

THE NORTH HAVEN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

ANNUAL REPORT
2025



North Haven Congregational Church

Presented At The Annual Meeting
January 25, 2026

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NORTH HAVEN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

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AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

CALL TO ANNUAL MEETING

January 25, 2026

10:45 a.m.

AGENDA

Call to Order

Opening Prayer

Moderator's Convening Statement

Approval of Minutes of January 26, 2025 Annual Meeting

Acceptance of Non-Financial Reports

Acceptance of Endowment Report

Acceptance of Treasurer's Report

Approval of Budget for 2026

Election of Officers

Affirmation of Ministry Leadership Board Members

Any Other Business That May Come Before This Meeting

Adjournment

Respectfully Submitted,
James B. Bennett, Church Clerk

In case of postponement for any reason, the meeting will be held on February 1, 2026

Mission, Vision, & Values Statement

MISSION

Our church's mission is to bind ourselves with Jesus Christ in:

- Worship together;
- Nurture of Christian discipleship; and
- Compassionate service to our community and beyond.

VISION

We are a hub for the larger community as a church of action:

- Conducting regular, robust worship in a responsible and relevant way in an ever changing and challenging world;
- Welcoming people from different and diverse places to be a community of disciples together; and
- Involved in purposeful action and activities through the structure of self-directed Mission Teams.

VALUES

We:

- Pray together, encourage each other, and trust one another;
- Take personal responsibility for fellowship and our community; and
- Celebrate with honored traditions.



Moderator's Report

It has been an honor to serve as your Moderator for the past two years. This year I have worked with two pastors, Pastor Scott Morrow and Rev. Cindy Stasko. Together we joined with the Church Staff, the Church Mission Teams and the Ministry Leadership Board to conduct all Church business. The Ministry Leadership Board members included Pastor Scott Morrow (from January through July), Bridge Minister Rev. Cindy Stasko from August to the present), Jim Bennett – Clerk, Beth Anderson – Treasurer, Patience Benassi – Financial Agent, Martin Benassi, Cheryl Bogert, Ed Collett, Susan Guckert, and Kathy Harple. Thank you to these Church leaders for their service and dedication to our Congregation.

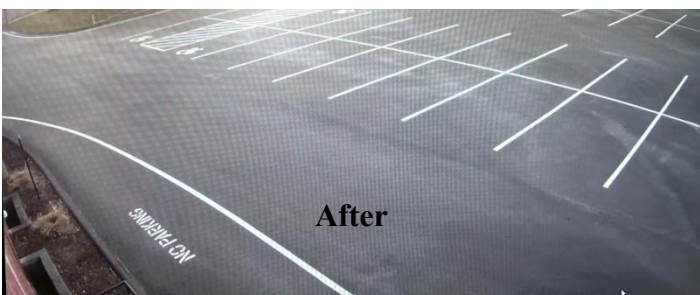
This has been a unique year for our Church with the retirement announcement of Pastor Scott Morrow in March after serving 30 years as our pastor. During the next six months there was much work to be done in preparation for his retirement and conducting all Church business. All members of the Ministry Leadership Board and Pastoral Relations team joined together to form the Pastoral Transition Team in addition to three Church leaders. Together they met with SNEUCC Rev. Margret Hofmeister to begin the search for a Bridge Minister to start on August 1st. It was the beginning of our transition journey from Bridge Minister to Interim Minister and finally to Settled Minister which can be a two-to-three-year time span. Fortunately, the team chose Rev. Cindy Stasko to begin her ministry with us on August 1.

Rev. Cindy has been an inspiration to us with her sermons each week and shows us both her knowledge of scripture and compassion for others. She has agreed to stay on beyond her original six month contract as we are presently reviewing applications and resumes for

interim pastor. Members of the Pastoral Transition Team worked tirelessly to complete the Short Form Church Profile to submit to the SNEUCC Conference so Interim Pastor candidates could review it and apply. Prayerfully, we will find a suitable candidate soon. There will be much work ahead of us as we work with an Interim Minister and the Congregation to complete the Long Form Church Profile to find a Settled Minister. We will continue to keep the Congregation fully informed as we progress through transition.

When Pastor Scott retired, he moved from the parsonage to Maine. The Building & Grounds team inspected the parsonage and determined that there is a need for repairs and restoration to the building and yard. They secured the building with necessary alarms and cameras. They are in the process of obtaining bids for the required work. The total cost of repairs is not known currently. The Ministry Leadership Board will review costs submitted by Building & Grounds as a part of the budget process.

We are blessed and fortunate to have a beautiful Church building and property in the center of North Haven. Throughout the years, the parking lot and drainage had fallen into disrepair. It was decided to form a Parking Lot Campaign Committee to raise funds to install drainage and repair and pave the parking lot. Jim Bennett chaired this committee and raised the necessary funding. A report from this committee is located within the Annual Report. Thank you to the Congregation for your generous donations and to the hard work of the Parking Lot Committee and Building & Grounds Team who worked many hours to complete this important project.



We will continue to enhance and improve the appearance of the church this coming spring with repairs to front steps and sidewalk and painting of front façade and doors. The plexi glass has been replaced in front sign and new letters. This fall we installed a new



Peace Pole and had a dedication ceremony with children singing and prayers for world peace. Members of community groups were invited, and everyone is welcome to pray at our pole.

This year there were many activities in our Church. Our Church is large enough so that community groups and others can rent it for additional income. There were many fundraisers and gatherings sponsored by Men's and Women's Fellowship such as the Pancake Breakfasts, St.

Patrick's Day Dinner, Spring Tag Sale, Pierpont Concert, Artisan Craft Fair, the Annual Online Church Auction, Annual Christmas Fair, Military Whist and Brass Ensemble Concert. The North Haven Lion's Club collected turkeys and donations in our new parking lot for the Food Pantry.

Our Church is a vital part of our community. We welcomed new members again this year. We need to continue to grow our Church family, and it is a goal for the coming year. We will strive to attract new members who want to participate in our community activities.

The Food Pantry is in our Church building and in coordination with other North Haven churches provides food to families all year. Thank you to everyone who donated food and funds and to the many volunteers who work in the Pantry. This is the second year we worked with the North Haven Rotary Club to collect socks and underwear for Columbus House, and we donated fourteen bags. Thank you to everyone for your generous donations. We participated in Pride Day and opened our Church to the community. We had many visitors in the Church and gave out brochures and tiny Christmas bells. We participated in the Memorial Day Parade again this year and everyone who rode in the wagon carried a flag and waved it as we rode by the spectators. There was much applause as we arrived in front of our Church.



We hosted the Matsiko Children's Choir at our Church over Labor Day weekend. The Choir was on a tour throughout the country. It was a wonderful experience for both the children and members of the Congregation who spent time with them doing crafts and helping them get settled. We are hopeful they will return in 2026 and perform a concert for us. They took a picture in front of our new peace pole in their native country costumes and were thankful for our hospitality.

The Women's Fellowship worked with social workers to donate Easter baskets, school backpacks and Christmas presents to children. Again, thank you to everyone who helped a child go back to school and have a smile on a holiday.

Our Church is experiencing a pastoral transition and will continue to do so in 2026. Yet, we as a Congregation, working together, accomplished goals and tasks all year. In the coming year, we will be asked to support our Church and to continue to reach out into the community and help others. In addition to monetary support, we need more members to donate their time to serve as deacons, scripture readers, greeters, to donate flowers or help with fellowship hour. If you like to sing, you can join our choir, or help at Sunday school, or join a mission team. You can sign up online or see a member of the Ministry Leadership Board or see me or Rev. Cindy. We plan to circulate a sign-up sheet at coffee hour. Don't be shy, we need you. The first step is a willingness to help.

This has been an unusual time for me as your Moderator to be without a Senior Pastor in our Church. I have asked for Jesus's guidance in this leadership role. As an officer of the Church, I have worked very closely with the Ministry Leadership Board to ensure that the Bylaws of our Church are followed. The duties of the Ministry Leadership Board are many and

specifically to conduct the business of the Church including contracts, legal affairs, preparing an annual budget, establishing policies for the Church and to prepare a Ministry and Mission Plan for the Congregation. This plan is included in the Annual Report.

We have worked together to ensure that all business of the Church continues in an orderly manner. We continue to work and communicate with all mission teams and church staff and report back to the Congregation.

I thank everyone who has worked for our Church during this transition year, especially Rev. Cindy Stasko as our Bridge Minister.

Jesus taught us to love and care for each other and "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you". We pray to Jesus to lead us forward in this new year and to follow his example each day. Thank you all for your support and encouragement.

May God's Blessings Be With Us.

Sandy Carter

Bridge Minister's Report

⁴ There are different spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; ⁵ and there are different ministries and the same Lord; ⁶ and there are different activities but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. ⁷ A demonstration of the Spirit is given to each person for the common good. ⁸ A word of wisdom is given by the Spirit to one person, a word of knowledge to another according to the same Spirit, ⁹ faith to still another by the same Spirit, gifts of healing to another in the one Spirit, ¹⁰ performance of miracles to another, prophecy to another, the ability to tell spirits apart to another, different kinds of tongues[a] to another, and the interpretation of the tongues to another. ¹¹ All these things are produced by the one and same Spirit who gives what he wants to each person.

Dear Gentle People,

On August 1, 2025 I began ministering with you as your Bridge Pastor. I have been grateful for this opportunity to provide pastoral leadership and care on the first leg of your interim journey. Interim periods are like many of those in life you might not have chosen. Often, when you look back on those challenging times, you are surprised and grateful for the growth, renewed strength, and resilience you gained. When I accepted

the offer to be a bridge pastor to a church that had not experienced a pastoral transition in thirty years, I knew there would be challenges ahead. I anticipated that navigating change after such a long period of steady and faithful leadership would require patience and empathy.

