

# Beecher Presbyterian Church



2021 Annual Report

January 23, 2022

## **Officers**

Clerk – Melissa Eckerle

Financial Secretary – Melissa Eckerle

Treasurer – Arlene Chittenden

## **Elders**

Class of 2022: Mike Eckerle (1<sup>st</sup> Term), Bruce Alley (2<sup>nd</sup> Term)

Class of 2023: Melissa Eckerle (3<sup>rd</sup> Term)

Class of 2024: Rhonda Wessels (3<sup>rd</sup> Term)

## **Deacons**

Class of 2022: Charity Vanosdol (1<sup>st</sup> Term)

Class of 2023: Margo Northcutt (2<sup>nd</sup> Term)

Class of 2024: Rick Wessels (3<sup>rd</sup> Term)

## **Member at Large – Nominating Committee**

Rick Wessels

## **Staff**

Custodian: Nicole Abner

Organists: Judy Smith

Pastor: Bob Northcutt

Beecher Presbyterian Church  
Annual Congregational Meeting for 2021  
Agenda

Call to Order Moderator Bob Northcutt

Convening Prayer

Adoption of Agenda

Clerk's Report Melissa Eckerle

- Minutes of Annual Congregational January 31, 2021
- 2021 Church Statistical Report

Pastor's Report

Our Mission

**Annual Reports of Church Officers & Committees**

Treasurer's Report for 2021 Arlene Chittenden

2022 Operating budget

Financial Secretary Melissa Eckerle

Church Investments Mike Eckerle

Benevolence Fund Melissa Eckerle

Bentley Trust Bud Stryker

Memorial Fund Melissa Eckerle

Board of Deacons

Worship/ Christian Education for 2021

Building & Grounds

Report of the Nominating Committee

- Election of Elders, Deacons, & Church Officers
- Election of member at large for the Nominating Committee

Adjournment/Closing Prayer

# Minutes of the 2020 Annual Congregational Meeting

## Approved by Session

Beecher Presbyterian Church

January 31, 2021

There being a quorum (9 members) present either in person or via Zoom, the meeting was called to order at 11:05 AM in the sanctuary of Beecher PC following worship. Moderator CLP Northcutt opened the meeting with prayer.

The proposed agenda was adopted. CLP Northcutt brought before the meeting the proposed changes to our by-laws. They were approved. The changes are as follows.

Under Article II Section 1, the second bullet point - A quorum constitutes one-third of the active members who must be present at a properly called meeting to conduct business in the name of the church.

Under Article II, Section 2, the third bullet point - The congregation of Beecher PC may meet by electronic means if all active members have reasonable notice of the electronic meeting and the ability to discuss, deliberate and discern the will of God and vote on business items. The quorum for such a meeting is one third of the active members or at least six active members and one moderator, temporary or called.

Under Article III, Section 3 The session may meet by electronic means if all active elders have reasonable notice of the electronic meeting and the ability to discuss, deliberate and discern the will of God and vote on business items. The quorum for such a meeting is three active elders and the moderator, temporary or called.

CLP Northcutt presented the minutes of the previous Annual Meeting, which had been approved by the Session and the Statistical Information report, which had been filed with the Office of the General Assembly.

The Treasurer presented the 2020 Treasurer's report and the 2021 Operating Budget which the Session had already approved.

The following reports were approved on motion and filed for audit: Financial Secretary, Investments, Benevolence, Bentley Trust and Memorial Fund. Reports were also received from the Pastor, Deacons, Worship Committee and Building and Grounds Committee.

The Nominating Committee gave the nominations for the year. There were no nominations from the floor and this slate was approved on motion.

Elder Class of 2024 Rhonda Wessels

Deacon Class of 2024 Rick Wessels

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by CLP Northcutt.

Melissa Eckerle, Clerk

Robert Northcutt, Moderator

## 2021 Church Statistical Report

<b>Church</b>	Beecher	PIN 2327
<b>Presbytery</b>	Cincinnati	
<b>Address</b>	229 Short St, Lawrenceburg, IN 47025	
<b>Phone</b>	812-537-3390	
<b>Email</b>	beecherpcusa@gmail.com	
<b>Web Site</b>	beecherpresbyterianchurch @weebly.com	

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### Membership

Prior Active Members	17	Adjusted membership	17
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#### Gains

Certificate	0
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Youth Professions	0
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Professions & Reaffirmations	0
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<b>Total Gains</b>	<b>0</b>
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**Total Ending Active Members 16**

