discussions and planning, the congregation adopted a strategic plan at the annual meeting in January, 2010. The strategic plan had seven goals which have helped guide the work of the departments and the church board. Most of these goals have been incorporated into our everyday church life and mission.

This past year, after over a year of research, the congregation voted in June to approve Phase 1 of the Capital Funds Drive. This phase included projects that needed to be completed immediately in order to “Sustain the Mission” of our church. To check the status of the phase 1 projects, please read the report from the Capital Funds Project Description Committee.

Now we need to move from looking at current needs - “Sustaining the Mission” - to trying to predict the needs of the church of the future - “Shaping the Vision”. Over 50 years ago, members of this church made a huge investment in this church building. Their vision for the church and their emphasis on quality are evidenced by the fact that the church building has served and is still serving the needs of our congregation.

Now it’s our turn as a congregation to invest in the future of this church. We have to replace the boiler, but which boiler? Do we add air-conditioning? We have to replace the roof, but what kind of roofing

will both protect the church and enhance the appearance of the building? What other projects might enhance the ministry of our church? Do we want to improve the back yard – perhaps creating an outdoor worship space, a prayer labyrinth, or play areas for children and youth? Do we want to create a smaller worship area for times when the sanctuary is just too big? Do we want to add an elevator to the balcony so that all areas of the church are fully accessible? Do we want to remodel the entrance way so that people entering the church building are immediately welcomed by church staff? These are just a few of the ideas that have been discussed at church board meetings and retreats this past year.

We will be starting the process of “Shaping the Vision” at the annual meeting on January 26th after worship. We all have opinions on what “we” need and what “we” don’t need and what would be nice for “us” to have if we can afford it. But if we follow the tradition set by our congregation over 50 years ago, we should be asking different questions. When we think about the church of the future, what will “they” need and what don’t “they” need and what would be nice for “them” to have if we can afford it? What decisions do we need to make so that 50 years from now the congregation will have a church building that is serving their needs?

STATISTICAL REPORT

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Membership beginning | |
| 2012 | 598 |
| Deaths | 4 |
| Transfers out..... | 0 |
| New members..... | 14 |
| Membership end 2013..... | 608 |
| Baptisms celebrated in 2013 | |
| | 4 |
| Weddings celebrated in 2013 | |
| | 6 |
| Funerals in 2013..... | 4 |
| Average Worship Attendance in | |
| 2013 | 156 |

Gerry Boehrs, Assistant Moderator



ADS FOR ADVENT

This year we promoted an Ads for Advent program through The Call Newsletter and worship bulletins. Special envelopes were provided for members to make donations to sponsor advertisements for our church. Donors could specify newspaper, radio or television ads.

\$300 was donated to the fund. Although some of the donations were not specified, the majority of the donations were dedicated to television advertising. The minimum amount of television that could be purchased was \$300 and so an advertisement was produced and run.

The project provides a model for future advertising ventures. One thing that was learned is that we need to make the congregation aware of the relatively large amounts needed for a minimum purchase of media advertising and we need to allow more lead time to produce ads.

This task force was established by the Board in early 2012 to assess current internal and external church communications and identify potential opportunities for improvement. The task force was chaired by Gerry Boehrs, and members were Becky Umenthum, Doris Marie Strom and Brent Long, with Ted Huffman as ex-officio member. Representatives of the Departments and other staff members also participated in the meetings.

We recommended to the Board that we wrap up the work of this task force at the end of May, 2013, and presented a final report to the Board for approval. The points outlined below are largely the same as those summarized in last year's Annual Report.

1. Newspapers/traditional communication:

Take full advantage of free church briefs section in Saturday newspaper: We believe the staff is doing well with this. If a volunteer is recruited to focus on this, some improvement is likely.

Consider regular presence in the "church directory" of the Saturday newspaper, at a cost of \$28 per week: We do not recommend this at this time.

Consider newspaper advertising outside the regular church budget to be funded by members who may wish to do so at any time: We recommend a pilot project to try this around Advent and Christmas time.

Utilize mailers or hand delivered flyers to the local area for special things such as vacation bible school: Mailers were tried in 2012 for VBS with little or no result; flyers can be used for things that directly affect neighbors.

2. Web Site

Consider web site improvements, specifically a professionally designed site or a less expensive "template" approach: We

recommend a small group, led by Ted Huffman and Brent Long, to evaluate options and recommend action.

Take steps to assign a staff member or volunteer to each section of the web site to monitor and update information: This will also be part of the mission of the group above.

3. Monthly Meeting

A regular monthly communication meeting has been held each month since Sept., for any staff people and church members who have information to communicate for the next month, and timed to support the "Call" publication schedule: These meetings have been helpful in some ways, but not sufficiently so to continue them. We recommend a stronger focus on identifying items for publication from each of the Departments of the Church each month in a more organized way, e.g. highlighting or underlining such items in Departmental monthly reports.

The Board approved this report as submitted, and the task force officially ended at the end of May, 2013.

A final note: as recommended, we tested media advertising during the Advent season of 2013, and a new, more functional web site has been implemented with broader capabilities and easier updating.



Pastoral Relations and Personnel

Susan Kelts

The Pastoral Relations and Personnel Committee met as a standing committee of the Church Board. We accomplished the following:

1. An annual evaluation for each pastor was completed. This evaluation started with each pastor doing a self-evaluation of their work in the past year. This was followed by a meeting with each pastor, individually, to discuss what is going well with his/her job, challenges of their job performance, goals for the coming year and discussion of how the PRPC can assist each of them in their work.
2. A recommendation to the Department of Stewardship and Budget was made for a modest salary increase for each pastor.

3. Listening Circles were implemented in the fall of 2012 and continued into 2013. We held Listening Circles to evaluate our Christian Education program and our Worship services. We made 2 attempts to hold a Listening Circle for our newest congregational members but were unsuccessful in getting participants. The Committee will continue to find a time and date that is conducive to participation in that (and other) Listening Circles.

The Pastoral Relations and Personnel Committee is vital to our church organization. As we change leadership for the PRPC, we are certain that the group will continue to provide a valuable service to our congregation.

STAR QUILTS SYMBOLIZE GROWING RELATIONSHIP

Each of the beautiful star quilts that hang in our fellowship hall has a specific story that speaks of growing relationships between our congregation and our Native American Neighbors. Memorial quilts, like the beautiful quilt in memory of Ray Valandra are expressions of a growing comfort with opening our building to the traditions and practices of native congregations. The quilts given in honor of the Woodchuck Society speak of years of growing relationships.

Our Conference minister, David Felton uses colorful language to describe the ability of our Native sisters and brothers to detect insincerity and low levels of commitment. Trust builds slowly and our congregation is determined to invest the time to allow relationships to develop naturally.

Special thanks go to Chuck and Sybil Rounds for quilt hangers. Dave Ledford has also helped with the hanging of quilts. Harold Miller is now making new quilt hangers to allow us to display more quilts.

Just as the star guided wise men to the birthplace of Jesus, these quilts are symbols of the light of the dawning of new relationships with our neighbors.

Capital Improvements Task Force

Phase One Status Report—Rob Burton

In June of 2013 our congregation approved a plan put forth by the Capital Improvement Task Force to solicit pledge money to fund several building and grounds projects needing immediate attention, from the standpoint of safety, cost control, or energy preservation. These projects, designated as Phase One, were chosen from a longer list of major capital improvements needed to preserve or enhance our property. Our congregation endorsed Phase One through the pledging of the funds necessary to complete these tasks.

As is often the case when repairing or improving an older structure, additional needs came to light once the work begins. In our situation, the decision was

made to paint the Fellowship Hall prior to the installation of new flooring, a much needed improvement made easier while the room was empty. Additionally, it was discovered that repairs were necessary for the steel columns supporting our entryway, due to rust and corrosion accumulated over the years. Finally, the handicap door operator on our front entry doors failed late this year and needs to be replaced when the new doors are installed.

Broken down below are the financials for Phase One, as of mid January of 2014. Removal of the entryway slate and site preparation for steel column repairs began on January 15th. The used slate will be saved for possible future projects.

Capital Improvements Task Force—Continued from page 11

As is often the case when repairing or improving an older structure, additional needs came to light after the work was begun.



UTILIZING THE POWER OF VOLUNTEERS

The capital projects process has involved tackling some very big jobs. Some jobs, such as laying carpet and painting trim next to the ceiling in the fellowship hall, have required the hiring of contractors to perform the work.

The Capital Projects Task Force has, however, worked hard to involve volunteers wherever possible in the process.

On January 18, 16 volunteers participated in a morning of lifting and cleaning the heavy slate from the entryway of the church so that the slate can be properly stored for future use.

Two trailers and a pickup were loaded with cleaned slate, stacked on pallets. The work was accomplished with good humor and great fun.

Volunteers are the heart of our church and we are grateful for the many hours that have been donated.

Once these repairs have been completed work will begin on the main entryway, the west entry way, and the drain pads on the northwest side of our building. Once the main entryway surface is completed the new front doors will be installed, completing all the Phase One projects.

Members of the Capital Improvement Task Force include Becky Umenthum, Chair, Tom Berry, Gerry Boehrs, Rob Burton, Randy Daughenbaugh, Robin Eddy, Randy Fisher, Ron Switzer, and Denise Webster. Harold Miller has joined the task force as a liaison from the Board of Directors of the 1st Congregational Trust.

Pledges collected as of 12/31/13:

\$108,912.77

Project Expenditures - completed:

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Parking lot repair & resurfacing | \$ 31,819.43 | paid 9/15/13 |
| Sound system | 22,526.06 | paid 10/26/14 |
| Fellowship Hall flooring | 13,646.44 | paid 12/23/13 |
| Fellowship Hall painting | 5,840.00 | paid 1/12/14 |
| Sidewalk and drainage mudjack | 2,321.43 | paid 11/24/13 |

Project Expenditures Paid to Date

\$76,153.36

Project Expenditures -yet to be completed:

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|
| Entryway metal column repairs | 1,284.00 | per 11/21/13 proposal |
| Concrete work - sidewalk/drainage | 3,000.00 | per May 2013 estimate |
| Concrete work - | 13,656.00 | per 10/31/13 proposal |
| New front doors | 13,656.00 | per 10/31/13 proposal |
| New front door handicap operator | 2,566.00 | per 04/21/13 proposal |

Project Expenditures Yet to Be Completed

\$30,821.00

Total Expenditures, competed and planned:

\$106,974.36

Under/(Over) Budget:

\$1,938.41

Senior Minister

Rev. Dr. Ted E. Huffman

2013 was a year of personal anniversaries for me. I turned 60 years old. Susan and I celebrated our 40th wedding anniversary. And we also celebrated the 35th anniversary of our ordinations. Here at the church, I realized that not only is my time the longest pastorate in the history of the church, it is now 150% of the length of the previous record holder.

One of the key elements in long pastorates is avoiding stagnation. 2013 was certainly not a year of repeating old patterns. It was a year of innovation, change, excitement and accomplishment.

Making changes in patterns of worship is never easy. I do not take respect for tradition lightly. Continuity with previous generations is important. Theological integrity and Biblical faithfulness are critical. But the world in which we live is changing. Church attendance patterns are shifting. And the times demand that we take a fresh look at worship to make sure that we keep it relevant to the needs of the people we serve.

There is additional information about the Holy Week worship services elsewhere in this report, but it is worth noting that the Department of Worship went in a bold and rather counter-intuitive direction. In order to increase attendance during Holy Week and provide for the genuine spiritual needs of our congregation, they offered more, not fewer services. By having a worship option for every day of the week and invit-

ing members to find an extra hour for worship during holy week, they created a new attitude toward Holy Week and saw attendance go up at all of the services, including the traditional services that we used to hold. Busy church members genuinely want and need to find opportunities for worship. 2013 was a year in which we discovered the value of expanding our worship offerings. I expect that 2014 will be a year of even more worship.

Another story of church leaders acting boldly that produced growth for our congregation was the capital funds drive. We knew that we needed to move ahead with capital improvements. The costs of some of the needed ideas continued to spiral upward. Acting quickly was one way of saving money. On the other hand, we were committed to making sure that we did not care for our building at the cost of our mission and outreach. Sustaining the mission while shaping the vision became the theme of our deliberations.