In the five months I have served this amazing church I am thankful for the warm welcome and grace that has been extended to me. I truly appreciate the congregation's commitment to respecting the expectations and boundaries of our covenant and I relish the challenge of working within a twenty-ish hour work week. I credit the amazing staff who report to me, Julie Schweickert as Office Manager, Jeff Hutchins as Director of Music and Karlee Etter as Ministry Coordinator for Children with being valued colleagues who are essential in my ability to provide vibrant worship, pastoral care and leadership. Dave Nelson as Sexton does an outstanding job of keeping the campus sparking clean and well maintained. I especially value his attention to detail as it is an essential element for providing an extravagant welcome. I am also thankful for the MLB and Sandy Carter's leadership for their guidance and support.

I am truly appreciative of the blessings of all of the dedicated, faithful and gifted staff, lay leadership and members. I celebrate your hard work and perseverance in carrying out the ministries to which you have been called according to your gifts. I am grateful for the diversity of gifts; those who so skillfully care for the building and grounds, those who are supremely gifted in administration and finance, those who so passionately serve in providing for the material and spiritual needs of others, those who tenderly care for the most vulnerable among us, those who dedicate themselves to sharing their gifts of music and leadership in worship, those who lovingly share their love of God with children and adults as they nurture faith in our community and those who appreciate the value of fellowship and hospitality.

On my first Sunday with you I shared an old Sufi wisdom story called "The Stream." There are many lessons we can take from such a story, but there is one that captures this moment in our walk together. The Little Stream, having sprung from the top of a mountain, finds herself at the edge of the desert. No longer empowered by the force of gravity that propelled her down the mountainside, she finds herself in need of help to cross the desert. She begins a conversation with

the desert and balks at the desert's insistence that she could trust the wind and surrender to it.

She argued 'But can I not remain the same stream that I am today?' The desert answers, "You cannot in either case remain so. Your essential part will be carried away to form a stream again."

She eventually allows herself to be absorbed by the wind and carried across the desert to a new mountain top and where the old familiar pull of gravity allows her to easily flow again. Like the little stream who resisted evaporation, it is natural to resist the tasks of interim ministry and like the stream, your essence will remain as you discover who God is calling you to be and how God is calling you to serve with your new settled pastor in your next chapter.

As Christians, we too have a Trustworthy Wind upon who we rely on to guide us through life's transitions. In the United Church of Christ we have a process that has proven useful in guiding congregations through a discernment process. It is like an extended version of the conversation between the desert and the stream and the eventual surrender. You too are encouraged to trust the process and trust The Wind, even when the journey seems long and tedious and you want to ask, "are we there yet?!"

May God continue to bless our ministry together as you faithfully discern who will become your Intentional Interim Pastor. This leader will guide you in discovering your purpose for such a time as this, in such a place as this, and ultimately the best settled pastor for your new adventure in faithfulness.

Joyfully,

Rev. Cindy

Ministry Coordinator for Children



On January 5th, 2025, the first Sunday of the month, the children continued to attend chapel on the first Sunday of each month.

The Faith Formation Team met in February to plan our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday. The weather was clear and sunny, although very windy. With help from members of the Faith Formation Team and one of our older youth,

about 150 eggs were filled with goodies and hidden around the church grounds.

During mid-April, the Faith Formation Team met to finalize worship for our annual Youth Sunday on May 18th. Following the usual order of worship, the service was adapted for the children as the leaders. Youth Sunday provides an opportunity for the children to share what they have learned during the church year, offers an opportunity for special music, such as JESUS LOVES ME and interactive worship, such as signing the LORD'S PRAYER. Both JESUS LOVES ME and THE LORD'S PRAYER have become an important part of our Youth Sunday's intergenerational worship, with Steve Simonson guiding the children.

Through the months of April and May, during church school, each child created a hand-print to be added to a 15 x 30 collage as retirement gift for Pastor Scott. A collection of church school photos were also added to the poster. During worship, on July 27th, eight children read special poems dedicated to Scott's thirty years as minister to North Haven Congregational Church and presented him with the poster.

During the months of June, July and August five summer church school lessons were led by members of the Faith Formation Team. This year the theme focused on ROAD TRIP, ON THE GO WITH GOD. Each week travelers began every session with fun and immersive skits, and a selection of hands-on craft activities.



Church School resumed with our traditional Rally Day on September 14th; worship was followed by a joyful, celebratory luncheon for members and

friends of North Haven Congregational Church. Brianne Goldfuss continues to serve our Nursey Caregiver, Steve Simonson taught Grades 3-5, Priscilla Maldonado taught Grades Prekindergarten-Grade 2, and Karlee Etter taught Grades 5-7. Each has their individual gifts and talents which enriches the children's church school experience every Sunday. Likewise, their passion for sharing their Faith Journeys with the children is contagious and fundamental to finding their own paths toward a Christian life. North Haven Congregational Church continues to use WHIRL curriculum, a lectionary-based, three-year cycle for Nursey through Grade 8.

Through the month of December, traditional annual events such as Advent Night and the Christmas pageant

were scheduled. Advent Night was on December 7th, the first Sunday of Advent. Members of the Faith Formation Team and several other members from the congregation offered a variety of crafting activities. About 40-50 members, neighbors and friends of NHCC gathered to enjoy camaraderie, appetizers, desserts, and a visit from Santa Claus. As usual, many children visited with Santa and shared in some one-on-one conversation with him. All enjoyed the celebratory evening visiting with one another and creating new holiday crafts.



December events also included lighting the Advent candles during worship and our annual Christmas pageant, presented during worship on December 21st. This year, however, we celebrated Christmas with a "no-rehearsal" pageant, which meant more children

and adults could participate. On the morning of the pageant, costumes were distributed by members of the Faith Formation team to whoever was interested in participating. Four older children from the church school acted as a Narrator and Scripture Readers. Once again, we were fortunate enough to have a real Baby Jesus, watched over by his big brother and parents Kristin and Matt Granata. Once again, the congregation graciously provided much needed assistance to decorate the sanctuary for the pageant and remove the life-size stable in preparation for Christmas Eve.

A heartfelt thanks to NHCC for supporting the Church School, for your enthusiasm, encouragement and kindness throughout the year, especially during the busy Advent and Christmas season. You are all important role models for our children as they continue on their own spiritual journeys and grow in their relationship with God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

Submitted by Karlee Etter
Ministry Coordinator for Children



Music Director



As we reflect on the past year, we are profoundly grateful for the support and enthusiasm that have sustained music, musicians, and programming at NHCC. Presenting this report is a joy because it showcases the harmonious spirit of our congregation and underscores how vital music remains to the life of the church.

Leadership During Clergy Transition

Amid a period of clergy transition, our musical ministry has provided both inspiration and stability. Two dedicated staff members—Jeff Hutchins and Heather Meachen have served faithfully throughout 2025, being sure to attend and serve at the special events related to Pastor Scott Morrow’s retirement. Both Heather and Jeff hold long-term annual contracts (Jeff: 10 months; Heather: 11 months) but remain committed to the needs of the church year-round. Jeff has been employed since 2014 and Heather since early 2023. Heather’s dedication and musical versatility (and “contribution” of her dear friend Peter!) have been a true blessing to the music program. Jeff ran weekly “music office hours” in the fall, inviting anyone to discuss, practice, listen, and create music of any style, fostering a welcoming environment for regular attendees and their families. Heather, while officially hired as a bi-weekly rehearsal pianist, has consistently attended nearly every Thursday rehearsal, enhancing choir note retention and ensemble cohesiveness between Thursday rehearsals and Sunday services.

Chancel Choir

Our core Chancel Choir of ten to eleven members continues to be a beacon of dedication to church. Though we would welcome more growth, this size of choir does surpass many churches in our geographic area and we are blessed! The choir greets each Thursday rehearsal and Sunday morning service with warmth and fellowship. Their musical contributions and physical presence at the front of the chancel somewhat “ordains” them as “ambassadors” of our church, both in-person and on our YouTube. Irregardless of difficulty or style, the choir consistently delivers musically diverse gifts each season. We were

delighted to welcome Joshua Peiffer back for Christmas along with his friend Weichien Huang (Gina), both from Cleveland Institute of Music. We are also grateful for Gage, Carol Mitchell’s grandson, for playing bass guitar at Christmas. Other professional guests over 2025 included Edan Sabah, Reginald Mayo III, and Jon Noyes. The Chancel Choir remains a dedicated resource of musicians with numerous other talents and gifts to offer.

Music Mission Team (MMT) and Music Library

A special thank-you goes to the Music Mission Team—Barbara Massey, Carol Mitchell, and Cathy Welch, whose coordination of the Pierpont concert series and all music-related events has been indispensable. Producing flyers and physical tickets for Pierpont, their knowledge of church and town resources and ability to multi-task, ensured smooth implementation of both musical gatherings and fellowship. Cathy in particular, the music librarian, has digitized 99 % of our historic music collection into an Excel database, dramatically simplifying music search and cross-referencing abilities. The Music Library remains organized and readily accessible to musicians. While new and digitally available music is becoming more and more available, the depth of our existing holdings provides a rich, cost-effective resource for ensembles of varying size and skill level. We have also been cleaning as we go while preserving historic publications.

Chime Choir Revival

The Chime Choir experienced a revitalizing resurgence this Christmas. A smaller group tackled the arrangement of *Infant Holy*, *Infant Lowly* for the Christmas-Eve service, delivering a joyful and rhythmically solid experience for participants who might prefer percussion over vocal work. Our durable Malmrk chimes proved more versatile than handbells and will be incorporated into upcoming Easter offerings.

