

# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

19 School Street ~ Lincoln, Maine

## Annual Reports for 2023



Annual Church Meeting – January 28, 2024



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**CALL TO MEETING: NOTICE GIVEN**

To be read in Church TWO Sundays prior to the date of Meeting. Notice posted on the Church doors.

Calling all First Congregational Church Members: Hear ye one and all. The Voting members of said Church are to meet on **Sunday, January 28, 2024**, for the Annual Business Meeting of this Congregation to transact the following business after the Worship Service.

**ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA – January 28, 2024**

1. Call Meeting to Order.....Jennifer Fogel, Moderator
2. Opening Prayer.....Rev. Tim Hall
3. Roll Call – *Quorum of Twenty Active members is required*.....Church Clerk
4. Minutes of the 2023 Annual Meeting.....Church Clerk
5. Reports:  
Annual reports for 2023.....distributed by Clerk  
Treasurer’s Report.....Carl Stewart
6. Old Business
7. New Business
  - a. Proposed 2024 Church Budget..... Trustee Chair
  - b. Election of Slate of Nominees for Office.....Nominating Committee
  - c. Other
8. Benediction.....Rev. Tim Hall
9. Adjournment.....Jennifer Fogel, Moderator

This Annual Business Meeting has been called by the Moderator, and I hereby direct the Clerk to notify the Members of said Church to meet on the above date and time.

*Jennifer Fogel, Moderator*

This certifies that I have caused a copy of the above Warrant to be posted on the doors of said Church; and in compliance with said Constitution, notice will be read from the pulpit by the Clerk two Sundays prior to the date of said meeting.

*Jackie Thurlow, Church Clerk*

**POSTED: 1/12/2024**

**First Congregational Church of Lincoln, UCC**  
**Budget To Date Report**

<b>1 Proposed 2024 BUDGET</b>	1/11/2024	BUDGET 2023	PROPOSED BUDGET 2024	Change
<b>MINISTERIAL SUPPORT</b>				
Salary - Includes SS Offset		\$35,903.00	24,163.00	(11740.00)
Housing		\$0.00	9,600.00	9600.00
Benefits				
Life & Disability		\$0.00		0.00
Medical Insurance		\$0.00		0.00
Pastor's Continuing Education		\$0.00		0.00
Pastor's Professional Expenses		\$0.00	1,000.00	1000.00
Pastor's Transportation Expenses		\$0.00	1,500.00	1500.00
Pension		\$0.00		0.00
<b>Minister Subtotal</b>		<b>\$35,903.00</b>	<b>36263.00</b>	<b>360.00</b>
Supply Pulpit		\$800.00	800.00	0.00
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>36,703.00</b>	<b>37063.00</b>	<b>360.00</b>
<b>CHURCH BUILDING EXPENSES</b>				
Building & Boiler Insurance		\$15,113.00	14,486.00	(627.00)
Custodial Repairs/Inspections		\$1,000.00	700.00	(300.00)
Custodial Supplies		\$800.00	500.00	(300.00)
Custodial Salary		\$14,300.00	14,300.00	0.00
Elevator Service/Inspection		\$975.00	975.00	0.00
Employer's Taxes for Employees		\$1,043.77	1,085.52	41.75
Heat/Fuel		\$14,000.00	14,000.00	0.00
Propane		\$500.00	500.00	0.00
Lights		\$3,700.00	3,700.00	0.00
Sewer		\$600.00	624.00	24.00
Taxes Ludden Field		\$160.00	160.00	0.00
Telephone		\$1,130.00	1,230.00	100.00
Water		\$1,500.00	1,646.64	146.64
Worker's Compensation Insurance		\$424.00	470.00	46.00
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>55,245.77</b>	<b>54,377.16</b>	<b>(868.61)</b>
<b>CHURCH PROGRAM EXPENSES</b>				
Bell Choir Director Salary		\$300.00	300.00	0.00
Christian Education Program/VBS		\$200.00	200.00	0.00
Church Supplies		\$1,100.00	600.00	(500.00)
Copier		\$400.00	700.00	300.00
Zoom Program		\$1,450.00	1,885.00	435.00
Music Program		\$150.00	250.00	100.00
Office Administrators Salary		\$8,844.00	9,197.76	353.76
Organist/Choir Director Salary		\$3,500.00	3,640.00	140.00
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>15,944.00</b>	<b>16,772.76</b>	<b>828.76</b>
<b>MISSIONS &amp; DENOMINATIONAL EXPENSES</b>				
UCC: Church's Wider Mission & Per Capita Dues Tax to Maine		2,543.00	2,543.00	0.00
Conference Delegate Expense		0.00		
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>2,543.00</b>	<b>2,543.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET</b>				
		<b>110,435.77</b>	<b>110,755.92</b>	<b>320.15</b>