The \$100,000 goal was set in response to what the group determined to be immediate needs. Several things that we wanted were not included because of our care in separating wants from needs. It was felt that a 25% increase in total income was an ambitious goal, so the goal of \$100,000 was seen as the maximum for the initial phase of our drive. We were wrong, but we were wrong in the right direction. The generosity of the congregation exceeded

WEARING A BADGE

In 2013 Rev. Ted Huffman joined the ranks of the Pennington County Sheriff's Chaplains. The Sheriff's Chaplains are a group of dedicated and carefully screened volunteers who provide pastoral services and support to the officers and employees of the Pennington County Sheriff's Office.

Primarily working as chaplain to the employees of the Pennington County Jail, Ted has also helped officers with death notifications, support to survivors of suicide, and training of officers. Working with other Chaplains, he is the lead writer for a new set of training resources that will be used in incident debriefing, stress management and support of officers.

"I wasn't looking for another chore to occupy my time," Ted recently commented. "But I do feel that it is vital that our congregation remain an active participant in our community. From the very beginning of Rapid City, we have been a part of the community. We receive the services of the Sheriff, the Fire Department, the City Police and others. Providing pastoral services to those who work in our community just makes sense for our congregation."

I expect 2014 to be a year of big changes in our life together. With God as our guide, I know we will not be disappointed.



MAINTAINING PERSPECTIVE

I love the work I do as your pastor, but I also know that it is important to step back and look at things from a fresh perspective. Preaching and leading worship requires time for reflection and creative thought.

It is not uncommon, during the months when the lake is free from ice, to find me watching the sunrise from a canoe on Sheridan Lake. These hills are indeed sacred. They have been made by God and taking time to go to the quiet places and listen for the voice of God is an essential element of spiritual growth.

I am an early riser and many days I can paddle and still be the first to arrive at the church office. When I am delayed it is often by the discovery of a new wonder or beauty that God is revealing.

We have been blessed to live in a place that provides great access to God's glory. I am grateful for the moments to behold this wondrous world.

our expectations, allowing us to move full speed into arranging for the necessary repairs by early fall. The parking lot work was completed on schedule and we have our newly redecorated and re-purposed fellowship hall ready to go. Soon the entryway and new front doors will be installed and welcoming members and guests to our church home.

The Gospel reminds us again and again to set aside our fears and to respond to God's call. Our experience in 2013 taught us again this truth of our faith. Courage was rewarded with significant progress in the life of our congregation.

As we continue to learn new lessons in our life of faith, I would like to offer an observation that comes from years of experience and a challenge to our congregation as we go forward. The observation is that fundamental strength and resilience are qualities that mark our congregation. We have not been called to be the most rapidly growing congregation in our city. In my years of living in Rapid City that title has been held by four different churches. Three of those four churches did not experience growth in membership in 2013. In the boom and bust cycle of church membership rapid growth seems to be temporary. In contrast, our congregation has been within a dozen members of the same size for more than five decades. There must be something about our size that works for us as a congregation. We are large enough to serve well and small enough to provide a church home for our members and friends. Not every success is measured in numbers. We were here at the beginning—

the first Christian congregation organized in our town. And we will be here long after some of the fast growing congregations have faded into internal conflict and dividing struggles. Religion isn't a competition with winners and losers. It is a call to faithfulness. We do best when we lay aside temporary envy of other congregations and ask ourselves seriously what God is calling us to do and be.

The challenge is an on-going challenge to remain fully engaged in developing new leadership. Our age profile is on the white-haired side. This is true of our membership, of our elected church leaders and our paid church staff. Yet we know the thrill of inspiration we feel when a 15-year-old graces our organ bench and raises the rafters with a rousing postlude. Our eyes and invitation must be open to new leaders at all levels of congregational life. Jesus called disciples and we need to be about the same business of raising up, equipping and sending forth leaders of all ages to engage in the ministry of the church.

I expect 2014 to be a year of big changes in our life together. With God as our guide, I know that we will not be disappointed.

Minister of Education

Rev. Susan R. Huffman

Reading through my journal from 2013 reminds me of many wonderful experiences in our congregation this year. I remember The Feast of the Three Kings with that rogue King Herod bribing the members of our Church Board (horrors!), the wise men filled with awe (ahhhh.....) and little Anna Benusis, playing the part of the infant Jesus, waving her hand in response to the applause. I remember Brother Emile and Brother John from the Taize community leading an adult discussion group. Their vision and stories inspired us! But, it was equally inspiring to share the baptismal reaffirmation with a seven-year-old who confidently said, “yes, I do” when asked “Do you promise to do your best in following what Jesus taught?” 2013 was a year filled with many moments of Christian learning and growth, many moments to remember and treasure.

CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS

Sunday School is the heart of the educational ministry with our children. During the spring, I taught the fourth and fifth graders in addition to overseeing the Sunday school program. Although we still struggle with consistency, the Sunday school attendance has increased. This fall, we have more volunteers, so I have not been teaching a class. This allows me to sit in on classes and watch what is going on. I’m pleased with the programs we offer.

49 children participated in the 2013 Vacation Bible School *Walking with Jesus*. This is the highest enrollment we have had without offering a middle school class. For the last several years, we have created our own VBS curriculum. With years of curriculum writing experience under my belt, I enjoy the opportunity to write our own material and create a program that works for us. An added benefit is that we have been able to coordinate our summer and winter programs more closely.

YOUTH

2013 was a good year in youth ministry. An especially good group of high school seniors stayed active and helped carry the energy of the group throughout the spring. The attendance during the fall was down slightly, as we anticipated it would be without the 2013 grads. However, I have been pleased with the way that the younger kids are moving into leadership and with the support they offer one another. Sometimes we think of youth as a time of fun and games, but the reality is that our kids have faced hard situations this fall. It is powerful to see them offer prayers for one another, hand out prayer shawls and be understanding and supportive. I am proud of the way they are maturing in faith. Our program provides a safe and supportive place for teens. The kids are engaged in serving others both through the structured mission projects and through their own volunteer work with Woodchucks and

CREATING OUR OWN CURRICULUM

In recent years, the Department of Education and the Minister of Education have created our own unique curriculum for Vacation Bible School. The programs have been custom designed to meet the needs of our congregation and the children we serve.

Commercially available Vacation Bible School curricula tend to take a “one size fits all” approach to summer activities for children. They rarely have any connections to the other programs of the church and often lack the biblical and theological integrity that we have nurtured so carefully in our programs.

Many members of the Department of Education are teachers who contributed greatly to the development of learning resources. With our Minister of Education, they have been able to take the ideas and concerns of parents and members of the Department of Education and craft them into programs that fit the needs of our congregation.

This approach has met with success demonstrated by the growth of the program and the ability of the children to retain the biblical stories that form the core of the curriculum.

The work of the church is not “my ministry” but that of the Body of Christ working together.



BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS THAT ENDURE

It is not uncommon for youth and young adults to have hundreds of Facebook friends without belonging to a genuine community. Building up the Body of Christ is about nurturing relationships over long periods of time. For our church that means keeping in touch with young adults as they go off to college and careers.

It also means forming relationships that span multiple generations. Our love and concern reaches beyond the walls of our church to embrace children and grandchildren who know of our church through other family members but do not have a church home for themselves.

Some of the most important work that our congregation does involves activities that take place in locations other than our church building.

“We’re here if you need us,” is one of the most important messages that we have to share with people of all ages.

other projects around the church. Last year, I recruited Ryan Webster and Kathleen Grigg to help as Youth Group Assistants. Ryan is helping with youth activities again, but Kathleen moved to Pierre. I have enjoyed the opportunity to mentor the young adult assistants--addressing issues such as appropriate boundaries, group behaviors and modeling respect.

ADULT EDUCATION

In the spring, I taught the Kerygma study *Parables: Stories for Life in God’s World*. The class was both challenging and interesting. Several new people joined and we had good discussions. During Lent, I taught part of *Five Wishes* sessions and Ted taught others.

The Young Adult Group met throughout the year, sometimes going out for food and fun, other times cooking and sharing Bible Study together. We are blessed with a great group of young adults and I am energized by their willingness to serve. I have also worked to recruit young adult into leadership roles in the church. I am proud of the track record of young adults who have served as members of the departments, who teach Sunday school and who offer their time. I hope that we will continue to trust them with leadership responsibilities.

INTERGENERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

I enjoyed planning intergenerational events this year. The Advent Festival, “A Baby Shower for Jesus” was especially fun and successfully combined crafts, mission projects and learning activities. The fall all-church day at Placerville was cancelled due

to winter storm Atlas, but we are hoping to reschedule this spring.

NEW MEMBERS

In 2013, I worked on two “Bring a Friend” Sundays. This year, our membership groups have been smaller than in 2012, but we have taken in new 14 members. In addition, several families have returned to the church. It takes constant effort to get new people involved in the church and keep them involved. But as I look around, I am pleased with the work we have done to bring in new members.

WORSHIP

I enjoyed leading worship this year. Participation in the Holy Week services was particularly meaningful. I also served communion, preached, baptized, officiated at a wedding and created a baptismal renewal ceremony. The opportunities to lead worship are a vital part of the ordained ministry and I am grateful for the opportunities to lead the gathered community in worship. I am also grateful for the times when we involve children and youth in worship. Sometimes they are the ones who truly lead. I recall the moment last spring when seventeen-month-old Elsa Grauman signed “more” as she ate the bread of communion. “Taste and see that the Lord is good.” Would that we could all be so delighted to receive that bit of bread, the body of Christ!

PASTORAL CARE

Although I do less pastoral calling than Ted and Kathleen, I am also engaged in providing pastoral care to our congregation. This in-



cludes making calls in the hospital, in nursing homes, and in homes, and in providing general pastoral care through phone calls and regular contact.

EQUIPPING THE SAINTS

This fall, Ted and I observed the thirty-fifth anniversary of our ordination. The role of the ordained minister is "to equip the saints for

the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ." (Ephesians 4:12) The work of the church is not "my" ministry, but that of the Body of Christ, working together. I seek to empower our lay leaders, youth, young adults and even the children to carry out their call to discipleship. I am honored to share the work of vital ministry with you.

Minister of Christian Nurture

Rev. Kathleen Batchelder

For 2013, my ministry at First Congregational UCC has had "connections" as a theme. Visitation and on-going programs have continued to keep me connected throughout the congregation. I have worked hard to facilitate Congregational Connections as a member care team. I have also begun four meaningful connections and roles beyond our congregation: board member for the United Campus Ministry at SDSM&T; the Women's Fellowship Board of the South Dakota Conference; moderator-elect of the South Dakota Conference; and delegate to UCC General Synod in 2013 and 2015.

Visitation continues to be my primary responsibility within our congregation. I am privileged to visit members in their homes, in nursing homes, and in care facilities. It is a delight to participate in such programs as the Westhills Bible and Book Study Group, Church Chat, the Fourth Tuesday Ladies' Lunch Group, Spiritual Practice Group, Jail Ministry, the Department of

Hospitality, and the Department of Ministries.

In 2013, we have recruited 13 members who serve as the Congregational Connections Team. After an organizational meeting and a commissioning service on September 29, this team has called, written, visited, and nurtured many of our members who are unable to attend worship. Other church members are contributing to our Congregational Connections efforts, too. Boxes of cookies were assembled and then delivered after the Christmas Tea. At the Advent Fair on December 8, we made colorful wreaths, ornaments, and cards to be taken or mailed to members who have not made it to church recently. It is encouraging to hear about the positive responses of members who receive visits, calls, and letters from their church family.

In addition to my responsibilities within our own congregation, I have made some great new connections in 2013. The first came when I joined the board of United

CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTIONS: DEVELOPING A NETWORK OF CARE

Over the years our congregation has had several different systems for lay visitation. Diaconate visitors, Called to Care and other programs each served their purpose in their time. But the process of making and nurturing connections with church members who are limited in their ability to get to the church needs constant nurture.