Children’s Choir & Church School Partnership

Partnering with the church school, the Children’s Choir enjoyed regular music time on many Sundays in 2025, culminating in inter-generational anthems such as “Do, Lord,” “Do You Hear What I Hear,” and “Shine, Jesus, Shine.” Participation is growing, and families contribute generously of their time, talent, and treasure, helping NHCC remain a safe, fun, and spiritually enriching environment for young, musical members of the church.

Sanctuary Piano Acquisition

After a number of years of “acoustical dormancy”, we welcomed a new upright Steinway piano gifted by friends Stephen and Mabel Peterson acting on behalf of their generous and dear friend, Kathryn Feidelson. The piano fits the sanctuary acoustically and physically, complementing our existing Wicks pipe organ in the chancel. In addition to Stephen, Mabel, and Kathryn, the Steinway was attended to by Olympic piano moving services of North Haven, our regular tuner Debra Mason, and technician Edward Pichulo. The chancel organ continues to be well-maintained by Foley Baker Organ Company. Their continued care ensures these cornerstone instruments remain in excellent condition for worship.

Broader Musical Landscape

Music thrives throughout NHCC’s facilities: “Music Together/Musical Folk,” meet regularly and the “United Girls’ Choir” rehearse here and present an annual concert. Other groups are most welcome as our in Carroll Hall suits smaller audiences quite well. This vibrant ecosystem and geographic location affirm NHCC as a haven for musical expression in North Haven, and we look forward to expanding these opportunities for years to come.

Looking Ahead

- Continue supporting Jeff and Heather’s leadership, growing the Chime Choir, and Chancel Choir, exploring additional guest instruments and musicians and their ensembles for seasonal events - both in-service and in-concert.
- Expand Children’s Choir participation and integrate more solo works in addition to inter-generational repertoire.
- Encourage guitarists, bass players, and possible percussionists to share their gifts and collaborate on musical offerings throughout the church year.

In closing, thank you to every choir member, staff person, volunteer, supporter, and congregation member who contributed to a year filled with beautiful music and praise. Your continued faith and harmonious spirit has sustained the musical heartbeat of downtown North Haven throughout the centuries.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey C. Hutchins
Music Director, North Haven Congregational Church

Annual Report of the New Haven East Consociation Church and Ministry Committee

Rev. Scott Morrow served as our representative to the Church & Ministry Committee of the New Haven East Consociation through October 2025. Susan Compton is the new representative to the Church & Ministry Committee of the New Haven East Consociation. The Church and Ministry Committee meet monthly for three hours, and additionally as required. This Committee deals with matters related to ministerial authorization and standing. It is charged with assessing individuals interested in becoming candidates for member-in-discernment status and shepherding them through the process of becoming authorized ordained ministers in the UCC. The Committee is also responsible for supporting and monitoring ordained ministers with standing in the NHE Consociation, and it is available to consult with and assist congregations as needed.

Members of the Committee include Kerry Stewart, Consociation Registrar and Clerk; Rev. Joe Perdue, First Congregational Branford; Debbie Peluse, First Congregational Guilford; Rev. Dr. Heather Archovitch, North Madison Congregational; Betty Freeborn, North Guilford; Rev. Mark Pilletere, East Haven Congregational; John Biddiscombe, United Churches of Durham; William Tuthill, First Congregational Church, Madison, Susan Compton, North Haven Congregational and Rev. Margret Hofmeister, Area Conference Minister

Susan Compton

Minutes of the Annual Meeting January 26, 2025

The Annual Meeting of North Haven Congregational Church was held in the church Sanctuary on Sunday, January 26, 2025. Moderator Sandy Carter called the meeting to order at 10:38 am. There were 52 voting members present, constituting a quorum. The Call to the Meeting was posted on the church website and sent to all church members in the timeframe required by the Bylaws. Reverend Scott Morrow led those assembled in prayer.

Moderator Carter read her “Convening Statement.” After a motion made by Peter Hall, seconded by Cathy Welch, the reading of the minutes of the January 28,

2024 Annual Meeting was waived and the minutes accepted as written, with gratitude.

The church's Non-Financial Reports, found on pages 6-24 in the 2024 Annual Report, were received with gratitude, after Pastor Scott presented a brief recap of his report of the New Haven East Consociation Church and Ministry Committee.

Bryant Munson, the church's Financial Agent, observed that the Endowment Report could be found on page 29 in the Annual Report, noted that had a significant contribution to the church not been made from it, the endowment would have grown by 13% in 2024, and reported that it showed a return of 7.69% for the year. With no questions or comments, the Endowment Report was received with gratitude.

Beth Anderson summarized the 2024 Treasurer's Report, found on pages 25-28 in the Annual Report, commenting that as most income categories (building contributions, unrestricted gifts, loose offerings, and pledges) exceeded their budgeted amounts, we ended the year with a \$9,617.32 profit. After answering one question – what are unrestricted gifts? the Treasurer's Report was received with gratitude.

Next, on a motion made by Joan Bennett, seconded by Cathy Welch, the Proposed 2025 Budget, found on pages 30-31 in the Annual Report, was approved. Treasurer Anderson pointed out that this balanced budget was the result of a lot of collaboration between the Endowment and Generosity Mission Teams, and the MLB. She further observed that most of the income line item projections were based on 2024 actual results, but one line item, Recycle Fund, was added, as \$2,000 was transferred from Non-Budgeted Accounts. On the expense side, Beth commented that several line items (buildings and grounds, office expense, and insurance) were increased for 2025, and the budget also reflects increases for the staff. By a vote of 52-0, with no abstentions, the Proposed 2025 Budget was approved. Priscilla Bradford recognized Stephen Simonson for raising \$2,000 for the church via recycling bottles and cans, and Cathy Welch offered thanks to both Beth and John Tibor, stating that "we are very lucky to have you."

A Proposed Change to the Church Bylaws was the next item on the agenda. Parliamentarian Stephen Peterson first explained that as the proposed change was offered by the MLB, it did not require a second, as it has already been approved by a part of the church, then Susan Guckert read the proposed change, which in effect, removes the three-year limitation on the Clerk's

term. After a motion to accept this proposed change was made by Larry Ballantyne, and on a vote of 52-0, with no abstentions, this change to the church bylaws was approved.

The Clerk read the names of the Church Officers proposed to serve the church for 2025, as follows: Moderator – Sandy Carter; Clerk – Jim Bennett; Treasurer – Elizabeth Anderson; and Assistant Treasurer – John Tibor. After a motion made by Peter Hall, seconded by Joyce Manzo, and with no further questions or comments, the presented Slate of 2025 Officers was approved by a vote of 52-0 with no abstentions.

The next item was the Election of a Financial Agent, found on page 32 in the Annual Report. Stephen Peterson presented the motion that Patience Benassi be nominated to serve the church as its Financial Agent, with Bryant Munson to assist her in the transfer. After a second made by Beth Anderson, and on a vote of 52-0 with no abstentions, Patience Benassi was elected the church's 2025 Financial Agent.

The Clerk next read the names of the nominees to be new (or re-upping) members of the Ministry Leadership Board: Kathy Harple, for a three-year term; and Cheryl Bogert, for a two-year term. Hearing no further nominations from the floor, and on motion made by Sue Compton, seconded by Cathy Welch, it was voted that nominations be closed. Next, after a motion made by Nancy Mahoney, seconded by Scott Morrow, on a vote of 52-0 with no abstentions, Kathy Harple and Cheryl Bogert were elected to their respective terms on the MLB.

With no further business to come before the meeting, Pastor Scott offered a benediction, and on a motion made by Doris Ferner, seconded by Cathy Welch, the meeting was adjourned at 11:19 am.

Respectfully recorded by,
Jim Bennett, Clerk

Report of the Church Clerk

The Ministry Leadership Board (MLB) met seventeen times in 2024 (twelve regular, one budget-focused, and four special) under the leadership of Moderator Sandy Carter. Other Board members were Beth Anderson, Martin Benassi, Patience Benassi, Jim Bennett, Cheryl Bogert, Ed Collett, Susan Guckert, Kathy Harple, and ex-officio members Scott Morrow and Cindy Stasko. Fifteen meetings were conducted in-person, one was a hybrid, and one was by Zoom only.

Each Regular MLB Meeting followed an agenda, which was structured as follows: an opening prayer; reading of the church's Ministry and Mission Statement; approval of the prior meeting's minutes; an agenda review; presentation and review of the church's financial reports (budget vs. actual, non-budgeted account offsets, endowment); a tasks review as assigned from the prior meeting; the Pastor's report; new business; and the assignment of new and/or carryover tasks.

The minutes of each MLB Meeting were sent by email to all Board members prior to the next meeting, while approved minutes were sent to the Office Manager

The last Annual Meeting of the church was held on Sunday, January 26, 2025, with 52 church members participating. The Annual Report for 2024 was received; the reports contained therein were approved by the members; the church budget for 2025 was approved; an amendment to the church by-laws was approved, and the church's Officers and At-Large MLB Members were elected.

