

Douglas Congregational United Church of Christ

Pastor's Report – June 11, 2019

Since our last Church Council Meeting.....

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Giving</u>
Sunday, May 19	112	\$3,777
Sunday, May 26	152	\$2,235
Sunday, June 2	137	\$3,284
Sunday, June 9	129	\$3,878
Average	133	\$3,294

Pride Month: June is LGBT Pride Month. Douglas UCC is proud to be one of the very first “Open & Affirming” churches in all of the United States. We have been “ONA” for over 25 years. As we say in the UCC: “No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here!”

- Thank you to our church members, Greg Plowe and Steve Debbink, for gifting our church with the rainbow fabric draping our front doors for Pride Month. They are part of the world’s largest Pride flag which was carried down the streets of New York City for the 25th Anniversary of Stonewall.
- On May 28, over 25 people from Douglas UCC and I were at Saugatuck City Hall, as the City Council officially proclaimed June as Pride Month. The proclamation was presented to our Douglas UCC church member, Garnet Lewis.
- On June 1, Douglas UCC was a vendor and sponsor of the first ever Pride event in Douglas. Many of the organizers and volunteers for the event were members of Douglas UCC, and our own Elizabeth Estes gave an inspiring talk on the 50th Anniversary of Stonewall. Thank you to all of them and to all who helped that day at our church’s food booth.
- On June 22, our church will be a vendor/sponsor at the Holland Pride event in Centennial Park.
- On June 30, our worship will be centered on the theme of Pride, as the UCC celebrates “Open & Affirming” Sunday that day.

Summer Interns: Two of our summer interns have moved into the Retreat House. Jen is interning at the Saugatuck/Douglas History Center, and Calyn is interning at Saugatuck Center for the Arts. Thank you to our Retreat House coordinator, Kathleen Mueller, for facilitating.

New Members: On June 2, I held a New Members class at the Spring Street house. 17 people took part. They will be officially inducted with certificates and pins during our worship service on Sunday, June 30.

Two Services: We will be going to two Sunday services from July 7 to September 1. The two service times will be 9 a.m. and 11 a.m., with coffee hour in between the two services.

Annual Meeting: Our church’s Annual Meeting is Sunday, June 16, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.. All church members are strongly encouraged to attend.

Douglas Social/Church Picnic: Once again this year, our church will have a food booth at the Douglas Summer Socials, which will be held on June 27, July 25, and August 22. Also, our 3rd Annual Church Picnic will be held on August 7 at Beery Field in Douglas.

Summit on Race & Inclusion: Members of our church’s Social Justice Team and I attended the “Summit on Race & Inclusion” in Holland today. Our church was proud to be one of the sponsors for the event.

Pastoral Duties: In addition to my regular monthly duties, I also met with eleven congregants in my office for one-on-one meetings this past month; visited two congregants at their homes in Douglas; visited one congregant at Holland Hospital on May 30; was a guest on the Morning Grind radio show on June 1; emceed the Lakeshore Community Chorus concerts on May 18/19; officiated a baptism in the church on May 18; hosted a Pastors’ Support Group on May 20 at the Retreat House; participated in the Supportive Clergy night at Out on the Lakeshore in Holland on June 4; attended the Stephen Ministry meeting on June 10.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pastor Sal

Rev. Salvatore Sapienza, Pastor