This year the Department of Hospitality, under the guidance of Minister of Christian Nurture, Kathleen Batchelder, undertook the creation of Congregational Connections, a new network of care. Volunteers were recruited and trained. Revised lists of members in need of special care were drawn up. The program has met with great success. We have better information on our members and we are better able to communicate our care and concern to those who are not able to attend church on a regular basis.

Thanks to all of the volunteers who are giving graciously of their time to extend this important ministry. Congregational connections are a sure sign of the love and care of our Christian community.

I give thanks for the opportunity to serve within our wonderful congregation



THE PASCHAL CANDLE

Easter, 2013, saw the advent of a new candle in our sanctuary. The Paschal candle is an ancient Christian tradition. The new candle appears at the Great Vigil of Easter each year signifying new fire through the light of the resurrected Christ. After assuming a position in the center of the chancel through the Easter season, the Paschal Candle remains near the baptismal font for the rest of the year, welcoming all believers into the light of Christ. Our candle is a gift of an anonymous donor who celebrates the blending of tradition and creative innovation in the worship of our congregation.

Campus Ministry for the SDSM&T campus. My contribution to UCM in 2013 has been re-starting the weekly community forum programs which allow SDSM&T students, staff, and faculty to meet with church and community folks for weekly programs on a wide variety of topics. During fall semester 2013, we held Friday Forum each week school was in session. Beginning January 16, we will change to Thursday Forum in an attempt to include more students and faculty who have MWF classes. The response to the Forum has been encouraging, and I hope it will continue as a community connection and as a way to learn more about United Campus Ministry at SDSM&T.

Finally, I have made three UCC denominational connections in 2013. I have been elected President of the Women's Fellowship Board for the SD Conference, and I am getting to know women across the conference as we plan for the 2014 Conference meeting at our church in June. I have also been elected Moderator-Elect for the SD Conference, so I will moderate the conference

meeting in Sioux Falls in June 2015. Both of these offices are giving me a broader understanding of our SD Conference and of our congregation's relationship with other SD UCC churches. As an elected delegate to General Synod in Long Beach, CA, in June 2013, I participated in debates about fourteen justice resolutions. We heard outstanding speakers; we had meaningful worship services; I met new friends and visited with several seminary buddies; and we gloried in the connections of our UCC family.

As I begin my fourth year of ministry, I give thanks for the opportunity to serve within our wonderful congregation. I am grateful for being part of our church staff team—we work well together, and we communicate easily. I treasure deep connections within our church family, within our local community, and within our UCC denomination. As I look to 2014, I hope to be more effective in visitation and in hospitality. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as Minister of Christian Nurture at First Congregational United Church of Christ!

The Department of Worship -Laura Switzer

The Department of Worship coordinates activities relating to the worship service in cooperation with the pastors, communion servers, and the music staff. This includes recruiting liturgists, greeters, communion and baptism representatives, and ushers. It also includes a member of the Altar Guild. The department met monthly in 2013, except for June and July.

The Holy Week Worship services were a great success and included a Liturgy of the

Passion, a Wake Night Service, a Blues Night, and a Journey to the Cross. Over 269 people were in attendance at the various mid-week events.

Our adult choir director, Karen Nelson, retired from her position in May. Department of Worship and choir members formed a committee in June to begin searching for a new choir director. Karen Ross, wife of our organist, Michael Ross, was selected. Karen's vision and leadership



has produced beautiful results each time the choir performs. Our church continues to benefit from the offerings of organ music from Michael, piano performances by Karen, and bell choir performances as directed by Michael Bossen.

We wish to thank Larry Snoozy for building a new platform for the baptismal font. Another

improvement to the sanctuary was completion of the new sound system which was purchased through funds allocated by the Capital Improvement Task force.

Members of the department are Jane Ireland, Kandee Snoozy, Cam Miller, Jodi Burke, Laura Switzer, and David Seaman. Senior Minister Ted Huffman also attends regularly.

The Department of Education –Sharon Darrow

The Department of Education started the year with plans for “Bring A Friend to Church Sunday” and an open house for the Sunday School classes. Youth helped with duties in the dining room and assisted with those needing help to enter the church building. Ash Wednesday Family Night began with a pancake feed and activities for those attending followed by a Worship Service. The March Family Night theme was “Friends of All Ages” with invitations sent out to adult members of the congregation. Tacos were served followed by a Family Bible Study complete with a craft. The theme for Vacation Bible School was “Walking with Jesus”. This theme was continued in the curriculum for Sunday School. In lieu of the traditional last day of VBS picnic, the group gathered at the church for dinner and a short program. The end of the year program honored the graduating seniors with a presentation of a fleece blanket and certificate. The last day of Sunday School was a play day with a summer fun theme. There was an increase of the number of volunteers for helping with Sunday School this fall. Rain visited the day of the Kick-Off Carnival and Blessing of the Backpacks. However, the bounce house fits perfectly in the Fireside room and the kids had fun despite

the rain! The weather also forced cancellation of the first planned Family Night—a trip to Placerville after the worship service. The Advent Fair theme this year was “A Baby Shower for Jesus”. The congregation was invited to bring baby gifts to give to the Women and Children’s Shelter. The youth led worship on December 15 with songs and readings. The theme was JOY and the children laid strips of cloth in the manger for the baby Jesus. The Library project has blossomed. Thanks to the generosity of the Women’s Fellowship and carpenter Bill Warvi, three new banks of shelves have been added to accommodate more books. A larger book truck was purchased to hold the children’s books. A program to encourage young readers was instituted. With the completion of a book log, children are awarded a certificate, bookmark, and certificate for a frozen custard treat at Culvers. Jenny Seals joined the Department to replace a member who moved away. The members who have reached their term limit and are moving on are Lynn Grauman and Melissa Emerson and we thank them for their service. Members who remain are Sharon Darrow, Jenny Seals, Pandi Bollock, and Dona Leavens.

A BABY SHOWER FOR JESUS

This year’s Advent Fair combined the stories of Jesus birth, our congregation’s passion for mission, and a contemporary theme. Pondering what we do in our time to prepare for the birth of a baby, the Department of Education came up with the idea of “A Baby Shower for Jesus.” Baby showers involve practical gifts and the Youth Group had just visited the Cornerstone Women’s and Children’s Shelter and were aware of the need for supplies for infants and children at the shelter. The combination of all of these gave our Advent Fair a special flavor as we collected gifts to be shared with the Women’s Shelter and made crafts to celebrate the season.

Because the 1st Sunday of Advent fell on Thanksgiving weekend, the Department held the Advent Fair on the 2nd Sunday of Advent with special activities for people of all ages.

Gifts continued to come to the church throughout the weeks of Advent enabling generous gifts to support the Women’s shelters, Church Response and the Central District Health Department Well-Baby Program.

Special thanks to Deb Tompkins for the beautiful Baby Jesus cupcakes!

Department of Ministries - Georgia O'Connor

Without our generous contributions, our department would not be able to serve those that benefit from this ministry.



HOW FOOD COUPONS WORK FOR ALL

Food Coupons are sold to church members at face value and are redeemed at face value. If you purchase a \$25 coupon, you receive a card that can be used for \$25 at the grocery store. However, if you use the food coupons, both Church Response and our congregation benefit. The proceeds that go to our congregation are invested in mission and outreach projects. Everybody wins when you use food coupons.

There are other benefits as well. Safeway coupons are accepted as cash at the Safeway gas station, giving the cash discount to the user. In addition, Safeway coupons accumulate gas discount points at a faster rate than any other payment method.

Food Coupons are on sale in the fellowship hall after worship each Sunday. Stop by the table for more information and to purchase coupons.

2013 was a very busy year for the Department of Ministries. Our dedicated ministries members included Jill Kundtz, Mary Yelick, Pat Sutliff, Kathleen Batchelder. Margaret Puntam and Barb Knight each served half a year. Georgia O'Connor and Robin Franson served as Co-Chairs.

In 2013, our committee prepared and served 4 evening meals at the Cornerstone Rescue Mission. Between 110 and 130 people enjoyed our hot macaroni, ham and cheese casseroles, fruit salad, green beans and cookies. We also provided 2 meals of sloppy joes, baked beans, coleslaw, cookies and conversation to about 70 students for United Campus Ministries at South Dakota School of Mines and Technology.

The cost of our meals is financed through the sale of Church Response food coupons which people purchase on Sundays in the Fellowship Hall. We are working to streamline the coupon accounts. Our participating grocery

stores included Family Thrift, Safeway, Wal-Mart and Sam's Club. The food certificates sold had a value of \$96,755.00 and brought a profit of \$1,736.50. Non-perishable foods deposited in the grocery cart are delivered weekly to Church Response. A total of 802 pounds valued at \$1,090.00 were donated by the generous members of 1st Congregational UCC. The details of these sales are shown on the chart below.

The Department of Ministries gave Mission Moments during church services to provide information about our 5 special offerings.

The Department of Ministries would like to heartily thank the many volunteers of our church that purchased food coupons, baked those delicious cookies and helped prepare and serve the food for the Cornerstone Mission and the students at the School of Mines. Without your generous contributions, our department would not be able to serve those that benefit from this ministry.

Totals

| Coupons Totals | Value | Profit |
|----------------|-------------|------------|
| 2013 | \$96,755.00 | \$1,736.50 |

| Donations Totals | Pounds | Value |
|------------------|--------|------------|
| 2013 | 802 | \$1,090.09 |

Food Donations

| Month | Pounds | Value |
|----------|--------|----------|
| January | 91 | \$139.23 |
| February | 8 | \$12.24 |
| March | 120 | \$177.60 |
| April | 81 | \$123.63 |
| May | 45 | \$138.85 |
| June | 36 | \$106.28 |

| Month | Pounds | Value |
|-----------|--------|----------|
| July | 23 | \$33.66 |
| August | 43 | \$65.79 |
| September | 116 | \$177.53 |
| October | 71 | \$108.63 |
| November | 130 | \$198.63 |
| December | 38 | \$58.94 |



Food Coupon Sales

| Date | Sales | Profit |
|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| January | | |
| 01/06/2013 | \$2,750.00 | \$47.00 |
| 01/13/2013 | \$1,300.00 | \$23.00 |
| 01/21/2013 | \$1,250.00 | \$23.00 |
| 01/27/2013 | \$2,725.00 | \$51.00 |
| Totals | \$8,025.00 | \$144.00 |
| February | | |
| 02/03/2013 | \$1,250.00 | \$21.00 |
| 02/10/2013 | \$2,125.00 | \$40.25 |
| 02/17/2013 | \$2,525.00 | \$43.00 |
| 02/24/2013 | \$1,520.00 | \$28.40 |
| Totals | \$7,420.00 | \$132.65 |
| March | | |
| 03/03/2013 | \$2,130.00 | \$38.60 |
| 03/10/2013 | \$1,975.00 | \$32.50 |
| 03/17/2013 | \$1,100.00 | \$22.00 |
| 03/24/2013 | \$2,705.00 | \$47.85 |
| 03/31/2013 | \$1,875.00 | \$34.50 |
| Totals | \$9,785.00 | \$175.45 |
| April | | |
| 04/07/2013 | \$1,500.00 | \$27.00 |
| 04/14/2013 | \$2,550.00 | \$45.75 |
| 04/21/2013 | \$1,700.00 | \$34.00 |
| 04/28/2013 | \$1,970.00 | \$32.40 |
| Totals | \$7,720.00 | \$139.15 |
| May | | |
| 05/05/2013 | \$1,180.00 | \$21.10 |
| 05/12/2013 | \$1,550.00 | \$26.00 |
| 05/19/2013 | \$2,400.00 | \$43.00 |
| 05/26/2013 | \$1,810.00 | \$33.20 |
| Totals | \$6,940.00 | \$123.30 |
| June | | |
| 06/02/2013 | \$1,250.00 | \$21.00 |
| 06/09/2013 | \$2,050.00 | \$39.00 |
| 06/23/2013 | \$2,700.00 | \$49.00 |
| 06/30/2013 | \$1,970.00 | \$35.40 |
| Totals | \$7,970.00 | \$144.40 |