Respectfully submitted,
James B. Bennett
Church Clerk



Church Statistics - 2025

WEDDINGS

Jacob Lynn and Kayla Arsenault June 27

BAPTISMS

April 13 Elena Rose Travaglino, daughter of Joseph and Skye Travaglino
May 18 Savannah Dianne Feather, daughter of Jonathan and Sara Feather and granddaughter of Cheryl and Peter Hall
May 21 Samantha Dawn Hicks
September 28 Aubree Lynn Nelson, daughter of Ryan and Lauren Nelson and grandson of Dave and Barbara Nelson

DEATHS

Edward Harris	January 15
Joyce Bellonio*	February 1
Linda Serfillippi	Feb. 17
Shirley Ryan*	Feb. 19
Audrey Reardon Tilley*	March 10
Anthony Solecki*	April 10
Robert "Coach Bob" Demayo	July 9
Curtis Andrews, Sr.*	July 21
Betsy Gumbart*	Aug. 21
Joan Mellilo*	Oct. 26
Barbara Scheidecker*	Nov. 25
Herbert Schneider	Dec. 14

*members

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS 2025

Total membership, January 1, 2025 226

Members Received

In-Active to Active.....	2
Under Review to Active.....	1
Confirmation	2
Confession of Faith	7
Sub-total.....	11

Members Removed

Removed by Death.....	8
Removed by Request.....	2
Removed from Under Review	20
Sub-total.....	30

Total membership, December 31, 2025 207

Active Members: 168
Members Under Review: 39

Worship

The NHCC Worship Team is responsible for helping the minister lead Worship Services. This includes special services during Lent as well as Weddings, Funerals, Baptisms and New Member classes. Members of the team setup/close the Sanctuary, serve Communion and when needed, read Scripture.

The Worship Team members in 2025 were Carol Amico, Jim and Joan Bennett, Sandy Carter, Sue Compton, Susan Guckert, Peter Hall, Kathy Harple, Nancy Mahoney, Dot Pierce, and Cathy Welch. Jim, Nancy, Peter and Sandy served as Deacon for 52 services including special services for Lent. Since Carol has moved with Scott to Maine and other members have health issues the team would gladly welcome new members. You can shadow on several Sunday or until you feel comfortable to lead worship. We promise to continue our support!!

The Worship team is grateful to those who sign up for flowers, read scripture and to Beth Anderson who seems to be the Official Greeter. I'm sure she would enjoy a Sunday off! We would love to see others sign up! Volunteer opportunities are listed on the church website. There is a drop down menu under WORSHIP SERVICES. If you have difficulty with signing up, I'm sure Julie would be happy to help.

Please feel free to speak to Nancy or Jim, if you would like more information or have questions.

Prayerfully submitted,

Nancy Mahoney



Floral

With the generous support of our congregation, floral arrangements were provided for Sunday services throughout the year.

PALM SUNDAY

Palm fans were arranged in vases in front of the communion table and palm fronds were handed out to the congregation as they entered the church.



EASTER SUNDAY

Easter lilies were arranged in front of the communion table. The wooden cross was placed on the front lawn and initially decorated with cut flowers generously donated by The Flower Nook. It was further decorated with flowers added by the congregation.

THANKSGIVING SUNDAY

A display of fruits and vegetables was arranged in front of the communion table. During the service, people added their produce donations to the display. All food was taken to DESK for use in preparing meals.

CHRISTMAS SEASON

Wreaths were hung on the front doors and sanctuary windows, and electric candles and greens were placed in the windows. Poinsettia plants decorated the church with a display in front of the communion table and in each sanctuary window. After Christmas, the plants were distributed to homebound and recently bereaved members of the congregation.



The generous support of church members is truly appreciated!

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Tibor



Generosity

The mission of the Generosity Team is to encourage members to financially support the ministry of the North Haven Congregational Church. Each Sunday, we are reminded of our mission to bind ourselves with Jesus Christ in worship, nurture of Christian discipleship, and service to our community. In order to fulfill this mission, each of us needs to take personal responsibility by committing our time, talents, and funds.

The Season of Generosity theme this year “Dreaming God’s Dream,” invites us to dream what our church/community would look like if each one of us contributed. We are asked to express our generosity—no gift too small, no dream too big—to help these dreams come true. We continue to house and staff the community Food Pantry, which supplies food to ninety families per month. During the holidays, one hundred and seventy clients received food for Thanksgiving and Christmas meals. We supported the children served by our social worker with school supplies and gifts at Easter and Christmas. Below you will see how the 2025 budget was funded by the pledges received.

MISSION

Our church’s mission is to bind ourselves with Jesus Christ in:

- *Worship together:* music & worship \$2,480
building upkeep, utilities, and insurance \$66,207
- *Nurture of Christian discipleship:* staff \$217,955
education \$1,700
- *Compassionate service to our community:*
outreach \$13,385

Expenses \$301,385

VALUES

Take personal responsibility for our community:
Pledges \$207,768

In 2025, the difference between pledges and expenses was \$93,617.

Additional income is received from the following income sources:

Endowment	\$40,000
2024 carry forward	\$9,617
Building use	\$15,000
Gifts	\$20,000
Fundraising	\$7,000
Miscellaneous	<u>\$2,000</u>
	<u>\$936,617</u>

At the annual meeting in 2024, a balanced budget was passed for 2025. Pledging is an important way to show gratitude for our blessings. Working together we can “Dream God’s Dream”.

The Generosity Mission Team

Joan Bennett, Cheryl Bogert, Priscilla Bradford, Sue Cifelli, Mabel Peterson

Memorial Gifts

The North Haven Congregational Church’s Memorial Gifts Mission Team has received and acknowledged contributions throughout the year 2025.

Gifts given in memory of NHCC members and friends:

Joyce Bellonio	Elizabeth Gumbart
Herbert Schneider	Marjorie Smith
Anthony Solecki	

Gift in honor of :

Doris Ferner’s birthday

Gifts directed toward specific funds of the church:

Churches of North Haven Food Pantry
Cooper Fund
Dudley Education Fund
Guertin/Ferner Music Fund
Heifer Project
NHCC Parking Lot Project

Balance Forward 1/1/2025: \$8,560.10

Income:

Gifts: \$4,464.00
Interest: \$4.19

Total Income: \$4,468.19

Expenses:

Altar Candles and Holders \$878.50
Pastor Certificate Frame
(outside Chapel) \$42.53

Total Expenses: \$921.03

Balance 12/31/2025: \$12,107.26

Nutmeg FCU \$8,564.29
Church Non-Budgeted Funds \$3,542.97

Thank you to everyone who gave Memorial Gifts in remembrance of church members and friends lost this year, or in honor of a friend.

Respectfully submitted by the Memorial Gifts Team,
Barbara Massey
Catherine Welch

Collections Mission Team

What happens to the cash and checks church members place in the offering plates each Sunday morning, you ask?

A Collections Mission Team, presently comprised of four people (Jim Bennett, Sue Compton, Carol Mitchell, and Cathy Welch), meticulously sorts the donations, including those that are mailed in, by category (Current Year Pledges, Past Due Pledges, Memorial Gifts, Special Collections, Loose Offerings, Church School Collections, and Building Use Donations); and it further sorts the money by that received in pledge envelopes from that received either loose or in pew or other envelopes.

The team member in charge of processing that week's church collection next completes a Summary Collection Report, breaking down between cash and checks all the donations received in the various categories; endorses the checks by stamp; completes a deposit slip; makes the deposit at TD Bank; and returns the Collection Report, deposit slip, and pledge envelopes to the church office.

Sounds simple, and it mostly is, but the work of the team is sometimes complicated by checks that are made out for multiple purposes (say for a pledge payment AND a Memorial gift), or by checks that are undated, or by checks with nothing in the memo line to indicate what they are intended to pay for.

You can make the job of the Collections Mission Team a bit easier by following a few simple steps: write your checks out clearly and completely, including all the information necessary; write a separate check for each intended purpose (pledge, special collection etc.); and most importantly, ask Julie to print you a set of address labels, then purchase a quantity of size 6 ¾ envelopes and use them for your pledge donations. Lastly, please consider joining the Collections Mission Team.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Bennett
Collections Mission Team

Building & Grounds

The Buildings and Grounds Team continued to work hard over the past year maintaining both the church and parsonage. The committee strived to try and stay within the annual budget of \$13,000.

Some of the regular maintenance related activities and costs throughout the year included:

Elevator: Elevator maintenance contract and State inspection - \$2,477.00.

Landscaping: Tom's Lawn Service did an excellent job of mowing the lawn at both the church and parsonage - \$1,340.00.

Fire Extinguishers: Cost for regular inspection and servicing of all eleven fire extinguishers throughout the building - \$755.00.

Housekeeping + Supplies: Purchase of cleaning supplies such as paper towels, ice melt, soap, etc., for the year - \$1,421.54.

Maintenance + Repairs: Some of the items which required attention over the course of the year included inspection and repair to both boilers, patching of potholes in the church parking lot prior to the paving and miscellaneous repairs at both the church and parsonage - \$4,395.99.

Alarm System: Alarm One Security Systems had the contract for monitoring the alarm system and maintenance - \$566.97.

Snow Removal: We have not been successful in finding a contractor for sidewalk, steps, walkway and fire exit snow removal when accumulation is over 6 inches. Snow removal from the recent 8" storm on December 26/27 was handled by B&G volunteers .

In addition to the items noted above, B&G received bids and provided oversight of work on several improvement projects as part of the recent Capital Campaign:

Parking lot restoration was broken out into two phases:

Phase One: Site drainage completed in 2024 by Arrowdale Enterprise. Improvements to the church sanitary sewer line after locating the low point included its relocation at a cost of \$21,118.70. An additional cost to remove an unidentified underground tank and miscellaneous extras for unforeseen conditions brought the final cost for Phase One to \$46,321.70.

Phase Two: Paving of the parking lot was completed this year by Mid State. Improvements included removal of existing asphalt, installation of a 6" substrate, a 1-1/2" base-coat and 2" top-coat of asphalt, striping and signage for a total cost of \$128,737.62.

Front steps: New England Masonry started the restoration of the front steps this fall and plan on completing the work come spring with the application of a protective polyurethane coating system.