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#### Losses

Certificate	0
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Deaths	1
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Deleted for any Other Reason	2
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<b>Total Losses</b>	<b>1</b>
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### Baptisms Average

Presented by Others	0
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At Confirmation	0
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All Other	0
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Weekly Worship Attendance	10
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Female Members	9
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Friends of the Congregation	4
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Ruling Elders on Session	4
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Do you have Deacons?	Yes
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### Age Distribution of Active Members People with Disabilities

25 & Under	1
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26 - 40	2
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41 - 55	2
---------	---

56 - 70	7
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Over 70	4
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**Total Age Distribution 17**

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Hearing impairment	1
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Sight impairment	1
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Mobility impairment	
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Other impairment	
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### Christian Education

Birth - 3		Grade 7
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Age 4		Grade 8
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Kindergarten		Grade 9
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Grade 1		Grade 10
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Grade 2		Grade 11
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Grade 3		Grade 12
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Grade 4		Young Adults
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Grade 5		Over 25
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Grade 6		Teachers/Officers
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<b>Total Christian Education</b>	<b>0</b>
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### Racial Ethnic

Asian/Pacific Islander/South Asian	Native American/Alaska Native/Indigenous	
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Black/African American/African	White	16
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Middle Eastern/North African	Multiracial	
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Hispanic/Latino-a		
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**Total Racial Ethnic 16**

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### Financial Data

Annual Income	81,627	Mission Expenses	350
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Annual Expenses	53,849	Personnel Expenses	18,910
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Facilities Expenses	31,119
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# Pastor's Report

*"The Lord is my light and salvation; whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the strong hold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?  
Your face, Lord, do I seek. Do not hide your face from me" Psalm 27*

The 27<sup>th</sup> Psalm is labeled as a "triumphant song of confidence." It points out to us that our Lord is a God of light, salvation, and stronghold; the Lord is one who hides and protects us, who sets us on solid ground; the Lord is the one to whom we make a bold song of joy and thanksgiving to each Sunday.

There are many ways of knowing and experiencing God, and our experience with God shifts with time. I have found there are times, like last year, I literally felt God was nowhere to be found. I hungered and thirsted for God; I searched for God. I discovered that merely residing in God's temple was not enough. I wanted to be face-to-face with God. I wanted to be in a relationship with God that is ever deepening in intimacy.

Intimate relationships, however, lead us to risky places; the life of faith does not render us invisible, anonymous faces in the crowd. Instead, we assume some personal risk in following God.

The call of Jesus is not to future salvation but to contemporary action; it's a call to drop what we think is important and joining something that is larger than ourselves. How have we responded to that call?

The church is not a country or social club. It's not just a fellowship. It's not just a potluck meal. It's not just a gathering. A church is a community of people that are informed and transformed by Christ Crucified and Christ Risen. We're called out, woven together, and empowered to be God's ambassadors to our community and beyond.

What we do here at Beecher PC as a church really matters. It is important for us as we face the future in uncertain times to continue to gather in worship together, pray for one another, encourage one another, forgive one another, and live out our mission together.

*Robert Northcutt, CRE*

# Our Mission

We are called to serve the Lord. That work becomes our Mission, which is the tasks of the church that we consider to be of extreme importance, and the reason we exist here at Beecher PC. Our mission could be stated: *As an evolving band of disciples, we strive to follow the radical teachings of Jesus Christ; to be his hands and feet in our community and to the world.*

An evolving band of disciples refers to the world we live in, how it is always changing, and how we adapt to the changes. Just think back on the last two years, even ten years and how different our day-to-day life is now compared to then. Part of our mission then is to interpret Scripture as it applies to our daily lives so that we can continue to live as God wants us to live. We are not rewriting Scripture; we are adapting our lives to align with the Kingdom of God.

The biggest misconception in many churches today is that their primary mission is to have a worship service each week and a few special services throughout the year. Worship is essential, it's where we learn about and experience God, where we gather with like-minded people to get energized/prepared for the next week and all the obstacles that life throws at us. It is where we offer ourselves to God. But it's not the only reason we exist. In Luke 4:18, Jesus lays out our mission to us by telling us what his mission is: *"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."*

This is how we live out that mission:

## 1-Partner with the Dearborn County Clearinghouse

We give the Clearinghouse a space which exists to provide food, clothing, and shelter to financially challenged families in our community. Each week twenty – forty families are assisted with food and clothing.

