

REACHING IN COMMITTEE
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC, GAYLORD, MI
January 5, 2025

Members Present: Maggie (chair), Greg (pastor), Sallie (moderator), Rokko—via zoom(secretary), Mona, Helen M., Sharon

OPENING PRAYER: Maggie

The committee selected Maggie as chairperson for 2025

HOLIDAY RECAP

- Next year we will set the date for the Christmas Potluck in November
- Next year we will organize the individual candles for Christmas Eve well in advance
- Next year we will make sure there are ushers to assist with seating
- People loved making the quilt tiles which went with our worship theme
- We are considering what to do with the tiles (return them to owners or make a display)

SERMON SERIES THEMES

- February worship will follow the lectionary
- We will use Sanctified Art for the Lenten season: “Everything In Between/A Lenten Series in Luke’s Gospel [Ash Wednesday 3/5; Easter 4/20]
- We are considering using Sanctified Art for occasions other than Advent and Lent

PULPIT SUPPLY

- Laura Bantens will cover 1/19/25
- Rokko will cover 1/26/25
- Greg likely gone 2/23—worship leader TBD

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

All adults working with Children will be interviewed by Pastor Greg and Reaching In Committee Chair Maggie Wallin to have the policy explained. Greg will initiate the required Michigan State Police background checks.

HOLIDAYS

- We are considering a symbolic Seder ceremony during Holy Week. Sharon is researching the details of such a ceremony that she had attended in the past.

BOOK STUDY

Beginning January 9, there will be a Thursday 7 PM zoom book study facilitated by Pastor Greg and Mary Fox. All are invited to attend any of eight weekly sessions. We Survived the End of the World: Lessons from Native America on Apocalypse and Hope. by Steven Charleston. The zoom link appears in the newsletter.

UPCOMING:

- Over the winter, we will continue to host a “Snowbird Zoom” during coffee hour, the second Sunday of each month.

PASTORAL CARE:

Check the weekly Bulletin and monthly Newsletter for those needing our care

CLOSING PRAYER: Greg

NEXT MEETING: Monday 10 February noon

SUBMITTED BY ROKKO