The B&G team is taking advantage of the vacant parsonage to prepare a list of items which need our attention including painting of the interior, window replacement, refinishing the wood flooring, and landscaping. Tree removal was completed this fall and the painting should start soon.

The committee would like to thank all those who took time out of their busy schedules to help with various projects throughout the year including spring/fall cleanup. Your time and talent are very much appreciated.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Paul Powers
Martin Benassi
Mark Bessette
Ed Collett
Pete Struk
Dave Nelson



BUILDING + GROUNDS - PROPOSED BUDGET 2025				DATE: 11/30/2025	
Summary					
Non-Budgetted Income		Balance from 2024	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Proposed Budget Amount			\$13,000.00		
Budget Item			\$10,956.97		
Non-Budget Item				\$0.00	
Capital Projects					\$175,059.22
Total to date:			\$2,043.03	\$0.00	\$175,059.22
Budget Category	Date	Item	Budgeted Amount	Invoice Amount	Bal Forward
Elevator Maintenance	contract	state inspector	\$240.00	\$0.00	
	contract	elevator service contract	\$2,535.82	\$2,477.47	\$58.35
Fire extinguisher/Lights	contract	NH county fire extinguisher contract	\$205.00	\$755.00	(\$550.00)
Fire Alarm	contract	Alarm One contract (\$66 x 4)	\$264.00	\$344.00	(\$80.00)
	amaterized	system upgrade (20.27/mo)	\$243.24	\$222.97	\$20.27
Boiler	contract	state inspector	\$160.00	\$0.00	\$160.00
		boiler service	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
Maintenance + Repairs		parsonage	\$300.94	\$342.60	(\$41.66)
		plumbing service calls	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
		LED light fixture replacement	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
		miscellaneous repairs	\$2,861.00	\$4,053.39	(\$1,192.39)
Landscaping	contract	Tom's Lawn Service mowing	\$2,170.00	\$1,340.00	\$830.00
		snow removal	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
Housekeeping + Supplies		cleaning supplies	\$1,670.00	\$1,421.54	\$248.46
	Total		\$13,000.00	\$10,956.97	\$2,043.03
Non-Budget Category	Date	Item		Invoice Amount	Total
	Total				\$0.00
Capital Projects					
Contractor	Date	Item		Invoice Amount	Total
phase 1 drainage		Arrowdale drainage		\$25,202.94	
phase 1a sanitary		Arrowdale sanitary		\$21,118.76	
phase 2 paving	7/29/2025	signs		\$161.50	
	8/13/2025	deposit		\$70,000.00	
				\$58,576.02	
	sub-total				\$128,737.52
	TOTAL:				\$175,059.22
NOTES:					
Items paid by:					
# Memorial Gifts					
* Women's Fellowship					
**Cooper Fund					
***Trustees					

Landscaping

The Landscaping Mission Team worked in 2025 to maintain the church grounds. Weeding was done and bushes were trimmed as needed. The daffodils and lilies added color to our property in the spring and summer. In the spring, the gardens were mulched. In the fall, the bushes were trimmed, the gardens were cleaned and the leaves were moved to the curb for pick up. Many volunteers responded to the call to help on clean-up days. Thank you for donating your time, energy and tools to keep our property well kept.

Priscilla Bradford, Coordinator

Pastoral Transition Team

The Pastoral Transition Team was established in response to Rev. Scott Morrow's retirement announcement in March. The team consists of the Ministry Leadership Board (MLB), Pastoral Relations Team and three long standing members of our Congregation. The Moderator contacted the SNEUCC (Southern New England Conference, United Church of Christ) about the pastor transition after the announcement by Rev. Scott and a webinar was provided to the team by the Conference, and the first meeting with Rev. Margret Hofmeister from the Conference was held.

Members of the Transition Team assisted in Rev. Scott's preparation for his retirement for both practical matters related to his office and farewell reception as well as ensuring continuation of essential church matters. Building and Grounds was in contact with Rev. Scott for his departure from the parsonage and is planning the necessary refurbishing. The Women's Fellowship coordinated the reception.

A goal was set to hire a Bridge Minister from August 1, 2025 thru January 31, 2026. A Congregational meeting was held on May 4, 2025, to provide information about the pastoral transition. Rev. Scott's final church service was held on July 27, 2025. On August 1, 2025, Rev. Cindy Stasko began serving as our Bridge Minister after several candidates, proposed by the Conference, were interviewed by the Bridge Minister Interview Team. She has been leading our Church and has agreed to extend her contract. We are all very thankful for her leadership and compassion during this time. The Transition Team welcomed and greeted Rev. Cindy on her first day and planned her onboarding. Rev. Cindy has been attending Ministry Leadership Board meetings which provide opportunities for discussion on the progress of this important part of our transition. The next phase of transition was to prepare an in-depth Church Profile to submit to the Conference to be used in the search of an Interim Minister. Several members of the team worked tirelessly in preparing this multi-page document for the next four months and it was approved at the end of November by the Conference. At this writing, several candidates have replied to our SNEUCC job posting and the Interim Minister Interview Team will be reviewing their resumes and will be contacting each for an interview.

Information will be provided to the congregation as we progress on our transition journey. We have much work

ahead of us and will be working closely with a newly chosen Interim Minister and the entire Congregation as we prepare for our comprehensive Church Profile to be used in the search of a Settled Minister. The Interim Minister will guide us on this task as we discern how best to proceed for our Congregation. There will be opportunities for all Church members to participate. The Interim Minister will likely be with us from one to two years as they assist us with finding a Settled Minister.

The members of the Pastoral Transition Team include Beth Anderson, Martin Benassi, Patience Benassi, Jim Bennett, Cheryl Bogert, Priscilla Bradford, Ed Collett, Kim Coughlin, Susan Guckert, Jeanne Mecca, Stephen Peterson, Stephen Simonson, John Tibor, Cathy Welch and Sandy Carter.

Respectfully Submitted By Sandy Carter

Personnel Committee

In 2025, staff members were informed of their salary increase after the 2025 budget was passed. A time sheet was used to keep track of vacation and personal time used during the year.

In December, following the By-laws new members were added to the Personnel Committee. The By-Laws state that the 'Personnel Committee shall consist of the Moderator, two at-large members of the Ministry Leadership Board and non-Board members of the Congregation as may be necessary'. The following members were added: Sandy Carter, Moderator, Kathy Harple, Cheryl Bogert, at large members, Patience Benassi, Financial Agent. Priscilla Bradford and Nancy Mahoney remained on the committee as members of the Congregation.

Members of North Haven Congregational Church are grateful to have employees who are dedicated to their job.

Priscilla Bradford, Nancy Mahoney,

Pastoral Relations

The Pastoral Relations Mission Team (PRMT) exists to encourage and support the Pastor in his ministry as well as act as a conduit between the clergy and the congregation to bring forward their concerns and insure their questions are answered.

Serving on the PRMT in 2025 were Jim Bennett, Sandy Carter, Jeanne Mecca, Stephen Simonson (Chair), and Cathy Welch. The group conducted five regular Zoom Meetings during the year and also held three in-person gatherings.

The group's focus changed dramatically as 2025 unfolded. Its first several meetings were primarily devoted to addressing how to implement the church's current Safe Conduct Policy. This policy was approved in 2019, but how to implement it was left unresolved at that time, then COVID hit. Online training of all church members who work with children commenced in March, and a five-person Safe Conduct Mission Team was formed, comprised of Sue Baldino, Joan Bennett, Kim Coughlin, Barbara Massey, and Tim Peiffer, to develop the particulars for implementing the policy. Their work continues.

Having addressed this issue, the PRMT spent its remaining meetings working with Rev. Scott Morrow to prepare for his retirement. He developed a list of tasks that he needed to accomplish by July 31st, and his progress toward meeting them was reviewed each month. Additionally, PRMT members volunteered many hours at the church helping Scott clean up and clean out his office (and other areas).

The PRMT has not met for past several months, as its work has been supplanted by the Pastoral Transition Mission Team (which includes all PRMT members), which worked with the Conference to find a Bridge Minister, developed a short form church profile, and is now beginning its challenging task of finding a suitable Interim Minister candidate.

Once an Interim Minister for the church has been found, the PRMT will continue restart its important work of supporting the new Pastor and addressing the concerns of the congregation.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Bennett
Pastoral Relations Mission Team

Safe Conduct Policy Team

The Safe Conduct Policy team was established and met several times this year. As per the requirements of the Safe Conduct Policy, background checks were completed for Church Staff.

Video Safety Training was provided to the members of the Ministry Leadership Board, Church Staff, Faith

Formation Team, Safe Conduct Policy Team and other appropriate individuals.

Our insurance company was notified that we have a safe conduct policy and team. A copy of the policy was submitted to the insurance company and we are in compliance. A copy of the policy is given to all building users to make them aware of our policy. We will be posting a copy of the policy within our church building in various locations. A copy of the policy can be obtained in the church office.

Our Church believes that all children, adults (members or friends), employees, elderly, and authorized ministers are valuable gifts entrusted to our care spiritually, physically and emotionally and the purpose of this policy is to protect them in a safe Christian community.

The Congregation has a clear policy to discourage and seek to prevent abuse, within our Christian community, and to promote an avenue for an appropriate response should allegations of misconduct arise at any time.

Security cameras have strategically been located throughout the church building and parking lot and additional cameras are scheduled to be installed in downstairs classrooms. This has been recommended by the Church Safety Team. The Building and Grounds team and Technology Team are aware of all locations.