## SLATE OF NOMINEES FOR 2024

### **CHURCH OFFICERS**

Moderator: Jen Fogel  
Assistant Moderator: Anne Argast  
Church Clerk: Jackie Thurlow  
Treasurer: Carl Stewart  
Assistant Treasurer: Bruce Barker  
Financial Secretary: Jacob Olsen  
Assistant Financial Sec: Emmy Barker

### **BOARD OF DEACONS**

**Gary Bies** and Mary Bies

Ingrid Brown  
Jen Fogel  
Linda Gerry  
Peggy Grant  
Lana Gulesian  
Diana Hill  
Gail King  
Libby Morrill  
Kendall Olsen  
Steve Ruhl  
Paul and Joyce Thornton  
Riley White, Junior Deacon

### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Emmy Barker  
Bruce Barker  
Grant Clay  
Linda Gerry  
Douglas Ludden  
Jacob Olsen  
Treasurer/Assistant  
Financial Secretary/Assistant

### **CHRISTIAN ED. COMMITTEE**

Michele Gardner  
Linda Gerry

### **HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE**

Emmy Barker, Pam Brown, Jen Fogel,  
Linda Gerry, Peggy Grant, Gail King,  
Linda Ludden, Joyce Thornton

### **MISSIONS COMMITTEE**

Mary Bies, Linda Gerry, Kathie Greear

### **MUSIC COMMITTEE**

Terri Coolong  
Morgan Espling [Ex-Officio]  
Peggy Grant  
Steve Ruhl  
Carl Stewart

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Moderator, [Ex-Officio], Pastor [Ex-Officio],  
Chair or a designated representative of  
the Deacons, Trustees, and CE Committee

### **STEERING COMMITTEE**

The chair or a designated representative  
of all boards, committees, and auxiliary  
organizations, and Moderator, Assistant  
Moderator, Church Clerk, Treasurer,  
Assistant Treasurer, Financial Secretary,  
Assistant Financial Secretary, Three  
Members at Large, Pastor [Ex-Officio]

### **Members at Large:**

\_\_\_\_\_, Diana Hill, Ron McComb

### **STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**

Emmy Barker  
Linda Gerry  
Jackie Thurlow

### **UCC DELEGATES**

Linda Gerry, Delegate  
Jackie Thurlow, Delegate  
Diana Hill, Alternate Delegate  
Ingrid Brown, Alternate Delgate

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

January 30, 2023

1. Annual Business meeting was called to order at 10:58 am by Moderator Jen Fogel.
2. Opening prayer was given by Rev. Tim Hall.
3. Roll Call – Quorum was met with 27 voting members present in church.
4. **The motion to accept the minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting was made by Peggy Grant and seconded by Bruce Barker. The motion carried unanimously.**
5. Reports:
  - a. No questions were asked regarding the annual committee and board reports.
  - b. **Treasurer's Report – Carl reported on the changes in the receipts and disbursements in the various categories of the 2022 budget and in the Money Market accounts. He also explained the graph highlighting the changes in the budgets over the past 17 years. The only question asked was whether the church had considered using an online bank.**

6. No old business.

7. **New Business:**

a. **Proposed 2023 Church budget:**

Carl Stewart, Treasurer, presented the proposed 2023 budget. He pointed out that the ministerial support account was remaining the same in the event that another part time minister might be hired before the end of the year. Under building expenses, the cost of the premium for the building and boiler insurance is actually \$13,413 rather than \$15,113 (a savings of \$1700) due to increasing the deductible from \$1000 to \$10,000. Under program expenses, the office administrator's salary was increased because of the amount of time Linda spends at the church, and the choir director's salary was decreased since the choir does not sing during the summer months. A question was asked why Zoom was not being used, and the answer was that too few people were using it; and with this new system, it is too complicated to operate. Also, the deacons need to be able to operate the system when Morgan is absent. Steve will check with Morgan to see if the service's cost has already been paid for this year. Carl recommended that we pass the budget as presented knowing that we will come in under budget. Doug Ludden made the motion to accept the proposed 2023 budget, and Peggy Grant seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

b. **Election of Officers:** Linda Gerry asked that Ingrid Brown's name be added as an alternate delegate to the UCC Delegates. A motion by Anne Argast to accept the Slate of Nominees as presented, seconded by Linda Gerry, carried unanimously.