| Date | Sales | Profit |
|---------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| July | | |
| 07/07/2013 | \$1,550.00 | \$29.40 |
| 07/14/2013 | \$1,600.00 | \$29.00 |
| 07/21/2013 | \$1,800.00 | Month |
| 07/28/2013 | \$2,650.00 | \$49.00 |
| Totals | \$7,600.00 | \$138.40 |
| August | | |
| 08/04/2013 | \$1,700.00 | \$29.00 |
| 08/11/2013 | \$1,600.00 | \$26.00 |
| 08/18/2013 | \$1,685.00 | \$30.70 |
| 08/25/2013 | \$2,250.00 | \$44.00 |
| Totals | \$7,235.00 | \$129.70 |
| September | | |
| 09/01/2013 | \$2,625.00 | \$46.25 |
| 09/08/2013 | \$1,560.00 | \$27.20 |
| 09/15/2013 | \$1,775.00 | \$26.25 |
| 09/22/2013 | \$1,875.00 | \$34.50 |
| 09/29/2013 | \$1,450.00 | \$25.00 |
| Totals | \$9,285.00 | \$159.20 |
| October | | |
| 10/06/2013 | The Great October Storm | |
| 10/13/2013 | \$1,950.00 | \$35.00 |
| 10/20/2013 | \$1,600.00 | \$25.00 |
| 10/27/2013 | \$2,900.00 | \$55.00 |
| Totals | \$6,450.00 | \$115.00 |
| November | | |
| 11/3/2013 | \$1,700.00 | \$33.00 |
| 11/3/2013 | \$1,150.00 | \$22.00 |
| 11/3/2013 | \$2,775.00 | \$48.50 |
| 11/3/2013 | \$3,200.00 | \$57.50 |
| Totals | \$8,825.00 | \$161.00 |
| December | | |
| 12/01/2013 | \$850.00 | \$17.00 |
| 12/01/2013 | \$1,350.00 | \$26.00 |
| 12/01/2013 | \$3,175.00 | \$58.75 |
| 12/01/2013 | \$2,575.00 | \$47.00 |
| 12/01/2013 | \$1,550.00 | \$25.50 |
| Totals | \$9,500.00 | \$174.25 |

A PARTNERSHIP WITH CHURCH RESPONSE

1st Congregational United Church of Christ was one of the founding congregations of Church Response and has been a partner in the ecumenical community service organization throughout its history.

Church Response works to provide emergency food assistance to families in need in Rapid City. The families served are predominantly what have been called the working poor. 94% of those served have some form of employment. Their family income, however, is not sufficient to provide for their basic needs. Church Response provides supplemental support in the form of non-perishable food items. Along with food support, Church Response works to help families find energy and housing assistance as well as providing a listening ear for struggling members of our community.

Our partnership with Church Response enables us to reach out directly into areas of most need in our community.

In addition to the food donations reported by the Department of Ministries, the United Church Youth Souper Bowl of Caring on February 14 collected 329 pounds of food.

The Department of Hospitality—Kyle Grauman, chair

2013 had many events that we as a congregation have come to enjoy and look forward to as well as some that were newly introduced.



ROLLS, MUFFINS & DONUTS

Caramel rolls for the Annual Meeting, Muffins for Mother's Day, Donuts for Father's Day—these may seem like small things in the overall scheme of congregational life, but they are part of a much bigger picture.

Our congregation is a beloved community—an expression of the Body of Christ. When we gather for fellowship and refreshments we are doing more than just sharing food. We are sharing our lives with one another and offering genuine care and concern to each other in the name of Jesus Christ.

We all associate Jesus' instructions with the celebration of communion: "Whenever you eat and drink, do so in remembrance of me." Every time we share around the table, however, is an opportunity for communion with one another and with Jesus.

Hospitality is much more than food, but sharing food in the name of Jesus is always a blessing.

It was yet another fantastic year for those of us with the privilege of serving on our Church's Department of Hospitality. 2013 had many events that we as a congregation have come to enjoy and look forward to as well as some that were newly introduced.

Our year started in January by hosting the annual meeting (our chief duty, of course, is providing caramel rolls for the famished attendees). In February, we had the All-Church Birthday Party where each month has a special table and cake decorated by volunteers from the congregation. March was highlighted by our Saint Patrick's Day celebration which featured a smorgasbord of festive treats which was highlighted by a cupcake rainbow. In May we held our annual Muffins for Moms and in June we had our Donuts for Dads celebration. Both events have led to great fellowship following Sunday Worship. We had excellent weather and a beautiful setting for our ice cream social that was held in July. In order to help "Widen our Welcome" the Bring-a-Friend task force was created. Our congregation held two Bring-a-Friend Sundays where church members were encouraged to bring friends, family, acquaintances or complete strangers to church in order to experience the grace and love of Christ. Our department worked in tandem with the Bring-a-Friend task force by greeting, guiding and simply visiting with guests. The Department of Hospitality also helped other church departments with their festivities (such as the Sunday School Graduation party in May) when additional assistance was needed or requested.

Our Department of Hospitality worked with the Department of Worship to welcome folks to the Community Thanksgiving service at our church on November 26. Following the service, we served cookies and coffee, and we were delighted by the number of folks who stayed to visit. The Advent Fair took place in December. This year's theme was "A Baby Shower for Jesus" It was a splendid time for our entire congregation to come together and celebrate the birth of Christ with crafts, activities, cocoa and treats. The church directories were finished and distributed throughout the congregation. This was a monumental task and we are glad to finally be able to enjoy the benefits of all the hard work that everyone contributed. 2013 also saw the launch of a very important new program, Congregational Connections.

A team of 13 church members have agreed to call, write, and/or visit other congregational members who are unable to attend worship. The Congregational Connections team members are: Sharon Darrow, Jane Ireland, Mary Keithahn, Chuck Lindly, Mary Mead, Eleanore Moe, Eileen Rossow, Chuck and Sybil Rounds, Kandee Snoozy, Doris Marie Strom, Jim Webster, and Tish Wilkinson. They were commissioned for this important ministry in worship on September 29, and they have made dozens of greatly appreciated visits.

Our members for the year of 2013: Marrelyce Seaman, Deb Tompkins, Patsy Valandra, Kyle Grauman, Brad and Heather Heinert, Reva Ortega and Kathleen Batchelder.

The Department of Building, Equipment & Grounds -Ron Hill

There were no major projects planned for this department during the 2013.

Expenditures were allocated to repairs and maintenance.

Repairs and additions were made on the lawn sprinklers. The west church entryway

was painted and had new flooring installed.

After the blizzard in October, several badly damaged trees were removed and others had parts trimmed off.

The Work of Volunteers

The Department of Building, Equipment and Grounds isn't much for meetings. From time to time they will get together after church to review work that needs to be done or make plans for a work day, but most of the year, the department's work is arranged by phone calls and e-mails. The lack of formal meetings, however, doesn't signal a lack of work that gets accomplished. The Department is one of the groups in the church that is especially effective at using volunteers to accomplish big tasks.

Did you ever wonder who mows the lawn all summer long? How about clearing all of the weeds from the hillsides? Who repairs the sprinkler system? Who replaces furnace filters and oils the motors on the air handlers? Who installed the new flooring in the west entryway? Who glues up new ceiling tiles and touches up the paint? Who replaced all of the cracked window panes in our stained glass windows? Who planed down the doors after the carpet was installed in the fellowship hall? Who upgraded

the electrical outlets in the kitchens with GFI plugs?

The answer to these and a lot of other questions is the same. Volunteers do the work of maintaining and caring for our church building and grounds.

No one is keeping track of the number of hours that volunteers contribute to building maintenance, but the number of hours is high. In the past year we've seen volunteers running the lawn mower after dark, trimming the grass by the headlights of the mower. We've had volunteers who spent their Saturdays at the church making repairs and then returned on Sunday for worship.

The bottom line is that we couldn't run our church without the dedication and generosity of our volunteers. Many of them have special skills. Most use their own tools to accomplish tasks for the church.

Thanks to all of our volunteers! There is always room for more.

AN ALARMING SITUATION

One Saturday morning the smoke alarms in the west hallway sent a signal to our alarm monitoring service and from there to the Rapid City Fire Department. As we carefully inspected the building it was discovered that the audio and visual alarms in the building were not working properly. A service call was put into our alarm company and it was discovered that the main circuit board in our alarm panel had a short circuit and we would need to invest in a new alarm panel.

As a part of the nearly \$2,400 project we installed a new fire-fighter's panel in the west hallway and had all of the detectors and sensors in the system tested and cleaned. This also involved bringing our alarm permit with the city up to date and making sure that the system met current code requirements.

During the entire process we continued to have active smoke and fire alarms in the building that were monitored by our central alarm monitoring system.

Now that the repairs are complete, we are confident that our building and people are being protected by a fully-functioning system.

Women's Fellowship -Peggy Eckholm, treasurer

The Women's Fellowship supports ministries as varied as Placerville Camp, our sister church in Costa Rica, and local providers of services for those in need.



MORE THAN JUST A RUMMAGE SALE

You can tell by looking at the financial report on this page that the Women's Fellowship is very successful with rummage sales. Nearly \$13,000 was earned in 2013 through two major rummage sales. While providing funds for the mission and outreach of the Women's Fellowship, the sales involve more than just the women of the church. Everyone is invited to pitch in and help prepare for the sales. Rummage sale week is always a time of good food, good fellowship, and the joy of working together to extend the mission of the congregation.

Rummage sales also provide our members with opportunities to de-clutter their homes and recycle some items that are no longer needed. At the same time the sales provide our community with useful items at fair prices.

Everybody wins when the Women's Fellowship holds a rummage sale.

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 2013 Beginning Balance | | \$12,007.71 |
| Income: | | |
| Rummage Sales | \$12,753.66 | |
| Receptions | 1,135.00 | |
| Spring Luncheon | 1,002.00 | |
| Craft Sale | 1,374.00 | |
| Miscellaneous | 1,865.00 | |
| Total Income | \$18,129.66 | \$18,129.66 |
| Expenses: | | |
| Cornerstone | \$500.00 | |
| Costa Rica | 1,500.00 | |
| Senior Meals | 800.00 | |
| Church Pledge | 4,500.00 | |
| Pantry | 750.00 | |
| Placerville | 4,000.00 | |
| Spring Luncheon | 984.56 | |
| Church Response | 800.00 | |
| Hospice House | 500.00 | |
| Rummage Sale Beg. Cash | 1,882.00 | |
| Rummage Sale Add | 54.95 | |
| Receptions | 264.73 | |
| Carpet Cleaning | 128.70 | |
| Retreat Supplies | 50.00 | |
| Blanket Sunday | 200.00 | |
| Wider Church Ministries | 600.00 | |
| Library Shelves | 950.00 | |
| Miscellaneous | 2,211.88 | |
| Total Expenses | \$20,676.82 | |
| Ending Balance | | \$9,460.55 |

Good Morning Circle—Eleanor Moe

Membership: 24 members

Meetings: Seven monthly meetings were held during the year in addition to the Christmas tea. No April meeting was held because of a snow storm.

Activities included: Sunday morning coffees; semi-annual rummage sales; served at several funerals, weddings and Thanksgiving Eve; helped with February Birthday

Party; sponsored a Global Ministries student; donated to our sister church in Los Guido; sponsored the Spring Luncheon; extended our card program to more members needing remembering; helped with kitchen and church cleanup; donated to the Third World Woman Scholarship at SDSM&T; donated to Kids Cozy; donated to Blanket Sunday; enjoyed fellowship and interesting programs.

Good Morning Financial—Maureen Dymock

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------|-----------------|
| 2013 Beginning Balance | | 1730.57 |
| Income: | | |
| Pledges | 523.68 | |
| Least Coin | 10.82 | |
| Blessing | 41.16 | |
| Cook Book Sales | 30 | |
| Bridge Marathon | <u>450</u> | |
| | | <u>1,055.66</u> |
| Total Income | | 2,786.23 |
| Expenses: | | |
| Postage | 136 | |
| Misc. & Bridge Marathon | 346.16 | |
| Donations: | | |
| Blanket Sunday | 100 | |
| SDSM&T Scholar- | 200 | |
| Church Library | 250 | |
| Least Coin Support | 10.22 | |
| Total Expenses | | <u>-1042.38</u> |
| Ending Balance 2013 | | \$1,743.85 |

GOOD MORNING GOOD EVENING

Our church has a long history of small groups of women organized for fellowship and mission. These "circles" of women have their own schedules and budgets. They plan activities and events that are appropriate to the women in their group.

