

# Douglas Congregational United Church of Christ -- Pastor's Report

## September 21, 2021

**Live-Streaming:** We are so excited to be live-streaming our Sunday services! Thank you so much to Chris Clark and Mike White for taking the lead on this, and thank you to our new A/V Team volunteers.

**Douglas Social:** Thank you to all who helped with our Food Booth at the September 9<sup>th</sup> Douglas Social: Peter & Kathleen Mueller; Annie Hotwagner & Marty Coffin; Gregg Smith; Greg Harvath; Joyce & Kelly Wright; Ed Korson; Betsy York; Doug Wierenga; Mark Reiman. We made \$582 in donations.

**CROP Hunger Walk:** The annual CROP Hunger Walk was held on September 12, and our Douglas UCC Team raised \$8,885, which bested last year's total. Our team (Chris Clark; Mark Reiman; Julie and Jack Ridl; Joyce Wright; Patrick Schell; Dan Mack; Mike VerMerris) ranked #14 nationally. Thank you to our awesome team and to all who donated.

**Beach Clean-Up:** On Saturday, September 18, our Douglas UCC Creation Justice Team organized a beach clean-up of Oval and Douglas beaches. Almost 40 people took part! Thank you to Eric Lejeune and Sarah Swift for their leadership, and thank you to all the volunteers.

**History Center Exhibit:** On September 3, I took part in the opening reception for the new exhibit at the Saugatuck/Douglas History Center: "A Century of Progress: 100 Years of LGBTQ History." We are so honored that our church is featured in the exhibit.

**Stephen Ministry:** Our Stephen Ministry Leaders and I hosted an informational "Q & A" on Sunday, August 29 at the Spring Street cottage about our church's Stephen Ministry program. I also met with our Stephen Ministers on August 31 for their monthly supervision meeting.

**Grant Proposal Committee:** On August 24, members of our church's Grant Proposal Committee (Tim Lemanski and Peg Donohue) and I presented checks to Christian Neighbors and the Rotary Club of Saugatuck/Douglas. Photos of the check presentations appeared in the "Commercial Record" newspaper and on Facebook. Also: Due to our financial support of the Saugatuck/Douglas/Fennville Arts Initiative, we were invited to a reception with artist, Jason Quigno, on August 16<sup>th</sup> at the History Center. Sixteen people from our church and I took part.

**Art-a-Loan:** On September 15, Peter Black and I attended "Art-a-Loan" at Saugatuck Center for the Arts, where artwork from local students was displayed and then "loaned" to local businesses and organizations. We selected a piece which will be displayed in the Friendship Hall for one year.

**Hope Church:** I have been invited to preach at Hope Church in Holland on Sunday, October 3, for World Communion Sunday. Ginny Mikita will be preaching at Douglas UCC that morning. Later that afternoon, Ginny and I will be officiating the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual "Pet Blessing" in Douglas at Beery Field.

**In Addition:** On August 24, I attended the Grand West Association Planning Meeting...On August 27, I officiated a Memorial Service for church member, Luke Burnett...On September 19, I attended the Pastoral Relations Committee Meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

***Rev. Salvatore Sapienza, Pastor***