c. **Those elected were**

**Moderator:** Jennifer Fogel **Vice Moderator:** Anne Argast **Church Clerk:** Jackie Thurlow

**Treasurer:** Carl Stewart **Assistant Treasurer:** Bruce Barker

**Financial Secretary:** Jacob Olsen **Assistant Financial Secretary:** Emmy Barker



**Board of Deacons: Allen and Pam Brown, Mary Bies, Ingrid Brown, Jennifer Fogel, Linda Gerry, Peggy Grant, Lana Gulesian, Diana Hill, Gail King, Libby Morrill, Kendall Olsen, Steve Ruhl, Paul and Joyce Thornton, Riley White (Junior Deacon)**

**Board of Trustees: Emmy Barker, Bruce Barker, Grant Clay, Linda Gerry, Doug Ludden, Jacob Olsen**

**Christian Ed: Michele Gardner, Linda Gerry**

**Hospitality Committee: Emmy Barker, Pam Brown, Jen Fogel, Linda Gerry, Peggy Grant, Gail King, Linda Ludden, Joyce Thornton**

**Missions: Mary Bies, Linda Gerry, Kathie Greear**

**Music: Terri Coolong, Morgan Espling (Ex-Officio), Peggy Grant, Steve Ruhl, Carl Stewart**

**Nominating Committee: Moderator, Pastor (Ex-Officio), Chair or designated representative of the Deacons, Trustees, and Christian Ed committee**

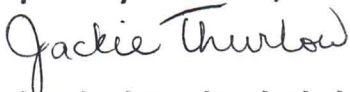
**Steering Committee: Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Church Clerk, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Assistant Financial Secretary, Pastor (Ex-Officio), three members- at-large: Diana Hill, Shey Gardner, Ron McComb**

**Stewardship Committee: Emmy Barker, Linda Gerry, Jackie Thurlow**

**UCC Delegates: Linda Gerry, Jackie Thurlow Alternates: Diana Hill, Ingrid Brown**

8. Under other business, Jen Fogel presented the idea of considering a single board structure to do the work of the church. This structure utilizes a leadership style that combines, accountability, responsibility and authority. It would also reduce duplication of work and micromanagement, improve communication and maximize the strengths of church members. The board would consist of 9 – 15 members whose duties would be fiduciary, strategic (setting priorities), and generative (goal setting). This structure would also require a restructuring of the by-laws. The members felt the steering committee should review this structure, contact the UCC for help with the procedure, and bring information back to the congregation in a timely manner.
9. Benediction was given by Rev. Tim Hall.
10. Moderator Jen Fogel declared the meeting adjourned at 11:49 am.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jackie Thurlow, Church Clerk

**CHURCH CLERK'S REPORT**

**JACKIE THURLOW**

**BAPTISMS**

None

**MEMBERSHIP AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2022 – 131**

**NEW MEMBERS**

Don Ramsay	3-26-23
Susan Haynes Griffin	10-22-23
Rev. Cathy Genthner	10-22-23
Forrest Genthner	10-22-23
Molly Genthner	10-22-23
Rev. Timothy Hall	10-22-23
Lisa Southard	10-22-23

**DEATHS**

Laura Haynes Jordan	1-30-23
Gayle Thompson Hooke	3-22-23
Betty Colbath	5-25-23
John Totz	5-29-23
Phyllis Banks	6-12-23
Clarice Jordan	6-27-23
Sona Wyman	7-27-23
Delmont Shorey	8-19-23
Barbara Russell	10-25-23