The Women's Fellowship Board serves as a coordinating center for women's activities within the church. The Fellowship has a budget that is funded by activities that are supported by both of the circles.

Women are welcome to participate in the individual circles. The two circles meet at different times to provide different opportunities to match the diverse schedules of the women of the church. All women's fellowship meetings are advertised in the church bulletin and visitors are always welcome at any meeting.

Good Evening Circle —Cindy Ledford

We are nine members strong and always welcome new members.



A NEW BASE FOR OUR BAPTISMAL FONT

In 1959, when our church was constructed, the baptismal font was installed in a permanent location near the lectern at the front of the sanctuary. This location served the church for many years, but in recent years we have enjoyed the ability to move the font. Moving the font allows for greater visibility and flexibility in administering the sacrament.

This year the Altar Guild worked with Larry Snoozy for a new base that maintains the beauty of the original font and allows for movement of the font for the celebration of baptism.

The Good Evening Circle meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. except during the summer and December. We alternate hosting the Christmas Tea with the Good Morning Circle. We are 9 members strong and always welcome new members. Officers elected for 2014 are Chairperson, Laura Smith; Vice Chairperson, Carol Boyles; Treasurer, Bernie Lambert; Secretary, Cindy Ledford; and Devotions, Laura Switzer. We sell dishcloths as a money raiser and occasionally cinnamon rolls during coffee hour on Sundays. A bronze vase was purchased with memorial money received from the Lois Bradstream family for the church's use.

We continue to help with the semi-annual rummage sale and coffee hours during the year. Donations were given at the end of the year to Feeding SD, Church Response, Cornerstone Mission, Meals on Wheels, Black Hills Children's Home, HIKE, WAVI, Daisy House, and the Costa Rica Fund. Programs during the year were given by Mary Shorts of the Daisy House and Rev. Jill Kundtz. Our circle project this past year has been to work on fleece blankets for Love INC infants and children.

Good Evening Financial—Bernie Lambert

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| 2012 Beginning Balance | | 819.33 |
| Income: | | |
| Pledges | 120.75 | |
| Dishcloth Sales | 160.00 | |
| Cinnamon Roll Sales | 336.00 | |
| Least Coin Collected | <u>12.50</u> | |
| Total Income | 629.25 | <u>629.25</u> |
| | | 1,448.58 |
| Disbursements: | | |
| Memorial Bowl (Lois Bradstream) | 310.47 | |
| Southland Trade Co. (dishcloths) | 118.80 | |
| Pandy Bollock (quilt fabric) | 44.00 | |
| Dawn Erk (cinnamon roll expenses) | 70.39 | |
| B. H. Children's Home Society | 50.00 | |
| Cornerstone Rescue Mission | 50.00 | |
| WAVI | 50.00 | |
| Feeding South Dakota | 50.00 | |
| Church Response | 50.00 | |
| Meals on Wheels | 50.00 | |
| HIKE | 50.00 | |
| Daisy House | 50.00 | |
| U.S. Postmaster (Stamps) | 9.20 | |
| Sybil Rounds (Least Coin-Costa Rica) | <u>12.50</u> | |
| Total Disbursements | 965.36 | <u>965.36</u> |
| Balance on Hand | | 483.22 |

Altar Guild —Jeannette Hill

Balance on Hand 1-01-2013 \$ 1,353.17

Income:

| | | |
|---|--------|---------------|
| Purchase of gift certificate from LeRoys by K. Snoozy | 34.00 | |
| Lily sales | 288.00 | |
| Purchase of gift certificate, K. Snoozy | 14.00 | |
| Kelts-Davis wedding | 75.00 | |
| Umenthum wedding | 75.00 | |
| Wedding check | 125.00 | |
| Sale of poinsettias | 372.00 | |
| Total Income | | 983.00 |

Expenditures:

| | | |
|--|--------|---------------|
| Seasonal decorations, R. Karlen | 40.15 | |
| Jolly Lane for Easter Lilies | 312.45 | |
| Paid to the church—Cleaning for wedding | 25.00 | |
| Donation to Hermosa Area Arts & History Assn. In memory of Doug Hesnard | 50.00 | |
| R. Karlen—Fall display | 95.32 | |
| Jolly Lane for poinsettias | 401.41 | |
| Total Expenditures: | | 924.33 |

Balance on Hand 12-31-2013 \$ 1,411.84

ALTAR GUILD CHANGES FLOWER PROCESS

In the past the Altar Guild did not accept memorial flowers for the Sundays when Communion is served. Because the communion table is used for the sacrament, it was felt that flowers were not needed. However, there are more people who want to contribute flowers than there are available Sundays. In 2014, the Altar Guild will accept flowers on Communion Sundays, placing the flowers on a flower stand in a prominent location in the sanctuary during worship.

In addition, the Altar Guild will now accept additional arrangements of flowers on Sundays when altar flowers have already been scheduled. Additional arrangements will be displayed on the serving table in the fellowship hall.

The members of the Altar Guild hope that these new procedures will make it more convenient for members to donate flowers in memory or in honor of loved ones.

For more information, check out the Altar Guild flower calendar, located in the church entryway, or speak to any member of the Altar Guild.

1st Congregational Trust—Ed McLaughlin

The trust solicits and manages financial gifts provided for use in charitable and educational projects beyond the regular operating budget of the church.



The 1st Congregational Trust challenges the members and friends of 1st Congregational United Church of Christ to consider the Power of One. One person has the ability to make a lasting contribution to the ministries of the church. The trust uses earnings from donated funds for its work, preserving the principal amounts. A gift to the trust keeps on producing results year after year.

1% of an estate provides a legacy for any family or member of the congregation. Of course the Trust Board recommends that members consult their own tax consultants, investment advisors and legal counsel before making any decisions about charitable contributions.

The Power of One is already being demonstrated each year through scholarships to high school students of our congregation.

For more information about how you can be a part of the Power of One, speak to any member of the Trust Board.

The First Congregational Charitable Trust, Inc. is an independent corporation dedicated to the management of invested funds on behalf of the congregation. Its mission is to solicit and manage financial gifts provided for use in charitable and educational projects beyond the regular operating budget of the church.

The funds of the trust are invested with the United Church Foundation and Edward Jones.

In 2013, the Trust provided five \$1,000 Power of One Scholarships to:

Malaika Burke, Morningside College
Landon Gallentine, Black Hills State University
Luke Deurmier, Black Hills State University
Arie LaCroix South Dakota School of Mines and Technology
Layne Putnam, Glendale Community College

This year's \$5,000 Power of One Scholarships, plus past awards make a total of \$10,750 to thirteen recipients.

The Trust also manages three designated scholarship funds: The Zona White Fund, The Inabelle Willard Fund, and the Humke Fund. The 2013 recipient of the Zona White Scholarship was Kortney Brunner, \$1,500, Black Hills State University. Tyler Lanam was awarded \$1,000, Northern State University, from the Inabelle Willard Fund.

Over the life of the Trust we have awarded 109 Change of Career Grants for a total of \$65,420.

To sustain the work of the Trust, we have established The Power of One Fund where we encourage our members of our congregation to remember the Trust with 1% of their estates. Donations are welcome now, or later, as appropriate.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all those who have already donated to The First Congregational Church Trust Fund.

Members of the Trust are: Jack Bossen, Arnett Dennis, Lia Green, Pat Lebrun, Ed McLaughlin, Chair, Harold Miller, Shirley Sackman, and Rev. Ted Huffman, ex-officio.

TRUST FUND VALUE

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Value: 12/31/2012 | \$ 429,035.37 | Value: 12/31/2013 | \$ 476,534.92 |
| Dividend and Interest Income: | | \$ 5,180.43 | |
| Realized Capital Gains: | | 8,085.73 | |
| Total Earnings from Cost: | | 13,266.16 | |
| Realized Capital Gains: | | 10,751.49 | |
| Unrealized Gains: | | 7,037.96 | |
| Dividend and Interest | | 5,180.43 | |
| Total Return: | | \$ 22,969.88 | (5.13%) |

Treasurer -Denise Webster

Invested Funds

UBS Money Market Account:

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| Beginning Balance, January 1, 2013 | 0.02 |
| Proceeds from sale | 15,534.77 |
| Dividend Income | 0.59 |
| Net gain on investments | 31.65 |
| Fee | (150.00) |
| Ending Balance, December 31, 2013 | 15,417.03 |

Pioneer Bank & Trust - Certificate of Deposit

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| Beginning Balance, January 1, 2013 | 42,726.93 |
| Interest Earned | 899.14 |
| Ending Balance, December 31, 2013 | 43,626.07 |

Purchased 9/17/13,
1.15% interest

Pioneer Bank & Trust - Certificate of Deposit

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| Beginning Balance, January 1, 2013 | 40,000.00 |
| Purchase | - |
| Interest paid out quarterly | - |
| Ending Balance, December 31, 2013 | 40,000.00 |

Purchased 2/28/12,
1.4% interest

Pioneer Bank & Trust - Certificate of Deposit

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| Beginning Balance, January 1, 2013 | 25,000.00 |
| Purchase | - |
| Interest paid out quarterly | - |
| Ending Balance, December 31, 2013 | 25,000.00 |

Purchased 2/28/13,
.45% interest

INVESTED FUNDS

The primary responsibility of the Department of Stewardship and Budget is to oversee the use of the general funds of the congregation to make sure that the church is operated within the budget voted by the congregation each year.

The Department of Stewardship and Budget has responsibility for the operating funds of the congregation. Among those funds are several designated funds. These funds all are reported on the balance sheet on page 34 of this report.

These designated funds have specific purposes, including a \$50,000 contingency fund and a Repairs and Maintenance Fund.

The Department of Stewardship and Budget has a policy of not investing funds in the stock market. When gifts of stock are received, they are sold.

Some funds, however, are kept for reserve purposes and are not immediately needed for the day-to-day operation of the church. These funds are invested in Certificates of Deposit at area banks.

Restricted Funds for 2013



PHASE ONE CAPITAL FUNDS INFORMATION

On the facing page you will find specific details about the transactions of the Phase One Capital Funds drive in 2013. This report is of the actual amounts received and paid out during the calendar year.

Elsewhere in this report you will see reports that detail pledge totals and expenditures to which we have committed. As the pledges are still coming in and projects are ongoing, there will be additional income and expenses to report in 2014.

Donors who have questions about the status of their Phase One pledge can contact Julie Burton in the church office at (605) 342-5787 or julieucc@rushmore.com.

Additional detail about any special funds can be obtained from our church treasurer, Denise Webster.