The Team will be preparing a discussion to be given at a coffee hour in the near future. Thank you to members, Joan Bennett, Kim Coughlin, Barbara Massey, Patience Benassi and Sandy Carter.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Carter
Moderator

Safety Team

The Safety Team was created this past year to ensure that our church is a safe place for members and all visitors. We have met with North Haven police who gave us important guidance on how to deal with an emergency situation, such as an intruder. We also met with the fire marshall. Both the police and the fire marshall told us that numbering all doors, exterior and interior, would be helpful to them in case of an emergency. They gave us guidance on how the doors should be numbered. The doors have been numbered and floor plans of the church have been given to the police and fire departments. Floor plans with routes of

exit have been placed in the pews and evacuation plans have been posted throughout the building. We conducted a fire drill in the spring and will plan another drill in the near future. Additional cameras have been installed throughout the church. We plan to initiate other safety measures, such as locking the doors on Sunday morning shortly after the service has started. Anyone who arrives late will have to be let in by ringing the doorbell at the elevator entrance.

Website

The North Haven Congregational Church's Website continues to be a focal point for communication.

NorthHavenUCC.org is the first contact many people in the community have with our church as well as a vehicle for information flow for our congregation.

Our Food Pantry clients utilize the ability to schedule their monthly food pickups online and our Thanksgiving and Christmas food distribution rely on the volunteer scheduling to successfully prepare for and distribute food to 180 families each holiday.

Each Sunday, the Worship Bulletin is uploaded to the website and the link for the livestream is on the home page.

Our online giving is easily accessible from the home page as well as access to the church calendar.

Sign-up to participate in the Sunday Service (Deacon, Scripture Reader, Greeter, Flowers, and Hosting Fellowship Hour) are available on the website.

In addition to this functionality, there is access to all sorts of information about the church and our congregation.

Our website will continue to expand in its functionality to support our ever changing needs.

Julie Schweickert
Office Manager/Webmaster



Technology

2025 was a year of updating hardware and maintaining software. A new Server was purchased and installed. A new copier was purchased and is working great. All of the computer equipment is well maintained and kept up to date. Virus protection and Windows updates keep all of our locally housed information safe and protected.

We continue to replace old computers on a rotating basis to ensure we have capability to utilize the latest software.

We upgraded our Wifi to fiber optic with GoNetSpeed. It is now faster and more reliable. We also moved our phones away from Comcast, they were down numerous times throughout the year, and are now hosted at Link Solutions.

We purchased new security cameras to augment those we have at the church already. These will be installed in the next few months.

In the coming year we will continue to look for new and better ways to support the congregation utilizing technology.

Food Pantry

With the retirement of Scott Morrow in mid-year the Food Council oversight was passed on to Marjorie Dauster of St. John's Episcopal Church and John Tibor as co-chairs. The Council continued to meet monthly to coordinate the monthly needs of the Pantry and then focusing on the management of the Holiday Food Drives.

The Food Pantry generally averaged about 50 clients per month throughout the year; however there was a

spike in need for assistance during the month of October when the requests for assistance reached 90 clients. This was a result of the temporary termination of SNAP benefits. The number returned to the 50 clients in November. During the SNAP benefit suspension period CT Foodshare, with funding from the State of CT, was able to award grants totaling \$3,750. These funds will begin to expire in June, 2026. These grants may be used to pay for items purchased from CT Foodshare.

Throughout the year we received generous donations of both food and cash. For 2025 the cash contribution exceeded \$35,000. More than half of these contributions were received during a limited period of time when any cash contributions received were eligible for a twenty-five percent match by Liberty Bank. This is a joint venture sponsored by the Rotary Club in cooperation with Liberty Bank. Cash contributions are especially important as they are primarily used to purchase food items that are needed but not adequately received as food donations. These purchases are made through CT Foodshare and local retail outlets where we take advantage of sale prices whenever possible.

At times we find that we have received items that we are not able to distribute to our clients or there is significantly more than we can retain for inventory or items such as baby formula and food, oversized items and personal care items. When this is the case we are able to share these items with other services in the area who are better able to utilize these products. Some of these organizations are DESK (Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen), Master's Manna, Loaves and Fishes, Amistad House and the Northford Food Pantry.

When the Food Council met in September the focus turned to planning and managing the Holiday Food Drives. Assignments are given to various members to begin solicitation of food donations from merchants and businesses throughout the town. For merchants and businesses who participate, collection boxes are delivered and set up to receive food drop offs. Some of the businesses have offered to continue collections throughout the year. This food is collected about once each week and brought to NHCC for sorting. In addition to the merchant and business collections, the Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and various other civic organizations also collect a substantial amount of food. Significant donations were received from all of the local churches as well as the Lions Club, the Rotary Club and the Postal Workers. The Boy Scouts collected

food twice during the year, in June and November. The November collection set a new record for the Boy Scout Troops and Packs with over 6,600 pounds of food collected.

Distributions of food were made to approximately 165 families for each of the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Serving these 165 families has just about reached our limit for space. As we prepare for the pickup and delivery of food, we utilize all available space in Carroll Hall, the Koinonia Room and the Rainbow Room. Each family receives a turkey, two boxes of non-perishable food, a bag of fresh vegetables and fruit, and a bag of dairy items. Many volunteers from NHCC and other churches of the Food Council, as well as individual community members participated in the packing and distribution of this food.

We are thankful to all individuals who contribute food and other support throughout the year including members of our congregation, the Catholic Church community, the Republican Town Committee, the Knights of Columbus, Ridge Road School and many others. Knowing we are directly impacting our neighbors in need continues to be a meaningful and very satisfying mission. We look forward to continuing this mission into the future.

Respectfully submitted,

John Tibor, co-chair of Food Council



Covenant to Care



The church continued with our commitment to provide for less fortunate children through the

Covenant to Care program. Our dedicated social worker from the Connecticut Department of

Children and Families continues to be Brett Stephan. We provided 25 Easter baskets, 19 backpacks at the start of the school year and 41 Christmas gifts. This continues to be a beloved program of our congregation. Covenant to Care received a generous donation of \$5000.00 this year. Using some of this money \$200.00 gift cards were given to three families who were in need of school clothing and four winter coats were bought. We will continue to work with Mr.

Stephan to see if there are any additional needs for which we can provide.

The monies for the program is as follows:

Beginning balance	\$872.42
Income	\$5,495.00
Expenses	<u>\$1,842.13</u>
Balance 12/31/2023	\$4,525.13

Kathy Harple

Communications

In 2025, the Communications Team was organized by Stephen Simonson. Rev Scott Morrow, Karlee Etter, Jeff Hutchins, Patience Benassi, Jeanne Mecca and Sandy Carter attended seven formal meetings during the year. Also contributing were MaryEllen Collett, Barbara Massey, Wendy Glynn and Chris Corcoran.

The Communication Team helps other teams and groups accomplish their goals by assisting in informing the congregation and greater community about our activities.

Throughout the year the team completed a church brochure as requested by the MLB. The team assisted the capital campaign team creating two parking lot campaign brochures, one for the public and one for church members. Capital campaign brochures were created to be handed out in person to those parking in our lot for the summer concerts on the green, external groups using our building and others. We directly asked for and received contributions in person from concert goers. A mission team display board was envisioned and created to share information about the many diverse mission teams in action in our church. It was displayed at a coffee hour and will be displayed again. The Communications team continued posts throughout the year on Facebook and Instagram to provide information on worship services, church activities, new members, Heritage Sunday, outreach teams including Covenant to Care, the Food Pantry, essential clothing drive for Columbus House, and hosting the Matsiko World Orphan Choir; fundraising teams including the Pierpont Concerts, On-Line Auction, Tag Sale, Womens Fellowship Harvest Fair, Artisan Craft Fair, After the Storm, Parking Lot Campaign, Church School Heifer Project and the St. Patty's Day Dinner.

Church members at large help Communications by reposting and sharing our posts; thank you to those who do so. If you have a Facebook account or an Instagram account, please follow us.

Church mission teams and groups can contact a member of the Communications Team for help in creating flyers or posting information on our social media about their upcoming activities.

If you have any feedback, suggestions or want to share your talents and help us please contact a member of the Communications Team. ALL ages welcome!

On-line Fundraising Auction

Our 6th annual fundraising auction held in July was a success, raising \$6,381 for our church's 2025 income line budget. Over 82% of our 2025 budget for annual income is from our member pledges. The fundraising line-item budget is a small but a necessary part of our budget. In addition to the auction, funds were also raised for the fundraising budget line through the Music Mission Team's Pierpont Concerts, the Artisan Fair coordinated by Carol Mitchell and Cathy Welch, other fundraisers like the sale of David Nelson's handmade wooden flags, and funds donated from the Women's Fellowship Harvest Fair. Together, these fundraisers have met and exceeded the dollar amount for fundraisers budgeted in our church's 2025 budget.

Thank you to everyone who donated items for our on-line fundraising auction.

The donations were generous and diverse which attracted a wide range of bidders. In addition to Connecticut, there were winning bidders from Massachusetts, New York, Rhode Island, Colorado, Texas and Arizona. The auction has a broad reach. Thanks to Joyce and Ted M., SueBeth H., Carla H., Vivian S., Sue T., Sue C., Joan and Jim B., Nancy M., Martha B., Patience B., Kim C., Heather M., Kathy H., Cheryl B., Carol A., Pastor Scott, and Women's Fellowship for their donations. Thank you also to Julie S., Mark B., David N., Karlee E. and Jeff H. for their help and support. For any questions or feedback, please see a member of the Auction Fundraiser "B Team": Priscilla B., Martha B., Patience B., Martin B. Also, if you or someone you know may be expecting to downsize and/or have items they may wish to donate, also contact a member of the B Team. We will be determining if we would be able to have an on-line fundraising auction in 2026.