**MEMBERSHIP AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2023 – 129**

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2022 – 5**

**DEATHS**

None

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2023 – 5**



## Annual Report of the Pastor First Congregational Church of Lincoln Rev. Tim Hall

I must admit that it seems like time has gone by in a blur since Mary Bies called me last January with the proposal that I might assist the First Congregational Church with some worship leadership. I had retired from pastoral ministry in November of 2021, and I really wasn't thinking about or planning to return to the pulpit any time soon. But there was something about that call that made me think that I was up to leading worship for a few Sundays while the church considered its next steps. Well, a few Sundays turned into a few months, and Easter came and went, and a connection with the congregation began to grow in my heart. As summer approached I began to wonder if God, who had given me ample time to rest and heal after my wife Irene died, was calling me back to serve the church in a more committed way. And so discussions began, and call agreements were discussed, and on September 17<sup>th</sup> the congregation voted to extend to me a call to be your Designated Term, Part-time pastor, effective October 1<sup>st</sup>. This is a one-year commitment which may be extended, but I am more than pleased to serve you as a settled pastor here in Lincoln.

In discussing this call with the Search Committee, I listed a few things that I could offer to the church based on my background and experience. I'm pleased to have begun some of that work, including:

- **Website Improvements.** It was a bit concerning to see that the church website ([www.lincolncongochurch.org](http://www.lincolncongochurch.org)) was quite seriously out-of-date when I arrived, and I set to work finding the keys (passwords) to gain access and make corrections. The website has now been completely revised, and I will continue to edit and expand the information that is available to people who are curious about who we are and what we do.
- **Weekly Newsletter (MidweekNotes).** I told the Search Committee about being a "high touch" church, that is, reaching out to communicate with members and friends on a regular basis to tell them about our ministries and accomplishments. It was quite a challenge to assemble a database of email addresses, but now there are over 85 subscribers to our electronic newsletter, *Midweek Notes*. It's exciting to share all that we do each week to serve God in the name of Jesus Christ.
- **Broadcast presentation.** The COVID pandemic caused an instant revolution on church worship as churches scurried to find ways to broadcast worship services via Zoom, Facebook, YouTube, and other platforms. The First Congregational Church has done a remarkable job with its Facebook platform, but there are little tweaks we have done and can still do to improve the quality and reliability of our broadcasts. Many thanks go to Morgan Espling for the service and technical expertise she brings to this project.
- **Governance.** Like many churches, the First Congregational Church has an extensive system of governance based on committees, boards, and organizations within the church, all doing tasks to enhance our ministries, finances, facilities, and programs. And like many churches, dwindling membership makes filling 50+ positions nearly impossible. I've begun some research into streamlining governance here in the Lincoln church, and look forward to working with you in the new year to begin putting concepts into action.
- **Christian Education.** I have been very pleased to lead an Advent "self-study" of Luke's Gospel account in December, and look forward to more opportunities in the new year.

As always, I look forward to working with all of you as we continue to seek God's will in our earthly pilgrimage. May God continue to bless our ministries.

Yours in Christ, **Rev. Tim Hall**    **Pastor and Teacher**    **First Congregational Church of Lincoln**