Contingency Fund:

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| Beginning Balance, January 1, 2013 | 50,000.00 |
| No transactions | - |
| Ending Balance, December 31, 2013 | 50,000.00 |

Repairs & Maintenance Fund:

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| Beginning Balance, January 1, 2013 | 25,383.56 |
| Bequest | 8,694.70 |
| Disbursements: | |
| Hagen Glass - new west doors | (5,662.00) |
| Ending Balance, December 31, 2013 | 28,416.26 |

Air Conditioning Fund:

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| Beginning Balance, January 1, 2013 | 15,513.88 |
| Capital Improvement Donations | 415.00 |
| Ending Balance, December 31, 2013 | 15,928.88 |

Sabbatical Fund:

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| Beginning Balance, January 1, 2013 | 1,000.00 |
| Transfer from general fund | 1,000.00 |
| Ending Balance, December 31, 2013 | 2,000.00 |

Organ Fund:

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| Beginning Balance, January 1, 2013 | 13.79 |
| No Transactions | - |
| Ending Balance, December 31, 2013 | 13.79 |

Piano Fund:

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| Beginning Balance, January 1, 2013 | 1,307.18 |
| Piano Tuning Maintenance | (1,200.00) |
| Ending Balance, December 31, 2013 | 107.18 |

Department of Ministries Funds:

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Beginning Balance, January 1, 2013 | 1,665.52 |
| We Care Food Certificate Sales | 97,250.00 |
| Disbursements: | |
| Food Coupon Inventory | (2,500.00) |
| Cornerstone Mission Meals | (610.00) |
| United Campus Ministry Meals | (103.19) |
| We Care Food Certificate Purchases | (91,188.50) |
| Ending Balance, December 31, 2013 | 4,513.83 |

Special Offerings Fund:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|
| Beginning Balance, January 1, 2013 | (116.81) |
| Member donations for unbudgeted be- | 14,651.36 |
| Costa Rica Donations | 3,930.00 |
| Unbudgeted Benevolence Disburse- | |
| Church Response | (276.09) |
| Love, Inc. | (1,097.00) |
| Rancher Relief | (482.50) |
| One Great Hour of Sharing | (2,522.00) |
| Blanket Sunday | (1,842.00) |
| Strengthen the Church | (1,035.02) |
| Phillipines Disaster | (2,172.50) |
| Neighbors In Need | (1,713.25) |
| Christmas Fund | (1,520.00) |
| Placerville Camp | (1,991.00) |
| Costa Rica Sister Church | (3,813.19) |
| Ending Balance, December 31, 2013 | - |

Memorial Fund Balance:

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| Beginning Balance, January 1, 2013 | 19,633.12 |
| Donations (Memorials): | |
| Jean Hier | 270.00 |
| Ray Valandra | 15.00 |
| Mavis Stradinger | 1,025.00 |
| Keith Conrad | 225.00 |
| Rossella Tadlock | 2,038.59 |
| Elaine Sleuschner | 50.00 |
| Disbursements: | |
| Building maintenance | (47.39) |
| Bell choir music | (179.00) |
| Ending Balance, December 31, 2013 | 23,030.32 |

Boiler Fund; Changed to Capital Improvements Fund, Phase I:

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Beginning Balance, January 1, 2013 | 12,000.00 |
| Donation | 97,487.77 |
| Disbursements: | |
| Asphalt | (31,819.43) |
| Sound System | (22,526.06) |
| Mudjacking | (2,321.43) |
| Carpet | (13,646.44) |
| Miscellaneous | (97.40) |
| Ending Balance, December 31, 2013 | 39,077.01 |

MEMORIAL FUNDS

The current balance in the Memorial Savings Account is high for our congregation. For the most part we try to expend memorial funds quickly after they are received to help families with the process of grieving. Having a specific item in the church or project supported by a memorial can be a meaningful part of adjusting after a loss.

However, we have a larger project towards which several of the memorial funds have been designated. It is hoped that during 2014 we will be able to complete the replacement of our outdoor sign. Several designs are being considered, including signs that allow for changing messages to be programmed from the church office.

Additional memorial funds have been designated for a new screen and projector for the fellowship hall. Those items have been purchased and installation is expected to be completed within the next few weeks.

Families are consulted about which memorial projects are most meaningful to them. The Department of Stewardship and Budget acts as a memorial committee and approves all expenditures from the fund.

We focused on our core areas of worship, mission and care as we stepped out in faith into a new year.



SPECIAL OFFERINGS EXTEND MISSION

During the discussion of the budget at the Annual Meeting in January of 2013, members raised concern about several mission projects that are important to our congregation but not funded by line items in the operating budget. Specifically mentioned was Placerville Camp.

A special offering was received for Placerville Camp netting \$1,991 in donations. The Women's Fellowship donated an additional \$4,000 in support of the camp.

Special offerings also allow us to respond to unforeseen needs such as the hurricane in the Philippines and the October blizzard's impact on ranchers.

The complete list of amounts paid to unbudgeted benevolences can be found at the right.

The following disbursements were paid through the church during 2013. These disbursements are direct pass-through monies from the members' contributions (special offerings).

Disbursements in 2013:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Habitat for Humanity | |
| Church Response | 276.09 |
| Love, Inc. | 1,097.00 |
| Rancher Relief Fund | 482.50 |
| One Great Hour of Sharing | 2,522.00 |
| Blanket Sunday | 1,842.00 |
| Strengthen the Church | 1,035.02 |
| Philippines Disaster Relief | 2,172.50 |
| Neighbors in Need | 1,713.25 |
| Christmas Fund | 1,520.00 |
| Placerville Camp | 1,991.00 |
| Costa Rica Sister Church | 3,813.19 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 18,464.55 |



Ketel Thorstenson, LLP

Certified Public Accountants

810 Quincy Street

P.O. Box 3140, Rapid City, South Dakota 57709

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ACCOUNTANT'S COMPILATION REPORT

To the Board of Trustees
First Congregational Church
Rapid City, South Dakota

We have compiled the accompanying statement of financial position of FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH as of December 31, 2013, and the accompanying supplementary schedules of treasurers' reports (selected budget to actual information) for the month of December and the year-to-date January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013, and the year-to-date for the prior year, which is presented only for supplementary analysis purposes. We have not audited or reviewed the accompanying financial statement and supplementary schedules and, accordingly, do not express an opinion or provide any assurance about whether the financial statement and supplementary schedules are in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statement and supplementary schedules in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and for designing, implementing, and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statement and supplementary schedules.

Our responsibility is to conduct the compilation in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The objective of a compilation is to assist management in presenting the financial information in the form of financial statements and supplementary schedules without undertaking to obtain or provide any assurance that there are no material modifications that should be made to the financial statements and supplementary schedules. During our compilation, we did become aware of departures from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America that are described in the following paragraphs.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that fixed assets be depreciated over their estimated useful lives. Management has informed us that the Organization has not computed depreciation on fixed assets. The effects of this departure from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America on financial position, results of operations, and cash flows have not been determined.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require the Organization to report information regarding its financial position according to three classes of net assets: unrestricted net assets, temporarily restricted net assets, and permanently restricted net assets. The Organization has not reported its financial position according to the three classes of net assets. The effects of this departure from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America on financial position, results of operations, and cash flows have not been determined.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that unconditional promises to give be recorded in the period pledged. The Organization records pledge revenue when cash is received rather than when earned or promised, unless the pledge is received in advance of the period of intended use. In such cases, the pledge revenue is shown as prepaid pledges, rather than revenue. The effects of this departure from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America on financial position, results of operations, and cash flows have not been determined.

Management has elected to omit substantially all of the disclosures required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. If the omitted disclosures and the statements of changes in net assets and cash flows were included in the financial statements, they might influence the user's conclusions about the Organization's financial position, results of operations, and cash flows. Accordingly, the financial statements are not designed for those who are not informed about such matters.

We are not independent with respect to FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

Ketel Thorstenson, LLP

KETEL THORSTENSON, LLP
Certified Public Accountants

January 9, 2014

- Rapid City SD

Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2013

Wednesday, January 15, 2014

Page 1 of 1

| Account # | Account Name | YTD Balance |
|---------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Assets | | |
| 1.10000 | Checking Account | 58,189.35 |
| 1.10300 | Certificates of Deposit | 108,626.07 |
| 1.10500 | Food Certificates | 2,500.00 |
| 1.11000 | Money Market - UBS | 15,417.03 |
| | Total Cash & Investments | \$184,732.45 |
| 1.15100 | Eagle Scout Structure | 10,066.13 |
| 1.15200 | Piano | 34,000.00 |
| 1.15300 | Organ Addition | 194,934.00 |
| 1.15400 | Building | 556,487.89 |
| 1.15500 | Building Improvements | 115,340.83 |
| 1.15600 | Land | 38,532.55 |
| | Total Land, Building & Equip. | \$949,361.40 |
| | Total Assets | \$1,134,093.85 |
| Liabilities | | |
| 2.20000 | Accounts Payable - General | 500.00 |
| 2.21000 | Scholarship Payable | 2,000.00 |
| 2.22000 | Prepaid Pledges | 4,460.00 |
| 2.25000 | Payroll Taxes Payable | 1,401.60 |
| | Total Liabilities | \$8,361.60 |
| Fund Balance | | |
| 3.39000 | Unrestricted Fund Balance | 13,283.58 |
| 3.39002 | Building Fund Balance | 949,361.40 |
| 3.39003 | Contingency Fund | 50,000.00 |
| 3.39004 | Memorial Fund Balance | 23,030.32 |
| 3.39006 | Repairs & Maintenance Fund | 28,416.26 |
| 3.39007 | Air Conditioning Fund Bal. | 15,928.88 |
| 3.39008 | Sabbatical Fund Balance | 2,000.00 |
| 3.39009 | Organ Fund Balance | 13.79 |
| 3.39010 | Piano Restricted Fund | 107.18 |
| 3.39011 | Capital Improvement 1 Fund | 39,077.01 |
| 3.39016 | Dept. of Ministries Fund Bal. | 4,513.83 |
| | Total Fund Balance | \$1,125,732.25 |
| | Total Liabilities and Fund Balance | \$1,134,093.85 |

**- Rapid City SD
Treasurer's Report as of December 2013 for General Fund**

Wednesday, January 15, 2014

Page 1 of 4
Annual Budget
Remaining

| Account Name | Period Activity | YTD Balance | Previous YTD | Monthly Budget | % of Budget Month | Budget YTD | % of Budget YTD | Over/Under YTD+(-) | Annual Budget | Annual Budget Remaining |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Income | | | | | | | | | | |
| Loose Offerings | 880.57 | 3,519.13 | 3,551.35 | 250.00 | 352 | 3,000.00 | 117 | 519.13 | 3,000.00 | (\$19.13) |
| Non-pledge Donations | 3,786.50 | 44,036.57 | 40,687.27 | 2,913.00 | 130 | 35,000.00 | 126 | 9,036.57 | 35,000.00 | (9,036.57) |
| Pledges | 24,601.37 | 233,496.31 | 227,040.36 | 19,834.00 | 124 | 238,008.00 | 98 | (4,511.69) | 238,008.00 | 4,511.69 |
| Total Pledges & Gifts | \$29,268.44 | \$281,052.01 | \$271,278.98 | \$22,997.00 | 127 | \$276,008.00 | 102 | \$5,044.01 | \$276,008.00 | (\$5,044.01) |
| Minister of Christian Nurture Inc. | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | | | | | | |
| Miscellaneous Income | 0.00 | 0.00 | 8,193.65 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Rent Income | 1,588.00 | 10,922.00 | 11,177.00 | 875.00 | 181 | 10,500.00 | 104 | 422.00 | 10,500.00 | (422.00) |
| Wedding/Funeral Income | 0.00 | 125.00 | 300.00 | | | | | | | |
| Total Other Income | \$1,588.00 | \$11,047.00 | \$19,670.65 | \$875.00 | 181 | \$10,500.00 | 105 | \$847.00 | \$10,500.00 | (\$547.00) |
| Gain (Loss) on Sale of Invest. | 0.00 | 31.65 | (644.23) | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 31.65 | 0.00 | (31.65) |
| Interest/Dividend Income | 124.89 | 1,578.49 | 2,269.20 | 137.00 | 91 | 1,600.00 | 99 | (21.51) | 1,600.00 | 21.51 |
| Total Investment Income | \$124.89 | \$1,610.14 | \$1,624.97 | \$137.00 | 91 | \$1,600.00 | 101 | \$10.14 | \$1,600.00 | (\$10.14) |
| Total Income | \$30,981.33 | \$293,709.15 | \$292,574.60 | \$24,009.00 | 129 | \$288,108.00 | 102 | \$5,601.15 | \$288,108.00 | (\$5,601.15) |
| Expenses | | | | | | | | | | |
| Senior Pastor Annuity | 2,277.14 | 9,147.06 | 8,954.56 | 760.00 | 300 | 9,109.00 | 100 | 38.06 | 9,109.00 | (38.06) |
| Senior Pastor Disability Ins. | 243.98 | 980.05 | 959.40 | 85.00 | 287 | 976.00 | 100 | 4.05 | 976.00 | (4.05) |
| Senior Pastor Health Ins. | 4,344.00 | 17,376.00 | 17,362.50 | 1,450.00 | 300 | 17,400.00 | 100 | (24.00) | 17,400.00 | 24.00 |
| Senior Pastor Salary/Housing | 5,421.75 | 65,061.00 | 63,960.96 | 5,419.00 | 100 | 65,061.00 | 100 | 0.00 | 65,061.00 | 0.00 |
| Senior Pastor Soc. Sec. Offset | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | | | | | | |
| Total Senior Minister Salary | \$12,286.87 | \$92,564.11 | \$91,237.42 | \$7,714.00 | 159 | \$92,546.00 | 100 | \$18.11 | \$92,546.00 | (\$18.11) |
| CE Minister Disability Ins. | 130.07 | 534.26 | 464.36 | 47.00 | 277 | 520.00 | 103 | 14.26 | 520.00 | (14.26) |
| CE Minister Pension | 1,214.01 | 4,986.55 | 4,334.00 | 401.00 | 303 | 4,856.00 | 103 | 130.55 | 4,856.00 | (130.55) |
| CE Minister Salary/Housing | 2,890.50 | 34,686.00 | 30,957.00 | 2,885.00 | 100 | 34,686.00 | 100 | 0.00 | 34,686.00 | 0.00 |
| Total CE Minister Salary | \$4,234.58 | \$40,206.81 | \$35,755.36 | \$3,333.00 | 127 | \$40,062.00 | 100 | \$144.81 | \$40,062.00 | (\$144.81) |
| Bell Choir Director Salary | 200.00 | 1,800.00 | 1,684.98 | 150.00 | 133 | 1,800.00 | 100 | 0.00 | 1,800.00 | 0.00 |