Men's Fellowship

The Men's Fellowship group met twice monthly (1st and 3rd Saturdays) for most of 2025, with exceptions noted in July (2nd and 4th Saturdays) and August (no breakfasts). In all, twenty-four breakfasts were held. Attendance averaged 9.0, with a high of thirteen on July 26th and an embarrassingly low of four on September 6th.

Seventeen different men made at least one Carroll Hall Kitchen Saturday morning appearance during the year:

Larry Ballantyne, Martin Benassi, Jim Bennett, Mark Bessette, Ed Collett, Fran Dutko, Peter Hall, Bernie Hummel, Victor Maldonado, Rev. Scott Morrow, Bryant Munson, Dave Nelson, Tim Peiffer, Paul Powers, Stephen Simonson, Peter Struk, & John Tibor.

Our group was pleased to make a \$500 contribution to the 2025 church budget, assisted with food prep for and cooking at Women's Fellowship's January 19th Pancake Breakfast, cooked corned beef at the church's March 16th St. Patrick's Day Dinner, cooked hamburgers and hot dogs at the May 10th Women's Fellowship Tag Sale, donated \$125 to the town's "Community Day of Prayer" Breakfast event, and were again involved with the church's Memorial Day Parade participation on May 24th. Unfortunately, we were unable to organize and conduct a fundraising activity in 2025, but we hope to put one together in 2026.

We are also pleased to note that several of our members provided hands-on involvement to various church Mission Teams during the year. Martin Benassi, Mark Bessette, Ed Collett, Paul Powers, and Peter Struk continued their busy work throughout the year conducted both inside and outside the Church; Martin B., Jim Bennett, and John Tibor served on the Endowment Mission Team; Jim B. and Peter Hall were regular contributors to the Worship Mission Team; Jim B. and Stephen Simonson were active members of the Pastoral Relations Mission Team; and Martin B., Jim B., and Ed C. faithfully served on the church's Ministry Leadership Board.

Men's Fellowship intends to continue its supporting and leadership roles in the church in 2026 and invites additional men, church members or not, to join us whenever we gather for fellowship and breakfast. We look forward to adding YOUR name to our breakfast attendance rolls this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Bennett

Women's Fellowship



With the a few exceptions, 2025 was a good year for the Women's Fellowship. We welcome and encourage

you to help in any way you can with our many activities.

Our first fundraiser was a Winter Pancake Breakfast with snowflakes decorating Carrol Hall and cheery snowmen figures on each table to welcome our guests. It was well attended and the all donations were given to the church. The funds raised to the next two events were pledged to the Parking Lot Campaign. The St. Patrick's Dinner in March was a fun evening complete with bagpipe music and a green glow from the decorations in Carroll Hall. Our Spring Tag Sale was held in May and did not attract as many vendors as we hoped. The donations for the Women's Fellowship Tag Sale filled many tables and the cookout lunch were appreciated. We are thankful for those who helped make these events successful. In October we held the annual Pink Sunday Fundraiser with pink baked delicacies in Carroll Hall after the Sunday Service. This fundraiser supports "After the Storm" which helps Breast Cancer survivors with expenses not covered by insurance. The Women's Fellowship Fair in November was well attended and many of our members and friends participated. This is our biggest fundraiser and takes many helping hands to make it a success. This year we were able to add a sandwich lunch in Grandma's Café and a Children's Room with games and prizes. Working together with The North Haven Lions Club, we held a Military Whist the weekend after the fair. It was a fun evening and offered opportunities to meet people from the community as well as church members.

Besides our fund raising activities, we help in other ways. The Women's Fellowship sent cards to our homebound members for Valentine's Day and Christmas. We helped Covenant to Care with the Easter Baskets, Backpacks, and Christmas Gifts collections. When there is a reception after a memorial service or concert, a celebration for a special event, we are there to help. Valentine and Christmas cards were sent to our homebound members.

The generosity of our congregation and the willingness of our members to help are greatly appreciated by the Women's Fellowship. We are looking forward to continuing our activities in 2026.

Funds available January 1, 2025: \$6347.60

Income: The funds from:

St. Patrick's Dinner	\$1068.00
Craft & Tag Sale	\$ 703.00
Blueberry Pancake Breakfast	\$ 185.00
Fall Military Whist	\$ 856.00

Pink Sunday	\$ 283.00
2025 Fair	\$3870.25
Donations	<u>\$ 250.00</u>
Total Income before expenses:	\$7215.25

Expenses: Donations and Projects:

NHCC % of Fundraisers 2025	\$1000.00
NHCC Parking Lot Campaign	\$1400.00
Annual Prayer Breakfast (Hope Christian)	\$ 125.00
RBC Ministry (Our Daily Bread)	\$ 125.00
Community Partners in Action	\$ 100.00
Habitat for Humanity	\$ 300.00
BH Care	\$ 100.00
Christian Community Action	\$100.00
Down Town Evening Soup Kitchen	\$ 200.00
Military Whist expenses	\$ 605.95
"After the Storm"	\$ 300.00
Memorial Gifts	\$150.00
Receptions, dinners/breakfasts expenses	\$ 374.20
Tag Sale, Pink Sunday, & Fair expenses	\$ 579.75
Cards & Postage Stamps, special projects	\$ 243.61
Bank Fees: check order	\$ 44.54
Christmas Thank You (Julie & Dave)	<u>\$ 250.00</u>
Total expenses:	\$5998.05

Funds available December 31, 2025: \$7564.80

Officers: June 2025 – June 2026

President - Dot Pierce,

Vice President - Nancy Mahoney,

Secretary - Cheryl Bogert,

Treasurer - Carol Mitchell,

Assistant Treasurer - Kathy Harple

Members Serving the Wider Church

Priscilla Bradford

Secretary, Davenport-Dunbar Residence
Board, Hamden

Mabel Peterson

Member, Board of Directors:
New Samaritan Corporation, North Haven,
Davenport Residence, Hamden
Multisite Board
Stevens Woods, North Haven

Stephen Simonson

Davenport-Dunbar Residence Board, Hamden

John Tibor

Vice President, North Haven Land Trust

Report of the Treasurer

Report of the Treasurer				
Year to Date Budget Report				
1/1/2025 through 12/31/2025				
		Annual Budget	Actual	Difference
Income				
	BALANCE FORWARD	\$ 9,617.32	\$ 9,617.32	\$ -
	Building Contribution	15,000.00	17,493.76	2,493.76
	Fund Raisers	7,000.00	10,839.72	3,839.72
	Gifts, Unrestricted	16,000.00	9,700.80	(6,299.20)
	Loose Offerings	4,000.00	2,856.09	(1,143.91)
	Past Due Pledge	2,200.00	1,680.00	(520.00)
	Pledges	205,569.00	187,701.00	(17,868.00)
	Recycle Fund Transfer	2,000.00	2,000.00	-
	Trustee Transfer	40,000.00	40,000.00	-
Total Income		\$ 301,386.32	\$ 281,888.69	\$ (19,497.63)
Expense				
Fixed Expenses				
	Basic Support	\$ 11,518.00	\$ 11,518.00	\$ -
	Consociation	400.00	395.50	4.50
	Insurance	21,365.00	21,038.00	327.00
	Payroll	169,523.57	170,672.24	(1,148.67)
	Staff Bnfts	47,932.04	31,795.74	16,136.30
	Sabbatical	500.00	500.00	-
	Utilities	20,492.71	20,825.25	(332.54)
	Bldg-Grnds	13,000.00	11,672.54	1,327.46
	Office Expense	11,000.00	11,459.38	(459.38)
Total Fixed Expenses		295,731.32	279,876.65	15,854.67
Mission Teams				
	Faith Formation	1,700.00	1,204.90	495.10
	Music	2,000.00	1,932.93	67.07
	Worship	480.00	377.54	102.46
	Generosity	100.00	157.87	(57.87)
	Outreach			
	DESK	300.00	300.00	-
	Abraham's Tent	325.00	325.00	-
	Habitat for Humanity	500.00	500.00	-
Other Mission Teams				
	Landscaping MT	250.00	70.53	179.47
Total Mission Team Expense		5,655.00	4,868.77	786.23
Total Expense		\$ 301,386.32	\$ 284,745.42	\$ 16,640.90
Net Income		\$ -	\$ (2,856.73)	\$ (2,856.73)

Account Balances As of 12/31/2025		
Account		Balance
Assets		
Cash and Bank Accounts		
Church Account		\$ 132,489.39
PEX Account		3,250.68
Nutmeg STCU Checking		100.00
Nutmeg STCU Savings		25.00
Pledge Receivable		-
Prepaid Insurance		5,699.24
Prepaid Other		12,233.04
Payroll		-
Vanco		5.46
Total Assets		\$ 153,802.81
Liabilities		
Line of Credit		-
Total Liabilities		\$ -
Total Net Worth		\$ 153,802.81
Other Accounts		
Memorial Gifts Account (Nutmeg STCU)	\$	8,564.29
Food Closet Account (TD Bank)	\$	5,903.45

Reconciliation of Church Accounts Balance Forward 1/1/2026				
Balance Forward				\$ (2,856.73)
2026 Pledges				22,480.00
Line of Credit				-
Baptism Gift				3,995.00
Bequest Gift				19,008.05
Buildings & Grounds				137.00
Capital Campaign 2013-2016				7,265.56
Children's Library				2,050.99
Christian Education				317.20
Flowers				112.00
Food Pantry				33,423.15
Invitation Mission Team				548.66
Memorial Gifts				3,542.97
Men's Fellowship				765.17
Misc				41.00
Music				1,132.28
Organ Fund				722.56
Covenant to Care				4,525.13
Parking Lot Campaign				33,290.58
Parking Lot Maintenance				500.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund				532.63
Sabbatical				11,750.00
Christmas Fund				395.00
Mission Trip				533.91
Music Easter/Christmas				255.00
Poinsettia				746.00
Recycle Fund				1,790.61
Sunday School Collections				87.00
Guertin/Ferner Music Fund				250.00
Technology Fund				-
Worship Team				134.00
Women's Fellowship (for CWS)				588.70
Total Church Account				\$ 148,063.42

