

Community of Christ Church
Minutes for the 2021 Annual Congregational Meeting
Sunday, June 6, 2021 at 10:30am

Call to Order

Denise DeMarre, Council President, formally called the meeting to order.

RESPECT Guidelines

Respect Guidelines were read by Marilyn Hawkins.

Roll Call

26 voting members.

Purpose of the meeting/Agenda

- Annual voting on the 2021/2022 fiscal year budget
- Annual voting of church council nominees
- Proposal to become a Reconciling in Christ congregation
- To reflect on the past year
- To look ahead to the challenges and opportunities in the year ahead

Modified Roberts Rules Review

Motion, voting, discussion, and results process was shared. Votes will need to match or be less than 26 votes (roll call total).

Opening Prayer

Pastor David led us in an opening prayer.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer, Rich Radford, provided a financial status update. Rich reviewed the 2020-2021 projected revenue.

Operating Summary

Income

- Budgeted giving estimated to be slightly down from prior year. Actual giving was down 22%, driven by;
 - Lower number of contributing households
 - Less contributed per household over prior years
- Interest rates are down 2/3 from our initial deposits in Mission Investment Fund

Expenses

- \$63,830 in residual building and residual transactions expenses
- \$24,200 in budgeted expenses not spend due to remote worship

2021-2022 Fiscal Year Budget Presentation

Rich Radford reviewed the proposed 2021-22 Fiscal Year Budget (in detail income and expenses) and shared budget observations.

The proposed budget is a deficit budget with a loss of \$55,530 to be covered by proceeds from the sale. To break even for the year, we would need to see an additional \$4,628 in monthly giving. Longer term we need to solve the giving deficit – more per household or expand our community of givers.

Rich Radford outlined next steps:

- Consider giving levels AND establish consistent automatic giving schedule;
 - Online credit card – Easy Tithe
 - Monthly bank transfer – Vanco
 - Bill pay – Bank paper checks
 - Stock transfer – TD Ameritrade
- Finance team to present an investment policy to the Church Council
- Interested in becoming the Treasurer? This will be the last year Rich serves as Treasurer.

Church Council made the following motion:

Adopt the proposed Community of ChristChurch 2021 – 2022 fiscal year budget. Mark Henderson seconded the motion.

Recognition of outgoing Church Council Members

President Denise DeMarre and Anke Brandstater are leaving council. They were thanked for their service.

Introduction of Church Council nominees

Council members serve for two years, and they can re-up for a second two-year term. Nominees Steve Delamarter and Jane Jackson were presented and reviewed.

Church Council made the following motion:

Elect the following persons as members and officers of the 2021 – 2022 Community of ChristChurch Council:

NEW:

Steve Delamarter
Jane Jackson

OFFICERS:

Suze Engbretson – President
Violet Thetford – Secretary
Rich Radford – Treasurer

RENEWING:

Mark Henderson
Violet Thetford

Cindy Kinnie seconded the motion.

Vote on Annual Budget and Church Council nominees

Mark Henderson reviewed the roll call count against the voting results.

Annual Budget Results were reported:

Passed with 26 yes votes.

Council Nominees Voting Results were reported:

Passed with 26 yes votes.

Our Church Council Roster for the 2021-22 fiscal year:

Officers:

President: Suze Engbretson

Secretary: Violet Thetford

Treasurer: Rich Radford

Pastor David Eppelsheimer

Jane Jackson: 1st Two-Year Term

Steve Delamarter: 1st Two-Year Term

Violet Thetford: returning

Mark Henderson: returning

Suze Engbretson: continuing

Tracy Litterer: continuing

Violet Thetford: returning

Cindy Kinnie: continuing

Larry Wade: continuing

Year in Review Slide Show

Pastor David presented a slideshow highlighting ChristChurch events and initiatives in the previous year.

Reconciling in Christ (RIC) Committee Presentation and Year in Review

The committee reported their work throughout the year.

Plans for 2021-2022:

- What does the bible really say? –
 - the clobber verses book group discussion
- RIC/WQRC Community Picnic
- Pride Parade Celebration –
 - collaborating with other Lutheran Churches
- Ongoing educational opportunities

Sallie Bullock made the following motion:

That Community of ChristChurch become a Reconciling in Christ congregation.

Suze Engbretson seconded the motion.

RIC Partners Public Commitments were reviewed:

Your community...

... explicitly states a welcome to people of “all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions” or “LGBTQIA+” and names its commitment to “racial equity” or “anti-racism” in its welcome statement.

... is open to calling an LGBTQIA+ and Black, Brown, Indigenous, Person of Color (BIPOC) rostered leader (pastor or deacon.)

... will allow community space/sanctuary to be used for LGBTQIA+ weddings and blessings.

... will make a meaningful contribution annually to support the national RIC program (ReconcilingWorks.)

Community of ChristChurch PROPOSED Welcome Statement

Community of ChristChurch is an open and affirming Christian community that lives in God's love and grace. We strive to welcome and include all people because we believe God loves and welcomes all people, and we commit to work for racial justice in our church and the world. Regardless of race, age, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, nationality, ethnicity, marital status, physical or mental ability, political stance or theological perspective or anything else that might divide us, you are welcome here.

What this means:

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here:

If you are young or old, you are welcome

If you have brown skin, black skin, white skin, or any color of skin, you are welcome

If you are married or single or partnered or divorced, you are welcome

If you are gay, lesbian, bisexual, queer, asexual, aromantic, or straight, you are welcome

If you are male, female, transgender, intersex, or non-binary, you are welcome

If you cannot hear or see or speak, you are welcome

If you are sick or well, you are welcome

If you are happy or sad, you are welcome

If you are rich or poor, powerful or weak, you are welcome

If you believe in God some of the time or none of the time or all of the time, you are welcome

You are welcome here.

Come with your gifts, your pain, your hope, your fears

Come with the traditions that have helped you and hurt you

Come with your experiences that have made you and broken you

Come with a mind, ready to engage, and a heart, open to discern
Come and listen for the Sacred Spirit that calls you to love your neighbor
wholeheartedly, seek justice, create peace and practice compassion
You are welcome here!

Reconciling in Christ Vote

Mark Henderson reviewed the roll call count against the voting results.

Reconciling in Christ Vote results were reported

Passed with 24 yes, 1 no.

Looking ahead: Challenges and opportunities

Council President, Denise DeMarre interviewed Pastor David on the who, what, where, when and why about our congregation and the upcoming year. They discussed forming a COVID task force and invite the congregation to discuss big decisions on when and how to resume meetings. They shared gratitude and prayers for our council, country, neighbor.

Closing Prayer: Pastor David led the congregation in the closing Prayer.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned by Denise DeMarre.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Violet Thetford, Council Secretary:
Community of ChristChurch