**First Congregational Church of Lincoln, UCC  
Budget To Date Report**

2023 Expenses Vs Budget 1/11/2024	BUDGET 2022	DECEMBER			DEC Year To Date		
		Expenses	Budget	Variance	Expenses	Budget	Variance
<b>MINISTERIAL SUPPORT</b>							
Salary - Includes SS Offset	\$35,903.00	2975.40	2991.92	16.52	5950.80	35903.00	29952.20
Housing	\$0.00	1200.00	0.00	(1200.00)	2400.00	0.00	(2400.00)
Benefits							
Life & Disability	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Medical Insurance	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pastor's Continuing Education	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pastor's Professional Expenses	\$0.00	152.11	0.00	(152.11)	543.45	0.00	(543.45)
Pastor's Transportation Expenses	\$0.00	112.66	0.00	(112.66)	2277.71	0.00	(2277.71)
Pension	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Minister Subtotal	\$35,903.00	4440.17	2991.92	(1448.25)	11171.96	35903.00	24731.04
Supply Pulpit	\$800.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5625.00	1000.00	(4625.00)
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>36,703.00</b>	<b>4440.17</b>	<b>2991.92</b>	<b>(1448.25)</b>	<b>16796.96</b>	<b>36703.00</b>	<b>19906.04</b>
<b>CHURCH BUILDING EXPENSES</b>							
Building & Boiler Insurance	\$15,113.00	3621.50	0.00	(3621.50)	13256.25	15113.00	1856.75
Custodial Repairs/Inspections	\$1,000.00	0.00	83.33	83.33	522.03	1000.00	477.97
Custodial Supplies	\$800.00	284.16	66.67	(217.49)	441.68	800.00	358.32
Custodial Salary	\$14,300.00	1125.00	1125.00	0.00	13500.00	14300.00	800.00
Elevator Service/Inspection	\$975.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	975.00	475.00
Employer's Taxes for Employees	\$1,043.77	0.00	0.00	0.00	1029.96	1043.77	13.81
Heat/Fuel	\$14,000.00	1341.74	1736.88	395.14	12045.41	14000.00	1954.59
Propane	\$500.00	0.00	41.67	41.67	43.76	500.00	456.24
Lights	\$3,700.00	652.55	308.33	(344.22)	4148.53	3700.00	(448.53)
Sewer	\$600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	607.60	600.00	(7.60)
Taxes Ludden Field	\$160.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	171.79	160.00	(11.79)
Telephone	\$1,130.00	116.06	94.17	(21.89)	1233.41	1130.00	(103.41)
Water	\$1,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1477.72	1500.00	22.28
Worker's Compensation Insurance	\$424.00	0.00	106.00	106.00	475.50	424.00	(51.50)
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>55,245.77</b>	<b>7141.01</b>	<b>3562.05</b>	<b>(3578.96)</b>	<b>49453.64</b>	<b>55245.77</b>	<b>5792.13</b>
<b>CHURCH PROGRAM EXPENSES</b>							
Bell Choir Director Salary	\$300.00	300.00	300.00	0.00	300.00	300.00	0.00
Christian Education Program/VBS	\$200.00	0.00	16.67	16.67	0.00	200.00	200.00
Church Supplies	\$1,100.00	27.41	91.67	64.26	471.78	1100.00	628.22
Copier	\$400.00	206.93	33.33	(173.60)	902.19	400.00	(502.19)
Zoom Program	\$1,450.00	258.89	100.00	(158.89)	2018.68	1450.00	(568.68)
Music Program	\$150.00	0.00	12.50	12.50	242.10	150.00	(92.10)
Office Administrators Salary	\$8,844.00	680.63	737.00	56.37	8828.64	8844.00	15.36
Organist/Choir Director Salary	\$3,500.00	277.94	300.00	22.06	3542.82	3500.00	(42.82)
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>15,944.00</b>	<b>1751.80</b>	<b>1591.17</b>	<b>(160.63)</b>	<b>16306.21</b>	<b>15944.00</b>	<b>(362.21)</b>
<b>MISSIONS &amp; DENOMINATIONAL EXPENSES</b>							
UCC: Church's Wider Mission & Per Capita Dues Tax to Maine	2,543.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2543.00	2543.00
Conference Delegate Expense	0.00						
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>2,543.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2543.00</b>	<b>2543.00</b>
			0.00	0.00			
<b>TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET</b>	<b>110,435.77</b>	<b>13332.98</b>	<b>8145.13</b>	<b>(5187.85)</b>	<b>82556.81</b>	<b>110435.77</b>	<b>27878.96</b>
<b>UNBUDGETED EXPENSES</b>							
In and Out Items		153.50			788.29		
Capital Items		0.00			0.00		
Unbudgeted Expenses		50.00			2960.91		
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>203.50</b>			<b>3749.20</b>		
<b>Grand Total Budgeted &amp; Unbudgeted</b>		<b>13536.48</b>			<b>86306.01</b>		

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LINCOLN, UCC

**Grand Total Receipts/Disbursements - Checking Account**

Checking balance on hand 12/31/2022		\$4,727.93
Received from Financial Secretary		
Collections	101048.22	
Sale of American Funds	0	
Subtotal		\$105,776.15
Checking account Interest		\$9.09
Other Credits		\$0.00
Transfers from Money Market Fund to Checking		
Borrowed Funds For Checking Balance	\$10,000.00	
For MM Fund expenditures	\$182.73	
Other	\$1,000.00	
Subtotal		\$11,182.73
<b>Total Deposits</b>		<b>\$116,967.97</b>
Less Expenditures		\$89,041.40
Other Expenditures		\$0.00
Transfers to Deacon's Fund		\$0.00
Transfers to Money Market Fund To Repay "Borrowed Funds"		\$10,000.00
Transfers to Money Market Fund - Other		\$0.00
<b>Total Debits</b>		<b>\$99,041.40</b>
<b>Checking Balance on hand 12/31/2023</b>		<b>\$17,926.57</b>

