

**United Church of Chapel Hill
Church Council Meeting, February 23, 2021
Meeting Minutes**

X	Gaylen Brubaker, Moderator	X	Susan Renwick, MES
X	Melanie Joiner, Assistant Moderator		
X	Doug Bruce, Treasurer	X	Anne Stoddard, Trustees
X	Karen Demby, Clerk		
		X	Megan Hughes, Youth & Young Adults
X	Cameron Barr, Senior Pastor		
		X	Angel Collie, At Large
X	Linda Sellars, Adult Education	X	Helen Hoenig, At Large
		X	Jeremy O'Connor, At Large
X	Linden Thayer, Children's		Robin Smith, At Large
X	Peter Schay, Deacons		Others Attending
		X	Ian McPherson, Associate Pastor
X	Lee Sorensen, Fellowship	X	David Mateo, Associate Pastor
		X	Mary Elizabeth Hanchey, Associate Pastor
X	Ingrid Schmidt, BJOS		

CALL TO ORDER

Gaylen Brubaker, Moderator

OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Cameron Barr, Senior Pastor

CHECK-IN

Linden Thayer asked everyone to share their favorite sign of spring. There were mentions of flowers: crocuses, daffodils, flowering trees, dandelions, and the Lenten Rose. Baseball and ACC basketball were mentioned as well as Daylight Savings Time and not being winter anymore/warmth and sunshine. There was also the Tournament of Books to be enjoyed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Karen Demby, Clerk, presented minutes from the January 26, 2021 Council meeting.

Peter Schay moved to approve the minutes. A second was provided by Susan Renwick and the minutes were unanimously approved.

There was a reminder that the archivists, Dianne Bertsch and Cindy Johnson have asked for boards to send their approved minutes to archive@unitedchurch.org and, if they have not met or don't have minutes to contact them and let them know not to expect any.

FINANCIAL UPDATE/BUDGET

Doug Bruce, Treasurer

Update on final 2020

- The surplus for 2020 was \$4640.00
- \$25 K of unpledged funds were received in December, which was higher than expected (\$15 K). We are still under budget by almost \$18K for all of 2020 in the unpledged contributions.
- Prepaid pledges for 2021 came in at \$126,800.

- Foundation/Endowment funds performed well this year. There was approximately \$6K in distributions from UCF to designated funds. We still need to decide on the disposition of \$7300 earnings in NC Community Foundation funds.
- On March 9, there will be a financial workshop for Council Members. This will cover foundation funds and other issues. If you have questions that you would like addressed, please send to Katy Ruark (kruark@unitedchurch.org) as there may be time to address these.

January 2021 Financials

Revenues

- January total revenues exceeded budget by almost \$2K. Of the total recorded in January, over \$12k was from pledges paid in 2020.
- Pledged offerings were under budget by 8K.
- Over \$11k of Step-Up gifts were recorded in January also. Almost all of this was paid in 2020.

Expenses

- Total expenses are slightly less than budgeted, \$2k, and about the same amount as last year
- No significant differences noted.
- There was a slight savings in B&G related to maintenance and supplies and a Capital Expense Reserve that is not recorded monthly.

Comparison to Budget YTD

- Note that actual and budgeted revenues for this year do not include any of the allocated PPP funds yet - \$50k approved by congregation.

Balance Sheet

- Prepaid pledges for 2021 already collected in 2020 over \$126K. Smaller pledges were recorded in January (approx..\$12K) but the remainder will be recorded monthly at \$8,606 per month.
- PPP still shown as loan. We received forgiveness on the entire balance of the PPP loan of \$138,500. Approx. 25K to be paid to preschool.

Other notables

- Prepaid pledges for 2021 are over \$126k.
- We received forgiveness on the entire balance of the PPP loan of \$138,000

STAFFING AND PROGRAMMING UPDATE

Cameron Barr, Senior Pastor provided the following updates:

- Web site design and content update. The improved website is still an active project though there is no significant progress to report at this time.
- Ian McPherson's new position description was presented. His duties now encompass Faith Formation through the lifespan and Social Justice.
- Spreading Justice Update: To date there has been \$73,404 collected on behalf of this initiative. Disbursements of \$48,127 have been made, with \$14,363 going to Liberation Station. \$33,764 was disbursed as 63 grants to various individuals known to the congregation to be in need. \$25,277 remains in the account. There has been a pause in the application process during December, but this will start again soon with Ian at the helm.

Ian McPherson, Associate Pastor, shared the following:

- The Youth are participating in a regional HUB which includes a gathering of youth and civic leaders to discuss issues of interest to the youth. Activities: the youth created 100 care kits for the homeless. A few of these are available from Ian if you know of someone in need.

- ONA is making progress under the leadership of Marcus Layer. There may be some plans to connect with RJMC for joint sponsorship of activities.
- See the e-news for opportunities to connect with Justice United and participate in listening sessions as they are working on new initiatives

Mary Elizabeth Hanchey, Associate Pastor, provided a Connectivity update.

- There is a connectivity survey which helps us to know how people want to be connected to groups. Please check through the e-news and fill out yourself, then forward to those in the groups to which you belong.
- Check your email for pastoral care updates and on Thursday or Friday and also for the opportunity to provide names for the pastoral care list. The names also appear on the announcement for Sunday services.
- Membership Program – New members will join the congregation on 5/5/2021. On 5/4, there will be a coffee hour meet and greet with the pastors. There will be UCCH 101 classes on three Thursdays during April for those who want to know more about our church.
- Mary McMillian who is a member of the MES board is coordinating efforts related to the community groups. Using the connectivity survey, people will be able to express how they wish to be involved, to lead and organize or to attend group meetings. Mary Elizabeth will be providing content for the group meetings.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE UPDATES

Karen Demby, Clerk, provided an update on the nomination process for Council Leadership which was approved in concept at the last Council meeting. Suggestions for a nominating committee were solicited from Council members and Church Staff. More than 25 names were submitted. The final selection of members were made by Gaylen Brubaker. They are: Karen Demby, Chair, and Angel Collie, Carmen Monico, Alex Cordova, Gabby Sielken, and Jody Forehand. The first meeting is scheduled for February 25th.

Ingrid Schmidt, Chair of BJOS presented a proposal to provide funds to support the transition of men who are leaving prison. The Motion provided by Ingrid: UCCH will launch a fundraising campaign to raise \$15,000 in support of Reentry House Plus, to be used in securing a residence, as well as other urgent support for the individuals they serve. The motion was seconded by Anne Stoddard and the motion approved unanimously.

Anne Stoddard, Chair of Trustees mentioned that there is a policy being developed for fundraising process and timing, but it is not ready at this time, so cannot be applied to this instance.

Gaylen Brubaker, Moderator, announced that a committee has been assembled to think through the impacts two services (instead of three) and other changes in fall programming. Gaylen will chair the committee and other members are Peter Schay, Lee Sorensen, Linda Sellars, Meghan Hughes, Jenny Anderson, Linden Thayer, David Mateo, and Cameron Barr. There will be opportunities for input from others and Council will receive updates on progress.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Next Council meeting, Tuesday, March 23rd

CLOSING PRAYER

David Mateo, Associate Pastor

ADJOURNMENT: Gaylen Brubaker

Respectfully submitted, Karen Demby, Clerk