

**United Church of Chapel Hill
Church Council Meeting, , May 26, 2020
Meeting Minutes**

X	Gaylen Brubaker, Moderator	X	Andrea Vizoso, MES
X	Melanie Joiner, Assistant Moderator		
X	Derek Harrison, Treasurer	X	Ron Johnson, Trustees
X	Karen Demby, Clerk		
		X	Millie Brobston, Youth & Young Adults
X	Cameron Barr, Senior Pastor		
		X	Angel Collie, At Large
	Vacant, Adult Education	X	Helen Hoenig, At Large
		X	David Tanner, At Large
X	Christine Harding, Children's	X	Ingrid Schmidt, At Large
X	Peter Schay, Deacons		Guests:
		X	Mark Kleinschmidt, BJOS
X	Lee Sorensen, Fellowship	X	David Mateo, Associate Pastor
		X	Ian McPherson, Associate Pastor
	Kirstin Frescoln, BJOS		

Call to Order

Gaylen Brubaker, Moderator

Invocation

Rev. Cameron Barr

Group Sharing – David Tanner

David asked everyone to share something good or useful that has resulted because of our COVID-19 isolation. Some of these ideas are pretty good and worth adopting if you want to try something new: taking turns doing something new every night, each time led by a different family member; Zoom Happy Hour; just being able to be at home and reconnect with family and pets and the space itself; Jack Box and other games on Zoom; new wardrobe possibilities; and even attending meetings on Zoom has been good.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Peter Schay motioned to approve the minutes from the April 28th Council Meeting with a few editorial corrections. The motion was seconded Ron Johnson and approved by voice vote.

Financial Update

- Ron Johnson reported the receipt of several large stock gifts which puts us ahead on giving compared to where we would normally be. Also, the church was awarded the Paycheck Protection Loan and Katy Ruark and Duane Gilbert will develop policies about how the monies will be used.
- Derek Harrison reported the proceeds from recent special offerings: The Lunch Program has raised and distributed more than \$17,000 to the Chapel Hill Schools. The Spreading Justice Initiative has raised \$31,000. Some distributions of these funds have been made.
- Looking ahead: financials through the end of April will be distributed at the Congregational meeting as well as information from FY 2019: Balance Sheet, Budget Summary, and a List of Designated Funds showing distribution.

Update from Pastor Barr

- Cameron has been meeting with local church leaders and the public health expert from UNC weekly to monitor COVID-19 conditions and messaging. The timing to reopen the churches to public worship will depend upon key public health indices being met in Chapel Hill. This group is releasing a statement to the media about why these churches will not return to public worship at this time.

UCCH will probably continue with online worship through the rest of the year. There may be some opportunities for small groups to gather or committees or boards to meet prior to this time, however, there would be strict guidelines for social distancing, sanitation, and other best practices to avoid the spread of infection.

- The decision to discontinue the position staffed by Rinnie Orr was arrived upon based on consultation with the Personnel committee and based on the core values of the church: generous and compassionate treatment of staff while balancing the needs of the mission and the collective. It was not based on performance.

There will be a celebration for Rinnie at the Annual Meeting. She has asked for people to give testimonials. If you want to submit one, send to Cameron or mail directly to her at sistersunni@gmail.com. Monetary gifts may be contributed online.

Nomination Process

Karen Demby presented the new members of the Personnel Committee: Gina Upchurch (starting a 2nd term) and Janis McFarland for approval by Council. Peter Schay motioned to accept these members into the class of 2023. The motion was seconded by Ingrid Schmidt and the motion approved by voice vote. The PRC is working to recruit someone for the class of 2024. Council will vote when that process is completed.

New board members are still being sought for open slots. The challenge at this time has been the inability of Board Chairs to tell potential members exactly what they will be doing. It's probable that we will reach Annual Meeting day without a complete slate, however, new members can be added at any Council meeting. If there are additional nominees to add, please send these to Karen_Demby@med.unc.edu by June 2, 2020.

Racial Equity Questions

Ingrid Schmidt shared a product of the Racial Justices Ministries Committee, a set of Racial Equity guiding questions which can be used to help people use a racial lens in planning and conducting activities and designing programs. Ingrid described the purpose of the document and when it might be used. There was some discussion and several questions asked. Ingrid offered that the RJMC would serve as a guide to its implementation. Boards and committees are invited to try it out with their groups.

Congregational Meeting Agenda

Gaylen Brubaker outlined the plan for the Annual Meeting agenda. The primary purposes of this meeting are to elect new lay leadership and receive the annual and other reports. In addition, the lay leadership members whose terms are expiring this year will be honored.

PRC Update

Over the past year, a group of congregation members have met with Dr. Edward Davis, Southern Conference Minister, to discuss concerns surrounding the relationship or role of La Mesa with the rest of United Church. A great deal of progress was achieved with these meetings from August through

December 2019. On March 27th, the group met with Dr. Davis again and, since that time, he has deemed no further action is necessary on his part and that any remaining concerns can be handled internally.

Upcoming Schedule

Handbook Updates (6/1)

Annual Meeting (6/9) at 6:30 pm

New Board/Council Member Orientation (6/16): All meet at 6:30 pm; Boards meet at 7:00 pm

Next Council Meeting: May 26, 2020

Closing:

Rev. Ian McPherson led the group in a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Demby, Clerk