## 2-Partner with the Salvation Army

Our partnership with the Salvation Army, and Its mission "to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in his name without discrimination" is carried out by our participation in "Ring the Bell" which this year netted over \$24,000.00! We also have a Salvation Army representative, the Pastor, which gives our church the ability to assist people with utilities, rent, food and clothing.

## 3-Host an SEI Community Garden site

We host a community garden where people can have their own plots to grow fresh fruits and vegetables, currently there are thirty beds. Some of the beds are earmarked to share with the community and are a learning experience for Ivy Tech students. The garden exists to "Provide an inclusive environment for all members of the community to work together toward improving food and social insecurities, physical and emotional wellness, and nutritional and ecological awareness."

#### 4-Support Community Groups

We provide space on Monday & Tuesday evenings for AA and NA groups.

#### 5-Care for One Another

Then there's the work of our deacons who not only care for our members but also do outreach for the most vulnerable of our community.

We are a Matthew 25 church. We have pledged to act boldly and compassionately to serve the people who are hungry, oppressed, imprisoned or poor. We accepted the Matthew 25 invitation, to help our denomination become a more relevant presence in the world. We recognize Christ's urgent call to be a church of action, where God's love, justice and mercy shine forth and are contagious. And we rejoice how our re-energized faith can unite all Presbyterians for a common and holy purpose: our common identity to do mission.

Shalom

*Robert Northcutt, CRE*

## Treasurer's Financial Report - Beecher Presbyterian Church 2021

	Income		Disbursements
January	\$2,435.00		\$3,498.42
February	\$3,756.25	<i>Includes REMC Grant \$1,340.00</i>	\$2,943.32
March	\$3,624.00		\$2,629.21
April	\$2,415.00		\$3,887.98
May	\$2,095.00		\$2,796.43
June	\$2,780.00		\$2,584.26
July	\$2,130.00		\$1,770.43
August	\$2,210.00		\$3,962.72
September	\$4,195.00		\$4,393.89
October	\$4,442.00		\$7,296.90
November	\$47,897.97	<i>Includes DCF Grant \$36,266.00</i>	\$9,313.04
December	\$3,646.98		\$8,772.19
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$81,627.20</b>		<b>\$53,848.79</b>

Income *\$81,627.20 less expenses \$53,848.79 = \$27,778.41*

Transferred \$6,000.00 from savings to checking in Nov.

Item	Budget 2021	Disbursed
Pastor	\$14,000.00	\$14,500.20
Travel	\$750.00	\$57.50
Continuing Education	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Pulpit Supply	\$600.00	\$0.00
Per Capita	\$900.00	\$627.00
Insurance	\$3,900.00	\$4,180.00
Utilities	\$5,500.00	\$6,834.30
Phone/Internet	\$1,400.00	\$1,461.32
Church/Manse	\$5,000.00	\$1,859.66
Deacons	\$350.00	\$179.45
Worship	\$200.00	\$0.00
Organist	\$4,680.00	\$4,050.00
Janitor	\$1,560.00	\$360.00
Postage	\$75.00	\$52.00
Supplies	\$1,000.00	\$642.22
Organ/Piano	\$700.00	\$4,659.00
Mission Pledge	\$350.00	\$350.00
Equipment Repair	\$500.00	\$0.00
Misc.	\$1,000.00	\$83.83
Garden	\$0.00	\$746.33
Grants	\$37,606.00	<u>\$13,205.98</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$81,071.00</b>	<b>\$53,848.79</b>

Balance on hand 2020

\$13,207.06

Balance on hand 2021	\$40,985.47
Cash on hand	\$27,778.41

Arlene Chittenden, Treasurer

*Arlene Chittenden*

### 2022 Approved Budget

Expenses	2022 Budget	2022 Projected Income	
Pastor	\$15,700.00	Rent	\$15,000.00
Travel	\$750.00	Offering	\$21,681.20
Continuing Ed	\$1,000.00	Grant	\$26,048.00
Pulpit Supply	\$600.00	Faith	\$15,421.80
Per Capita	\$561.00	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$78,151.00</b>
Insurance	\$4,200.00		
Utilities - Gas	\$4,000.00		
Electric	\$2,600.00		
Water	\$900.00		
Internet	\$1,027.00		
Phone	\$600.00		
Website	\$700.00		
Church/Manse	\$5,000.00		
Deacons	\$600.00		
Special Worship	\$200.00		
Organist	\$5,720.00		
Custodian	\$720.00		
postage	\$75.00		
Supplies	\$1,000.00		
Organ/Piano	\$3,200.00		
Mission Pledge	\$450.00		
Equipment			
Repair	\$500.00		
Misc.	\$1,000.00		
Garden	\$1,000.00		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$52,103.00</b>		
DCF Grant	\$26,048.00		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$78,151.00</b>		

