

Pastor's Report

2022 Annual Meeting

It seems somehow appropriate that as our first year together draws to a close I find myself writing my report for our annual meeting. What a year it has been! While 2021 continued to be a struggle for our world, I will always look back on this past year as a pivotal, important, and good year in my life. Thank you for extending a call to me and for being so welcome and supportive as I have entered my first year of ministry. I could not have asked for a better congregation for my first call. This has been a time of settling in to my new life here in Sackets Harbor, a time of learning, and a time of growing. Perhaps my biggest struggle has been monitoring the Covid guidelines and finding a balance between being open and welcoming to all, but also being mindful of the health and safety of all. While I was used to this as I spent the majority of 2020 constantly tracking guidelines for the coffee shop I worked in, it doesn't make it any easier. One of my hopes for this new year is that we will see an end, or enough of an end, to the pandemic that masks, distancing, and rising numbers are no longer a part of our daily lives. I am glad that I have been given the space to keep trying new things, whether it's Meditation Mondays or the Blue Christmas service, and I've enjoyed being able to bring back things that were important prior to my arrival such as the Movie Night and the Village Yard Sale. Hopefully we will be able to bring back some more things that are meaningful that we weren't able to do the past couple of years, and hopefully we can continue to explore new ways to be together as we worship and learn. It has been a joy to open our doors to the community through the yard sale and Whooville, and I hope for more opportunities to continue bring our church family and the greater community together. I've been able to get a lot of "firsts" done this year, from my first Easter service to my first Christmas Eve service, my first wedding, my first baptism, and my first funeral. I've looked at this year as one of adjustment. We've been getting to know each other, learning each other's quirks, figuring out the places we easily fit together and seeing where we may struggle. While this exploration will continue as we move forward, I like to think that we have found our rhythm, or at least the start of our rhythm. I'm already planning some things for 2022, and I hope you are too. I am beyond grateful for our time together and I can't wait to see where we go from here.

Rev. Summer Sattora, Pastor