**Grand Total Receipts/Disbursements - Money Market Account**

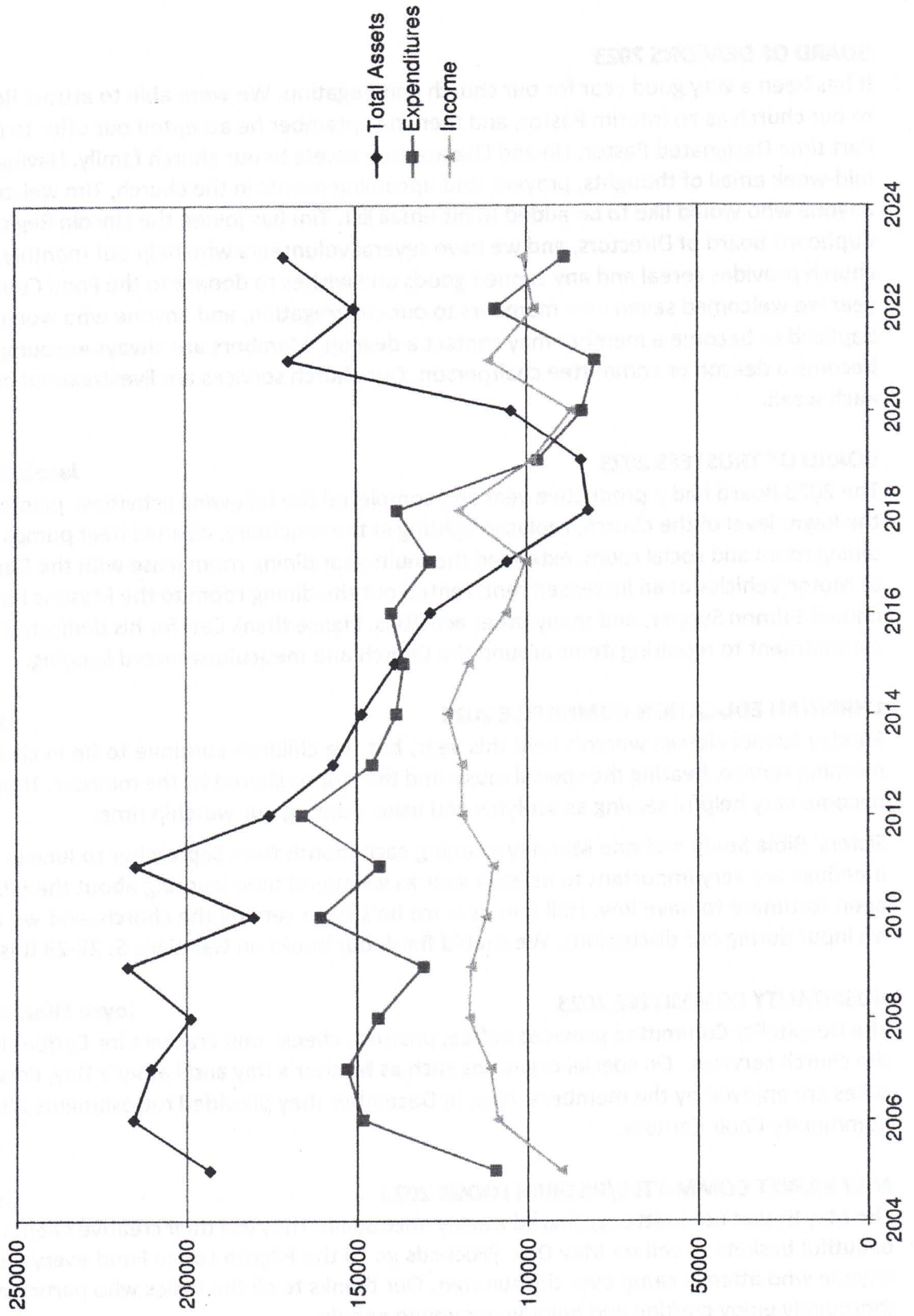
Money Market Balance on hand 12/31/2022		\$79,115.66
Endowments		\$0.00
Money Market account Interest		\$281.49
Transfers from Checking Account To Replace Borrowed Funds		\$10,000.00
Transfers from Checking Account to Money Market Account		\$0.00
<b>Total Deposits</b>		<b>\$10,281.49</b>
Transfers from Money Market Fund to Checking		
Transfers to Checking Account to maintain balance		\$10,000.00
Money Market Account Fees		\$0.00
Expenditures from Money Market Accounts		\$182.73
Other Debits		\$1,000.00
<b>Total Debits</b>		<b>\$11,182.73</b>
<b>Money Market Balance On Hand 12/31/2023</b>		<b>\$78,214.42</b>