# 2020 Financial Secretary's Report

## First Quarter

Weekly Offering	\$3,385.00	
Loose Offering	\$551.25	
Rent	\$3,750.00	
Grant-REMC	\$1,340.00	
Flowers	<u>\$104.00</u>	
		<b>\$9,130.95</b>

## Second Quarter

Weekly Offering	\$3,080.00	
Loose Offering	\$275.00	
Garden	\$30.00	
Rent	<u>\$3,750.00</u>	
		<b>\$7,135.00</b>

## Third Quarter

Weekly Offering	\$2,605.00	
Loose Offering	\$435.00	
Rent	\$3,750.00	
Transfer from Memorial Fund	<u>\$2,000.00</u>	
		<b>\$8,790.00</b>

## Fourth Quarter

Weekly Offering	\$5,115.00	
Loose Offering	\$702.00	
Rent	\$3,750.00	
Donation to Deacons	\$600.00	
Transfer from Memorial Fund	\$2,000.00	
Garden	\$1,091.97	
Grant-DCF	\$36,266.00	
Flowers	<u>\$156.98</u>	
		<b><u>\$49,676.95</u></b>

**Total Income for 2021** **\$74,732.20**

Submitted by Melissa Eckerle

*Melissa Eckerle*

## 2021 Investment Report

<b>Beginning Investment Value 1/1/2021</b>	<b>\$104,764.91</b>
<b>Interest</b>	
Quarter 1	\$64.59
Quarter 2	\$39.20
Quarter 3	\$35.34
<u>Quarter 4</u>	<u>\$19.45</u>
<b>Total Interest</b>	<b>\$158.58</b>
<b>Withdrawals</b>	
Quarter 1	
Quarter 2	
Quarter 3	
Quarter 4	<u>\$6,000.00</u>
<b>Total Withdrawal</b>	<b>\$6,000.00</b>
<b>Total Investment Value as of 12/31/202</b>	<b>\$98,923.49</b>
<b>Net Change in Investment Value During 2020</b>	<b>(\$5841.42)</b>

Submitted by Michael Eckelre

*Michael Eckerle*

## 2021 Benevolence Fund Report

<b>Beginning Balance January 1, 2021</b>	<b>\$112.50</b>
Deposits	\$267.00
Withdrawals from Account	<u>\$267.00</u>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$112.50</b>

Submitted by Melissa Eckerle

*Melissa Eckerle*

## Bentley Trust Report

<b>Balance January 1, 2021</b>	<b>\$4,462.79</b>
<b>Receipts</b>	
Interest	\$57.04
Disbursements	<u>\$0.00</u>
<b>Cash on Hand</b>	<b>\$4,519.83</b>

Submitted by Bud Stryker

*Bud Stryker*

# Beecher Memorial Fund Report

<b>Balance January 1, 2021</b>	\$7,542.88
Deposits (Douglas & Stonesifer)	\$690.00
Interest	\$3.20
Withdrawals (organ repair)	<u>\$4,000.00</u>
<b>Balance 12/31/2020</b>	<b>\$4,236.08</b>

Submitted by Melissa Eckerle

*Melissa Eckerle*

## Deacons Report

Being a Deacon is a wonderful call to service. Deacons are the "servants" or "caregivers" of the congregation. In this congregation as in most, people have all kinds of needs - they are recovering from surgery, grieving, lonely, ill, or otherwise in a time where they welcome the ministry of care from our congregation. In a very real way, Deacons are the hands and heart of the Church in our ministry of caring. Serving as a Deacon of Beecher Presbyterian Church is a privilege and a blessing. It is also an opportunity for spiritual growth and fellowship. As a deacon, we are given the opportunity to know other church members in a deeper way, serving alongside them and growing in the understanding of the burdens people carry and how the church can help.

Meeting on a quarterly basis as required by the by-laws of this church was difficult once again this year due to the continuing spread of COVID-19. However, this year the deacons:

- Hosted the 2021 Annual Congregational Dinner
- Hosted a birthday party for the church on Pentecost
- Hosted the Chili Christmas
- Sent birthday, get well and anniversary wishes to members in their cluster.
- Also, the deacons received a very generous contribution of \$600.00 to buy supplies for the homeless.