- Rapid City SD
Treasurer's Report as of December 2013 for General Fund

Wednesday, January 15, 2014

Page 2 of 4
Annual Budget
Remaining

| Account Name | Period Activity | YTD Balance | Previous YTD | Monthly Budget | % of Budget Month | Budget YTD | % of Budget YTD | Over/Under YTD+(-) | Annual Budget | Annual Budget Remaining |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Choir Director Salary | 500.00 | 5,000.00 | 5,651.04 | 500.00 | 100 | 6,000.00 | 83 | (1,000.00) | 6,000.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Nursery Supervisor | 105.00 | 508.50 | 396.75 | 38.00 | 276 | 500.00 | 102 | 8.50 | 500.00 | (8.50) |
| Organist Salary | 633.33 | 7,899.96 | 7,455.00 | 637.00 | 99 | 7,600.00 | 104 | 299.96 | 7,600.00 | (299.96) |
| Secretary Benefits | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | | | | | | |
| Secretary Salary | 1,166.67 | 14,000.04 | 13,198.48 | 1,163.00 | 100 | 14,000.00 | 100 | 0.04 | 14,000.00 | (0.04) |
| Substitute Organist | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 38.00 | 0 | 500.00 | 0 | (500.00) | 500.00 | 500.00 |
| Substitute Pastor | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 31.00 | 0 | 350.00 | 0 | (350.00) | 350.00 | 350.00 |
| Substitute Secretary | 300.88 | 1,473.57 | 340.75 | 85.00 | 354 | 1,020.00 | 144 | 453.57 | 1,020.00 | (453.57) |
| Treasurer/Bookkeeping Services | 318.00 | 3,927.30 | 3,083.28 | 337.00 | 94 | 4,000.00 | 98 | (72.70) | 4,000.00 | 72.70 |
| Total Lay Staff Expense | \$3,223.88 | \$34,609.37 | \$31,810.28 | \$2,979.00 | 108 | \$35,770.00 | 97 | (\$1,160.63) | \$35,770.00 | \$1,160.63 |
| CN Minister Pension | 592.17 | 2,518.24 | 1,327.84 | 202.00 | 293 | 2,369.00 | 106 | 149.24 | 2,369.00 | (149.24) |
| Minister of Christian Nurture Exp. | 1,409.92 | 16,919.04 | 15,174.96 | 1,409.00 | 100 | 16,919.00 | 100 | 0.04 | 16,919.00 | (0.04) |
| Payroll Taxes | 221.91 | 2,410.07 | 2,243.81 | 192.00 | 116 | 2,249.00 | 107 | 161.07 | 2,249.00 | (161.07) |
| Total Salaries Expense | \$21,969.33 | \$189,227.64 | \$177,549.67 | \$15,829.00 | 139 | \$189,915.00 | 100 | (\$687.36) | \$189,915.00 | \$687.36 |
| Baptism Supplies | 0.00 | 0.00 | 49.47 | 3.00 | 0 | 25.00 | 0 | (25.00) | 25.00 | 25.00 |
| Communion Supplies Expense | 0.00 | 185.25 | 70.53 | 12.00 | 0 | 100.00 | 185 | 85.25 | 100.00 | (85.25) |
| New Music: Adult Choir Expense | 0.00 | 563.21 | 557.47 | 44.00 | 0 | 550.00 | 102 | 13.21 | 550.00 | (13.21) |
| New Music: Bell Choir | 63.08 | 313.08 | 299.67 | 19.00 | 332 | 250.00 | 125 | 63.08 | 250.00 | (63.08) |
| New Music: Youth Choir | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 12.00 | 0 | 100.00 | 0 | (100.00) | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| Organ Music | 0.00 | 97.00 | 62.48 | 19.00 | 0 | 250.00 | 39 | (153.00) | 250.00 | 153.00 |
| Piano Maintenance | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 120.00 | 0 | 1,440.00 | 0 | (1,440.00) | 1,440.00 | 1,440.00 |
| Soloist and Special Music Expense | 0.00 | 555.00 | 20.00 | 94.00 | 0 | 1,150.00 | 48 | (595.00) | 1,150.00 | 595.00 |
| Total Worship Expense | \$63.08 | \$1,713.54 | \$1,059.62 | \$323.00 | 20 | \$3,865.00 | 44 | (\$2,151.46) | \$3,865.00 | \$2,151.46 |
| Adult Education | 35.70 | 343.77 | 695.78 | 38.00 | 94 | 500.00 | 69 | (156.23) | 500.00 | 156.23 |
| CE Curriculum | 218.20 | 1,095.49 | 1,249.19 | 188.00 | 116 | 2,300.00 | 48 | (1,204.51) | 2,300.00 | 1,204.51 |
| Resources Expense | | | | | | | | | | |
| CE Library | 0.00 | 248.76 | 0.00 | 25.00 | 0 | 300.00 | 83 | (51.24) | 300.00 | 51.24 |
| CE Program Expenses | 343.16 | 3,414.85 | 2,844.99 | 237.00 | 145 | 2,800.00 | 122 | 614.85 | 2,800.00 | (614.85) |
| CE Training | 0.00 | 38.15 | 0.00 | 7.00 | 0 | 150.00 | 25 | (111.85) | 150.00 | 111.85 |
| CE Travel | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | | | | | | |
| CE Youth Conferences | 0.00 | 0.00 | 300.00 | 38.00 | 0 | 500.00 | 0 | (500.00) | 500.00 | 500.00 |

**- Rapid City SD
Treasurer's Report as of December 2013 for General Fund**

Wednesday, January 15, 2014

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Annual Budget
Remaining

| Account Name | Period Activity | YTD Balance | Previous YTD | Monthly Budget | % of Budget Month | Budget YTD | % of Budget YTD | Over/Under YTD+(-) | Annual Budget |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Graduation | 51.85 | 245.76 | 58.44 | 7.00 | 741 | 150.00 | 164 | 95.76 | 150.00 |
| Retreats and Special Events | 0.00 | 0.00 | 284.62 | 25.00 | 0 | 300.00 | 0 | (300.00) | 300.00 |
| Total Christian Ed. Expense | \$648.91 | \$5,386.78 | \$5,433.02 | \$565.00 | 115 | \$7,000.00 | 77 | (\$1,613.22) | \$7,000.00 |
| Black Hills Association | 0.00 | 1,172.00 | 1,172.00 | 97.00 | 0 | 1,175.00 | 100 | (3.00) | 1,175.00 |
| Dues | | | | | | | | | |
| Minister Professional Exp. | 0.00 | 585.75 | 339.00 | 88.00 | 0 | 1,100.00 | 53 | (514.25) | 1,100.00 |
| Sr. Pastor Sabbatical Expense | 416.69 | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 | 87.00 | 479 | 1,000.00 | 100 | 0.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Total Sr Minister Expense | \$416.69 | \$2,757.75 | \$2,511.00 | \$272.00 | 153 | \$3,275.00 | 84 | (\$517.25) | \$3,275.00 |
| Advertising | 300.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | | | | | | |
| Office Equipment Maintenance | 589.32 | 7,455.37 | 5,502.19 | 462.00 | 128 | 5,500.00 | 136 | 1,955.37 | 5,500.00 |
| Postage Expense | 273.23 | 2,274.11 | 2,511.38 | 251.00 | 109 | 2,990.00 | 76 | (715.89) | 2,990.00 |
| Supplies Expense | 652.45 | 5,263.22 | 5,085.30 | 413.00 | 158 | 5,000.00 | 105 | 263.22 | 5,000.00 |
| Wedding/Funeral Expenses | 0.00 | 49.93 | 200.00 | | | | | | |
| Total Office Expense | \$1,815.00 | \$15,052.63 | \$13,298.87 | \$1,126.00 | 161 | \$13,490.00 | 112 | \$1,562.63 | \$13,490.00 |
| BHPL - Electricity | 778.42 | 9,011.16 | 7,685.57 | 663.00 | 117 | 8,000.00 | 113 | 1,011.16 | 8,000.00 |
| Communications | 280.70 | 3,395.32 | 2,847.59 | 238.00 | 118 | 2,900.00 | 117 | 495.32 | 2,900.00 |
| MDU - Heat | 1,459.79 | 10,096.74 | 7,959.80 | 727.00 | 201 | 8,757.00 | 115 | 1,339.74 | 8,757.00 |
| Water and Garbage | 246.96 | 4,880.06 | 4,846.48 | 406.00 | 61 | 4,850.00 | 101 | 30.06 | 4,850.00 |
| Total Utilities Expense | \$2,765.87 | \$27,383.28 | \$23,339.44 | \$2,034.00 | 136 | \$24,507.00 | 112 | \$2,876.28 | \$24,507.00 |
| Building Maintenance Expense | 5,354.49 | 23,576.47 | 14,527.88 | 2,087.00 | 257 | 25,000.00 | 94 | (1,423.53) | 25,000.00 |
| Church Van Expenses | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | | | | | |
| Grounds Maintenance Expense | 638.86 | 3,316.80 | 1,050.59 | 500.00 | 128 | 6,000.00 | 55 | (2,683.20) | 6,000.00 |
| Insurance | 3,133.75 | 13,000.75 | 12,001.50 | 962.00 | 326 | 11,500.00 | 113 | 1,500.75 | 11,500.00 |
| Total Grounds/Build Expense | \$9,127.10 | \$39,894.02 | \$27,579.97 | \$3,549.00 | 257 | \$42,500.00 | 94 | (\$2,605.98) | \$42,500.00 |
| Costa Rica Sister Church | 500.00 | 500.00 | 100.00 | 38.00 | 1,316 | 500.00 | 100 | 0.00 | 500.00 |
| CUE Seminary Support | 108.33 | 1,299.96 | 1,287.96 | 112.00 | 97 | 1,300.00 | 100 | (0.04) | 1,300.00 |
| Department of Hospitality | 0.00 | 462.64 | 0.00 | 25.00 | 0 | 300.00 | 154 | 162.64 | 300.00 |