# Money Market Account

FOR 2023

	Balance 12/31/2022	Deposits	Withdrawals	Balance 12/31/2023
Bell Choir Account	\$388.41	\$0.00	\$132.73	\$255.68
Bertha Clark Account	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Miscellaneous Funds	\$45,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$45,000.00
Capital Improvement Account	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Carolyn O'Brien Account	\$819.94	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$819.94
Interest Account	\$178.26	\$281.49	\$0.00	\$459.75
Leadbetter Renovation Account	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
May Basket Committee Account	\$6,764.98	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$5,764.98
Organ Fund Account	\$6,906.60	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,906.60
Piano Fund Account	\$860.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$810.00
Pilgrim Lodge Account	-\$29.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$29.80
Music Account	\$2,489.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,489.50
Memorial Accounts	\$9,640.44	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$9,640.44
Ladies Guild Account	\$661.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$661.00
Hildred Maynard Memorial	\$20.93	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20.93
Joyce Olsen Memorial Account	\$1,915.40	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,915.40
	\$79,115.66	\$10,281.49	\$11,182.73	\$78,214.42

**Assets & Expenses Chart**



### **BOARD OF DEACONS 2023**

**Mary Bies**

It has been a very good year for our church congregation. We were able to attract Rev. Tim Hall to our church as an Interim Pastor, and then in September he accepted our offer to become a Part time Designated Pastor. He and Lisa are true assets to our church family. Having started a mid-week email of thoughts, prayers, and upcoming events in the church, Tim welcomes anyone who would like to be added to his email list. Tim has joined the Lincoln Regional Food Cupboard Board of Directors, and we have several volunteers who help out monthly. Our church provides cereal and any canned goods one wishes to donate to the Food Cupboard. This year we welcomed seven new members to our congregation, and anyone who would like to be baptized or become a member may contact a deacon. Members are always encouraged to become a deacon or committee chairperson. Our church services are livestreamed on Facebook each week.

### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2023**

**Jacob Olsen, Chair**

The 2023 Board had a productive year and completed the following activities: painted doors on the lower level of the church, replaced lighting in the sanctuary, cleaned heat pumps in the dining room and social room, extended the multi-year dining room lease with the Department of Motor Vehicles at an increased rent, rented out the dining room to the Masons for their annual Salmon Supper, and many other activities. Please thank Carl for his dedicated commitment to repairing items around the Church and meticulous record keeping.

### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE 2023**

**Linda Gerry**

Sunday School classes weren't held this year, but the children continue to be in church for the morning service, hearing the special music and the stories shared by the minister. They have also become very helpful serving as acolytes and ushers during our worship time.

Sisters' Bible Study met one Monday morning each month from September to June in 2023. Our meetings are very important to us each year as we spend time learning about the Bible. We've been fortunate to have Rev. Hall join us since he's been serving the church, and we appreciate his input during our discussions. We should finish our books on Galatians 5: 22-23 this year.

### **HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE 2023**

**Joyce Thornton, Chair**

The Hospitality Committee provides coffee, pastries, cheese and crackers for Coffee Hour after the church services. On special occasions such as Mother's Day and Father's Day, decorated cakes are enjoyed by the members. Also, in December they provided refreshments after the Community Choir Cantata.

### **MAY BASKET COMMITTEE/PILGRIM LODGE 2023**

**Linda Gerry**

The May Basket Committee gathered weekly once again. They use their creative talents and make beautiful baskets to sell on May Day. Proceeds go to the Pilgrim Lodge Fund every year to help anyone who attends camp over the summer. Our thanks to all the ladies who participated. They thoroughly enjoy crafting and helping our young people.