Submitted by the Deacons:

Rick Wessels, Charity Vanosdol, and Margo Northcutt

## Worship /Christian Education

*“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;  
The whole earth is full of God’s glory”  
Isaiah 6:3*

Worship is at the very heart of a church’s life. All that the church is and does is rooted in its worship. The community of faith, gathered in response to God’s call, is formed in worship. Worship is the principal influence that shapes our faith and is the most visible way we express the faith. In worship, through Word and Sacrament, the church is sustained by the presence of Christ and empowered by the work of the Holy Spirit. Joined in worship to the One who is the source of life, the church is equipped to serve God in the world.

The work of the Worship Committee is done primarily in Session. Together they assist the pastor in providing meaningful worship of God, and to encourage the people to participate fully and regularly in it. We believe as long as worship is God-directed, God will keep us in faithful paths and pour out blessings of deep relationships, strong faith, abiding wonder, and inspired service.

The work of this committee done by the session:

- ✚ Establish the Communion schedule including special services such as Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, etc., and arrange for ordained elders and deacons (active or inactive) to serve Communion.
- ✚ Sanctuary preparation which includes, candles, changing paraments, and arranging for holiday decorating of sanctuary.
- ✚ Assist the pastor in assessing and meeting the congregation’s worship needs including Sunday bulletin, order of worship scheduling of Services, and any special worship services.
- ✚ Assist the pastor in planning for special events such as Advent, Maundy Thursday, World Communion Day, Recovery Prayer Services etc.

Submitted by the Session:

Bruce Alley, Melissa Eckerle, Mike Eckerle, Rhonda Wessels, Bob Northcutt

## 2020 Building & Grounds Report

*“Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock,  
in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers,  
to care for the church of God,  
which he obtained with his own blood.” Acts 20:28*

The duty of this committee is stewardship of the churches property which encompasses the management and maintenance of the building and grounds, including management and maintenance of the major mechanical components of the church, manse, and garage such as heating/air conditioning, major office equipment, etc. This committee also assumes responsibility for the protection of all church property and equipment, the purchase or procurement of any new property or equipment, and the supervision of the use of all church facilities and equipment.

The Building and Grounds Committee is chaired by a member of Session. Membership is open to any members of the congregation!

Repairs and capital improvements:

Church:

- Much needed work to the pipe organ, primarily replacing the leather in the wooden pipes, reservoir, and console, was started in the fall of 2021 and should be completed by February. Schaedle Pipe Organ, who does our yearly maintenance and tunings was contracted to do the work.
- New light fixtures were installed in the meeting room and basement! Thanks to Bruce Alley for his talents to get the new lights installed. The money for the fixtures came through a grant from United Way.
- Renovations on the church began this winter thanks to a grant from the Dearborn Community Fund. New windows for the basement have been ordered and are expected to be installed sometime in March. Also, the storm windows that have been protecting our stained glass for the past forty years or so have been removed. The frames are ready to be painted as soon as the weather permits and then the new storm windows will be installed. We also will be replacing the doors that are under the stairs at the east elevation plus a building a new façade to cover the old coal chute.

Manse:

- We are grateful for our tenants that are now living in the manse, they are taking good care of the house. There were some minor repairs that were needed and completed this year. We do have several projects for 2022 to do

at the manse, painting the exterior, replacing the handrails on the front porch.

Submitted by Mike Eckerle & Bruce Alley.

*Mike Eckerle, Bruce Alley*

## **Nominating Committee Report**

Election of Ruling Elders and Deacons Ruling elders and deacons are men and women elected by the congregation from among its members. The nomination and election of ruling elders and deacons shall express the rich diversity of the congregation's membership and shall guarantee participation and inclusiveness (F-1.0403). Ruling elders and deacons shall be nominated by a committee elected by the congregation, drawn from and representative of its membership.

Congregations may provide by their own rule for a congregational nominating committee, provided that the committee shall consist of at least three active members of the congregation and shall include at least one ruling elder who is currently serving on the session. The pastor shall serve ex officio and without vote. When elections are held, full opportunity shall always be given to the congregation for nomination from the floor of G-2.04 Form of Government G-2.0401-G-2.0405 28 Book of Order 2017/2019 the congregational meeting by any active member of the congregation. A majority of all the active members present and voting shall be required to elect. (G-2.0401)