**- Rapid City SD
Treasurer's Report as of December 2013 for General Fund**

Wednesday, January 15, 2014

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| Account Name | Period Activity | YTD Balance | Previous YTD | Monthly Budget | % of Budget Month | Budget YTD | % of Budget YTD | Over/Under YTD(+/-) | Annual Budget | Annual Budget Remaining |
|---------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| OCWM Basic Support | 1,710.42 | 20,525.04 | 18,713.04 | 1,715.00 | 100 | 20,525.00 | 100 | 0.04 | 20,525.00 | (0.04) |
| Undesignated Contingency | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 12.00 | 0 | 100.00 | 0 | (100.00) | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| United Campus Ministries | 145.83 | 1,749.96 | 1,718.04 | 144.00 | 101 | 1,750.00 | 100 | (0.04) | 1,750.00 | 0.04 |
| Total Benevolences | \$2,464.58 | \$24,537.60 | \$21,819.04 | \$2,046.00 | 120 | \$24,475.00 | 100 | \$62.60 | \$24,475.00 | (\$62.60) |
| Total Expenses | \$39,270.56 | \$305,953.24 | \$272,590.63 | \$25,744.00 | 153 | \$309,027.00 | 99 | (\$3,073.76) | \$309,027.00 | \$3,073.76 |
| Difference | (\$8,289.23) | (\$12,244.09) | \$19,983.97 | (\$1,735.00) | | (\$20,919.00) | | | (\$20,919.00) | |

If the accounts in the subtotals have changed or if ledger and subsidiary account attributes have changed, Previous YTD totals may not represent a valid comparison.

| First Congregational Church | 2011 Actual | 2012 Actual | 2013 Budget | 2013 Actual | 2014 Proposed Budget |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Revenue | | | | | |
| Pledges | 220,929 | 227,040 | 238,008 | 233,496 | 208,765 |
| Nonpledge Income | 36,133 | 40,687 | 35,000 | 44,037 | 42,000 |
| Loose Offerings | 3,126 | 3,551 | 3,000 | 3,519 | 3,500 |
| Total Pledges & Gifts | 260,188 | 271,278 | 276,008 | 281,052 | 254,265 |
| Minister of Christian Nurture | 630 | - | | | |
| Rent Income | 10,642 | 11,177 | 10,500 | 10,922 | 11,000 |
| Wedding/Funeral Income | 350 | 300 | | 125 | 100 |
| Miscellaneous Income | 93 | - | | | |
| Total Other Income | 11,715 | 11,477 | 10,500 | 11,047 | 11,100 |
| Interest/Dividend Income | 1,879 | 2,269 | 1,600 | 1,578 | 1,600 |
| Gain (Loss) on Investments | (367) | (644) | | 32 | - |
| Total Investment Income | 1,512 | 1,625 | 1,600 | 1,610 | 1,600 |
| Endowment gift | | 8,194 | - | | 9,491 |
| Second Effort Pledge Drive | | | | | 9,200 |
| Reserve from prior years | 10,694 | - | 25,528 | | 13,284 |
| Total Revenues | 284,109 | 292,574 | 313,636 | 293,709 | 298,940 |
| Expenses | | | | | |
| Senior Pastor Salary/Housing | 63,961 | 63,961 | 65,061 | 65,061 | 65,061 |
| Senior Pastor Annuity | 8,875 | 8,955 | 9,109 | 9,147 | 9,109 |
| Senior Pastor Disability | 974 | 959 | 976 | 980 | 976 |
| Senior Pastor Health Ins. | 15,725 | 17,363 | 17,400 | 17,376 | 17,400 |
| Total Senior Minister | 89,535 | 91,238 | 92,545 | 92,564 | 92,545 |
| Minister of Educ Salary/Housing | 30,957 | 30,957 | 34,686 | 34,686 | 34,686 |
| Minister of Educ Annuity | 4,040 | 4,334 | 4,856 | 4,987 | 4,856 |
| Minister of Educ Disability | 467 | 464 | 520 | 534 | 520 |
| Total CE Minister | 35,464 | 35,755 | 40,062 | 40,207 | 40,062 |
| Secretary Salary | 15,509 | 13,198 | 14,000 | 14,000 | 14,000 |
| Secretary Benefits | 3,667 | - | - | - | - |
| Substitute Secretary | 228 | 341 | 1,020 | 1,474 | - |
| Substitute Minister | 1,200 | - | 350 | - | - |
| Treasurer/Bookkeeping Services | 2,862 | 3,083 | 4,000 | 3,927 | 4,100 |
| Choir Director | 5,651 | 5,651 | 6,000 | 5,000 | 6,000 |
| Bell Choir Director | 1,685 | 1,685 | 1,800 | 1,800 | 1,800 |
| Organist | 5,925 | 7,455 | 7,600 | 7,900 | 7,900 |
| Substitute Organist | | | 500 | | 300 |
| Nursery Supervisor | 453 | 397 | 500 | 508 | 500 |
| Total Lay Staff Expense | 37,180 | 31,810 | 35,770 | 34,609 | 34,600 |
| Minister of Christian Nurture Salary | 12,646 | 15,175 | 16,919 | 16,919 | 16,919 |
| Minister of Christian Nurture Pension | 3,187 | 1,328 | 2,369 | 2,518 | 2,369 |
| Total Minister of Christian Nurture | 15,833 | 16,503 | 19,288 | 19,437 | 19,288 |
| Payroll Taxes | 2,213 | 2,244 | 2,249 | 2,410 | 2,272 |
| Total Salaries Expense | 180,225 | 177,550 | 189,914 | 189,227 | 188,767 |
| New Music: Adult Choir | 488 | 557 | 550 | 563 | 550 |
| New Music: Youth Choir | - | - | 100 | | 100 |
| New Music: Bell Choir | 175 | 300 | 250 | 313 | 250 |
| Piano Maintenance | 53 | - | 1,440 | | 1,292 |
| Organ Music | - | 62 | 250 | 97 | 250 |
| Communion Supplies | 99 | 71 | 100 | 185 | 100 |
| Baptism Supplies | - | 49 | 25 | | 25 |
| Soloists & Special Music | - | 20 | 1,150 | 555 | 550 |
| Total Worship Expense | 815 | 1,059 | 3,865 | 1,713 | 3,117 |

| First Congregational Church | 2011 Actual | 2012 Actual | 2013 Budget | 2013 Actual | 2014 Proposed Budget |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------|
| CE Training | - | - | - | 38 | - |
| CE Curriculum Resources | 1,709 | 1,249 | - | 1,095 | - |
| CE Youth Conferences | 113 | 300 | - | - | - |
| CE Program Expenses | 1,907 | 2,845 | - | 3,415 | - |
| CE Library | - | - | - | 249 | - |
| Graduation | 69 | 58 | - | 246 | - |
| Retreats & Special Events | - | 285 | - | - | - |
| Adult Education | 522 | 696 | - | 344 | - |
| Total Christian Education | 4,320 | 5,433 | 7,000 | 5,387 | 6,000 |
| Black Hills Association | 1,172 | 1,172 | 1,175 | 1,172 | 1,196 |
| Minister Professional Expense | 628 | 339 | 1,100 | 586 | 600 |
| Sabbatical | - | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| Total Minister Expenses | 1,800 | 2,511 | 3,275 | 2,758 | 2,796 |
| Wedding/Funeral Expense | 253 | 200 | - | 50 | 100 |
| Supplies | 3,590 | 5,085 | 5,000 | 5,263 | 5,500 |
| Office Equipment Maint. | 5,092 | 5,502 | 5,500 | 7,455 | 7,500 |
| Advertising | - | - | - | 10 | - |
| Postage | 2,375 | 2,511 | 2,990 | 2,274 | 2,500 |
| Total Office Expense | 11,310 | 13,298 | 13,490 | 15,052 | 15,600 |
| MDU, Heat | 10,963 | 7,960 | 8,757 | 10,097 | 10,000 |
| BHPL, Electricity | 7,726 | 7,686 | 8,000 | 9,011 | 9,000 |
| Water, Garbage | 4,267 | 4,846 | 4,850 | 4,880 | 4,900 |
| Communications | 2,644 | 2,848 | 2,900 | 3,395 | 3,500 |
| Total Utilities | 25,600 | 23,340 | 24,507 | 27,383 | 27,400 |
| Grounds Maintenance | 7,439 | 1,051 | 6,000 | 3,317 | 3,500 |
| Building Maintenance | 13,742 | 14,528 | 25,000 | 23,576 | 14,500 |
| Insurance | 11,622 | 12,001 | 11,500 | 13,001 | 13,000 |
| Total Buildings/Grounds | 32,803 | 27,580 | 42,500 | 39,894 | 31,000 |
| Department of Hospitality | (26) | - | 300 | 463 | 0 |
| Contingency | - | - | 100 | - | 100 |
| OCWM Basic Support | 18,713 | 18,713 | 20,525 | 20,525 | 20,525 |
| United Campus Ministries | 1,718 | 1,718 | 1,750 | 1,750 | 1,750 |
| Seminary Support | 1,288 | 1,288 | 1,300 | 1,300 | 1,300 |
| Costa Rica Sister Church | - | 100 | 500 | 500 | 500 |
| Total Benevolences | 21,693 | 21,819 | 24,475 | 24,538 | 24,175 |
| Total Expenses | 278,566 | 272,590 | 309,027 | 305,952 | 298,855 |
| Surplus (Deficit) | 5,543 | 19,984 | 4,609 | (12,243) | 85 |



Nominations

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Moderator: | Gerry Boehrs |
| Assistant Moderator: | Sheila Long |
| Past Moderator: | Becky Umenthum |
| Clerk: | Eileen Rossow |

Church Board Congregational Representatives:

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Until January 2015: | Carol Boyles |
| Until January, 2016 | Kevin Sandmeier |
| Until January, 2017: | Cindy Ledford (Women's Fellowship Rep) |

Department of Worship:

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Until January 2015: | Laura Switzer, Rev. Jane Ireland |
| Until January 2016: | Kandee Snoozy, Cam Miller |
| Until January, 2017: | Ryan Webster & Alicia Sutliff-Benusis, Bertie Roberts |

Department of Education:

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Until January 2015: | Sharon Darrow, Jenny Seals |
| Until January 2016: | Pandi Bollock, Dona Leavens |
| Until January 2017: | Lisa Lyons, Becky Fleming |

Department of Ministries:

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Until January, 2015: | Michael & Georgia O'Connor, Robin Franson |
| Until January 2016: | Rev. Jill Kundtz, Pat Sutliff |
| Until January 2017: | Barb Knight, Pat Wheaton |

Department of Hospitality/Parish Life:

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Until January 2015: | Kyle Grauman, Patsy Valandra |
| Until January 2016: | Brad & Heather Heinert, Reva Ortega |
| Until January 2017: | Ben & Dee Anderson, Jenny Kozel-Grigg & Willie Grigg & Velma Speck |

Department of Building, Equipment and Grounds:

| | |
|---------------------|------------------------------|
| Until January 2015: | Evan Gallentine, Shawn Burke |
| Until January 2016: | Randy Fisher, Thom Palm |
| Until January 2017: | Brent Long, Monty Bollock |

Department of Stewardship and Budget:

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Until January 2015: | Dave Ledford, Tom Berry |
| Until January 2016: | Rob Burton, Todd Eddy |
| Until January 2017: | Tim Mitchell, Jay Davis |

Some department positions are shared by 2 or 3 persons.

THANK YOU FOR FAITHFUL SERVICE

Completing terms of service include the following leaders:

Becky Umenthum, moderator

Gerry Boehrs, assistant moderator

Susan Kelts, past moderator

Mary Nelson Keithahn, clerk

Laura Boyd, congregational representative

Jodi Burke and **David Seaman**, Department of Worship

Melissa Emerson and **Lynn Grauman**, Department of Education

Mary Yelick and **Margaret Putnam**, Department of Ministries

Marrellyce Seaman and **Deb Tompkins**, Department of Hospitality

Randy Daughenbaugh and **Ron Hill**, Department of Building, Equipment & Grounds

Eileen Rossow, **Brent Long**, **Monty Bollock** and **Jo Blankley**, Department of Stewardship and Budget.



Annual Meeting Agenda

Invocation—Rev. Kathleen Batchelder

Receive Annual Reports

2014 Budget—Denise Webster, Treasurer

Election of Officers

Phase 2 Capital Improvements: “Shaping the Vision”

Other Business

Installation of Officers—Rev. Ted Huffman

Closing Prayer—Rev. Susan Huffman

No matter who **you are**,
or where **you are** on life's
journey,
you are welcome here!

**1st Congregational
United Church of Christ
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(605) 342-5787
www.rcfirstucc.com
firstucc@rushmore.com**