**MEN'S CLUB 2023****Steve Ruhl, President**

The Lincoln Men's Club had a productive year with monthly guest speakers and social camaraderie. Its membership includes different generations of men from the greater Lincoln community. It's good to see young people as part of the group to ensure its continued community work. The Men's Club was an integral part of the annual River Drivers' Supper, which was a big success this year. Many thanks to the members who could contribute. We are looking forward to another great year!

**MISSIONS COMMITTEE 2023****Linda Gerry**

The church was unable to plan the Lenten Luncheons this year, but fortunately, our outreach missions were still active in 2023. The annual Toys for Tots campaign headed by Libby Morrill was a success once again, and a new outreach began this year. Kathie Greear took the lead on Free Community breakfasts which have replaced the monthly Saturday bean suppers. No one is charged for the meal, but donations are accepted, and people really enjoy the meals. Yearly church missions held are the Christmas in July mission led by the Deacons to benefit the Bangor Ronald McDonald House, and donations from the congregation are made to two UCC missions: Neighbors in Need and One Great Hour of Sharing.

**MUSIC COMMITTEE 2023****Terri Coolong, Chair**

Both the chancel choir and the handbell choir continued to offer music each week except for the months of July and August. Morgan kept us on track with the electronics, and Carl Stewart has begun entering new anthems so that we have music to sing on Sundays. The handbell choir held a Christmas concert in December as part of the Town of Lincoln's holiday activities. The concert included a sing-along with guest pianist Andrew McCormick. Several members of the choir also joined with the Methodist choir, under the direction of Andrew, to sing a cantata, part of which was sung in our church on a Sunday morning. Also, both choirs participated in putting on the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper.

**PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE 2023**

No meetings were held this year.

**PILGRIM DAUGHTERS 2023****Jackie Thurlow, Recording Secretary**

Pilgrim Daughters had another busy year of activities which included working on the River Drivers' Supper, holding our Christmas Craft Fair and Minestrone luncheon, enjoying a Valentine's party and our Christmas party to benefit Toys for Tots as well as hosting seven funeral receptions: Scott Bowers, Gayle Hooke, Laura Jordan, Diana Lindsey, Barbara Russell, Gail Sleeper, and Harley Sproul. We also welcomed a new member and held one surprise milestone birthday party. For philanthropy we donated to Lincoln's fuel assistance program, the Food Cupboard and appreciation gifts. Two special meetings were Crystal Boone's presentation on her trip to her ancestral home in Scotland and our June outing to GrandBelly's Medway Café.

### **RIVER DRIVERS' SUPPER 2023**

**Jacob Olsen and Kathie Greear, Chairs**

Another successful River Drivers' Supper was held, serving hundreds of people with a total profit from the supper of \$5809.84, which was divided equally between the Men's Club and the Pilgrim Daughters.

### **SEARCH COMMITTEE FOR NEW MINISTER 2023**

**Jennifer Fogel, Chair**

The Search Committee was pleased to hire Rev. Tim Hall as an Interim Pastor and then to offer him a call as a Part-time Designated Pastor. The committee will be working with Tim on our future going forward.

### **STEERING COMMITTEE 2023**

**Jackie Thurlow, Secretary**

The committee only met once this year on March 7, 2023, with the main topic of discussion about changing the church to a single board governance structure. Jen Fogel had been in touch with a designated associate conference minister about this matter. Other topics discussed were communication among various groups in the church and the extensive use of the church building.

### **STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE 2023**

Each year the Stewardship Committee gets the annual pledge cards ready and ensures that the members of the congregation receive them. The pledges help the Board of Trustees plan the church budget for the upcoming year.

### **UCC - KATAHDIN ASSOCIATION MEETINGS/DELEGATES 2023**

Church representatives to the Katahdin Association in 2023 were delegates, Linda Gerry and Jackie Thurlow and alternates Ingrid Brown and Diana Hill. The February meeting was held at the Hammond Street Congregational Church UCC in Bangor. The agenda included updates on each church's congregation's life, information on three programs offered through Maine School of Ministry, ME UCC Disaster Relief Team, updates on the 8-inch quilt squares from each church, and the mission and purposes of the Katahdin Association. The May meeting was held at the Rockwood Community Church UCC with the agenda being comprised of minutes, financial reports, 2023-2024 budget, Committee on Ministry report, and a By-Laws change. We were unable to attend the Fall Meeting.