Memorial Gifts Account			
2025			
Balance Forward, 1/1/2025			\$ 8,560.10
Income			
Gifts			4,464.00
Interest			4.19
Total Income			\$ 4,468.19
Expenses			
Alter Candles & Holders			878.50
Pastor Certificate Frame			42.53
Total Expenses			\$ 921.03
Balance, 12/31/2025			\$ 12,107.26
Nutmeg SFCU			\$ 8,564.29
Church Non-Budgeted Funds			3,542.97
Total			\$ 12,107.26

Food Pantry Account			
2025			
Balance Forward, 1/1/2025			\$ 22,092.75
Income			
Gifts			\$ 35,666.23
Interest			4.07
Total Income			\$ 35,670.30
Expenses			
No.Haven Congregational Church			\$ 3,750.00
Julie Schweickert			650.00
Sexton			500.00
Supplies			
Tape			38.58
Boxes			870.92
Postage			101.70
Tape & Plastic Bags			361.38
CT Foodshare Purchases			2,269.81
Additional Food Purchases			3,678.30
Price Rite Dairy Thanksgiving			1,313.40
Price Rite Dairy Christmas			1,321.36
Produce Thanksgiving			1,705.00
Produce Christmas			1,876.00
Total Expenses			\$ 18,436.45
Balance, 12/31/2025			\$ 39,326.60

Church Utilities			
1/1/2025 through 12/31/2025			
Description			Amount
Electric			\$ 8,342.71
Gas			6,399.92
Sewer			460.00
Telephone			4,754.47
Water			868.15
Total Utilities			\$ 20,825.25

Building Contributions			
1/1/2025 through 12/31/2025			
Building Contributions			Amount
AA			200.00
Al-Anon			1,050.00
Clothing Bin			450.00
Corinthian Lodge Masons			-
CT Record Club			300.00
Food Council			3,750.00
Freden Lodge			200.00
Garden Club			125.00
Lions Club			300.00
Mothers of Twins			425.00
Musical Folk			8,124.00
NAFRE Retired Federal Employees			150.00
New Haven Camera Club			225.00
Pierpont Hill Condo Assoc			50.00
Tibetan Americans			1,054.76
One-Time Events			985.00
Miscellaneous			105.00
Total Building Contributions			\$ 17,493.76

Insurance			
1/1/2025 through 12/31/2025			
Liability			\$ 19,487.00
Workers' Compensation			1,551.00
Total Insurance			\$ 21,038.00

Staff Benefits			
2025			
Car			\$ 1,166.67
Cell Phone			350.00
Dental			544.50
Disability			500.16
Group Life			24.96
Medical			6,877.80
Medicare - Church			1,605.51
Parsonage Electric			2,432.96
Parsonage Gas			1,431.11
Parsonage Internet			77.31
Parsonage Sewer			460.00
Parsonage Telephone			175.00
Parsonage Water			582.83
Pension			5,219.70
Professional Expenses			134.09
Vacation Coverage Car			0.00
Social Security - Church			10,213.14
Total Staff Benefits			31,795.74

Special Collections			
Donated in 2025			
Neighbors-in-Need			\$ 675.00
One Great Hour of Sharing			769.00
Lilies Income			
<i>To One Great Hour of Sharing</i>			528.40
Christmas Fund			395.00
Covenant to Care			1,842.29
Heifer Project (Noisy Offering)			564.90
Pride Fair			225.00
Pointsettias			506.00
Total Special Collections			\$ 5,505.59

Endowment

The North Haven Congregational Church Endowment exists due to the generosity of members over the years, including two donations in 2025 totaling \$35,000. This included \$30,000 from a current member and \$5,000 from a member's legacy (planned) gift through their will. The endowment funds are invested in mutual funds and bonds managed by UBS Financial Services, Inc. The Endowment team reviews recommendations for changes made by our UBS financial advisor. Bryant Shirreffs had been our Financial Advisor at UBS through this past fall and our new Financial Advisor is Karis Curtis. We meet periodically throughout the year. In 2025, we met formally on April 4 and July 21. Discussions include the accounts, advisor recommendations as well as prudent financial controls for the church. This past year, the Endowment had a return of 10%, which was after fees and a distribution of \$40,000 to the Church Budget and \$25,000 to the parking lot capital campaign and includes the donations received. If the distribution to the Church budget and parking lot campaign was not made, the return would have been higher. The monthly endowment activity is reported to the MLB (ministry leadership board) at their monthly meetings. The last couple years have been very positive for invested funds. Our endowment spending should be as minimal as possible to be able to accommodate the inevitable potential of a downturn in the market. If you would like to make a bequest to the church, see a member of the Endowment team.

Patience Benassi, Financial Agent Endowment Mission Team Members 2025: Beth Anderson, Patience Benassi, Jim Bennett, Priscilla Bradford, Sandy Carter, Rev. Scott Morrow, and John Tibor

North Haven Congregational Church								
Endowment Funds								
Year Ending December 31, 2025								
	Account Balance 1/1/2025	Gifts Received	footnotes	growth/return less fees	Distribution to Church Operating Budget	Account Balance 12/31/2025	Dollar Change 1/1/2025 to 12/31/2025	percent change
UBS unrestricted funds	637,399	35,000	A	86,549	60,000	698,948	61,549	9.7%
UBS restricted funds*	132,406	0		22,373	5,000	149,780	17,373	13.1%
Cornerstone Fund CD	5,000		B	71.97		5,072	71.97	1.4%
Webster Checking Account	2,083		C	121		2,204		
Totals	776,888	35,000		109,116	65,000	856,004	78,995	
		footnotes	A	\$30,000 gift from a church member and a \$5,000 bequest				
			A	\$40,000 towards church operating budget for 2025				
			A	\$25,000 towards parking lot capital campaign				
			B	currently in a 12-month CD at 3.65% expiring 8/11/2026				
			C	interest from the Cornerstone Fund CD transferred to Webster account				

North Haven Congregational Church							
Restricted Endowment Funds*							
Year Ending December 31, 2025							
Name of Funds	Purpose	Fund Balance 1/1/2025		fund percentage	Distribution to Church Operating Budget	growth/return less fees	Fund Balance 12/31/2025
Brigham	Decorations	7,282		5.5%	275	1,231	8,238
Carroll/Dudley	Education	5,257		4.0%	199	888	5,946
Cooper	Maintenance	85,812		64.8%	3,520	14,779	97,072
Guertin/Ferner	Music	26,653		20.1%	1,007	4,504	30,151
Muirhead	Music/Decorate	7,401		5.6%	280	1,251	8,373
Totals		132,406		100.0%	5,000	22,653	149,780

Proposed Budget for 2026

Not Available at time of printing.

Proposed Salary Budget for 2026

Not Available at time of printing.

Church Officers & Ministry Leadership Board

OFFICERS (2025)

Moderator	Sandy Carter
Clerk	Jim Bennett
Treasurer	Elizabeth Anderson
Assistant Treasurer	John Tibor
Financial Agent	Patience Benassi

MINISTRY LEADERSHIP BOARD (2025)

Moderator	Sandy Carter	
Clerk	Jim Bennett	
Treasurer	Elizabeth Anderson	
Financial Agent	Patience Benassi	
At-Large	Kathy Harple	2028
At-Large	Susan Guckert	2026
At-Large	Ed Collett	2026
At-Large	Cheryl Bogert	2026
At-Large	Martin Benassi	2026
Clergy	Cindy Stasko	<i>ex officio</i>

PROPOSED OFFICERS (2026)

<i>Moderator</i>	<i>Sandy Carter</i>
<i>Clerk</i>	<i>Jim Bennett</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Elizabeth Anderson</i>
<i>Assistant Treasurer</i>	<i>John Tibor</i>
<i>Financial Agent</i>	<i>Patience Benassi</i>

PROPOSED MINISTRY LEADERSHIP BOARD (2026)

<i>Moderator</i>	<i>Sandy Carter</i>	
<i>Clerk</i>	<i>Jim Bennett</i>	
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Elizabeth Anderson</i>	
<i>Financial Agent</i>	<i>Patience Benassi</i>	
<i>At-Large</i>	<i>Kathy Harple</i>	<i>2028</i>
<i>At-Large</i>	<i>Susan Guckert</i>	<i>2026</i>
<i>At-Large</i>	<i>Ed Collett</i>	<i>2026</i>
<i>At-Large</i>	<i>Cheryl Bogert</i>	<i>2026</i>
<i>At-Large</i>	<i>Martin Benassi</i>	<i>2026</i>
<i>Clergy</i>	<i>Cindy Stasko</i>	<i>ex officio</i>

****Note:** There are no nominations for new members to MLB for 2026. No terms expiring in 2025.

Ministry & Mission Plan 2026 Goals & Objectives

The Ministry Leadership Board has set our goals for 2026.

Our Church and our Congregation are an important presence in North Haven. We will continue on our Transition Journey as we continue to work and help members of our Congregation and those within our greater community.

1. Call an Intentional Interim Minister
2. Work with Interim Minister to complete tasks of Interim Ministry with the Congregation
3. Begin the Restoration and Repairs to the Parsonage

Faith, Love and Community, Growing Together in God's Grace.
Everyone is Welcome Here.

