

**United Church of Chapel Hill
Church Council Meeting, April 27, 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		Helen Hoenig, At Large
		X	Jeremy O'Connor, At Large
X	Linden Thayer, Children's	X	Robin Smith, At Large
X	Peter Schay, Deacons		Others Attending
			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

Peter Schay asked us about what our activities were we looking forward to post-COVID. Many people mentioned travel to see family and friends or to re-establish traditions that were skipped last year. Destinations included Cape Charles, Seattle, Maine, and DC. Dinners INSIDE restaurants. Notable: attendance at the 'low rent parade' which meant reconnecting with neighbors.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Karen Demby, Clerk, asked for additions and corrections to minutes from the March 23, 2021 Council meeting. There were none.

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

FINANCIAL UPDATE/BUDGET

Doug Bruce, Treasurer, March 2021 Financials

Revenues: Year to date total revenues exceeded budget by over \$13k. Of the total recorded so far this year roughly \$16k has come from step up pledge gifts and over \$12k from PPP proceeds. The only revenue items under budget are related to in-person worship, building use donations and unpledged offerings are under budget by a total of over \$5k. Overall revenues exceed prior year revenues by almost \$13k YTD

Expenses: Total expenses are less than budget YTD by over \$25k. Expect this to change later in year. Under in the following areas: BJOS - \$6k due to timing of donations; Buildings and Grounds - \$6k; Board of Trustees - \$3k; Personnel - \$5k – mostly administrative. Note: Personnel budgeted amounts are now reflected correctly and total expenses ytd almost the same as prior year.

Comparison to Budget YTD: The net result of being over budget on revenues and under budget on expenses is that we are at a \$48k surplus ytd and better than budget by \$38k. With the resumption of more building activity in the future we expect expenses to revert to normal levels.

Balance Sheet: The PPP loan balance forgiven has now been transferred to a designated fund. \$4,167 is being transferred to our operating budget and is included in monthly revenues. A check has been written to the preschool for \$24k, their portion of the proceeds. The balance at the end of the year will be \$64,500. Other: Donation of \$2500 to Southern conference – from Invest in the Future designated fund; Creating a \$6800 peacemaking scholarship fund - at UCC Foundation Funds.

Anne Stoddard, Trustees Chair, moved that we continue to pay our hourly workers affirming a decision point we set up when we proposed the budget last year. Payment to these workers will continue until 12/31/2021. Peter Schay provided a 2nd and the motion was unanimously approved.

She also updated us on Trustees, who are working on building improvements and repairs including stormwater, acoustics and carpet in sanctuary, paint, HVAC, changing lighting to LEDs to save money and energy.

STAFFING AND PROGRAMMING UPDATE

Cameron Barr, Senior Pastor

Jenny Anderson was celebrated for 20 years of service as UCCH's music director this past weekend. A gift was given on behalf of Council, a gift card from Williams and Sonoma. Jenny is remodeling her kitchen. Please congratulate her if you get the chance.

Allocation of Spreading Justice Funds. The Pastoral Team presented recommendations for use of the Spreading Justice Funds in the immediate future. The document (attached) describes potential giving to Benevolence Farm, ReEntry House Plus and the Scholastic Support Center. Discussion revealed some concerns about disbursing funds in relatively large amounts to institutions, when the initial purpose of the Initiative was to support individuals associated with the church. Also, there was concern raised over the strength of connection with Benevolence Farm at this point in time. To move things forward, the following motion was made by Robin Smith:

To authorize the Pastoral Team to contribute \$9080 to the Scholastic Support Center and \$4920 to ReEntry House Plus from the Spreading Justice Fund, and to celebrate the impact of the Spreading Justice Initiative at the Annual Meeting in June. The motion was provided a 2nd by Anne Stoddard and the motion unanimously approved.

The Pastoral Team will continue to operate as usual with disbursement of funds to individual families and will await discussions/comments from BJOS following a review of current status of Benevolence Farm.

Building Use Status. Cameron Barr presented a plan for having outdoor worship through the summer and describing challenges and possibilities with continuation of digital worship after a return to in-person worship. Also, a draft revision of building use policies was provided to guide access to the building and grounds in anticipation of the return to in-person worship. To move this forward, Peter Schay made the following motion:

To adopt the revised building use policy and plan for a monthly schedule of outdoor worship through the summer. This motion was seconded by Anne Stoddard and the motion unanimously approved.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE UPDATES

Fall 2021 Sunday Morning Programming. Gaylen Brubaker, chair of the Sunday Morning Scheduling Task Force presented an Interim Report of the tentative fall schedule. The detailed report (attached) will be revised following addition work of the committee over the next month. The Schedule will be presented at next month's Council meeting for review, comments, and approval prior to presenting the plan to the congregation on June 9.

Nominating Committee Update. Karen Demby, Chair of the Nominating Committee provided a brief update. The deadline for nominations was April 5th. There were a number of self- and other nominated candidates along with some the committee reached out to. The candidates were asked to respond to several questions and these responses will be reviewed by the committee in order to make recommendations to the moderators. Names of the candidates who are selected by the moderators will be shared at the May Council meeting.

Karen also provided an update on **Board Nominations**. Schedule: March – April: Boards were to generate lists of potential nominees. Next: Boards should invite people to join. One caveat is that we try to avoid having more than one board invite any individual. To avoid this, please send your lists to Karen, who will look for conflicts. Please send your nominees (to be voted on) and those who are leaving your board (to be acknowledged) to **Gaylen Brubaker by May 18**.

Summer Council Orientation. Think about a possible book to read together during the summer.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

May 1 and 2 – celebration for new members

Annual Reports due May 7

Council meeting, Tuesday, May 25th

Congregational meeting, Wednesday, June 9th

CLOSING PRAYER

Mary Elizabeth Hanchey, Associate Pastor

ADJOURNMENT: Gaylen Brubaker

Respectfully submitted, Karen Demby, Clerk