UNITED CHURCH OF CHAPEL HILL

Minutes of Congregational Meeting

June 11, 2023

Moderator ***Mary McMillan*** called the meeting to order at 12:20 p.m. with a quorum of active members of United Church of Chapel Hill present. ***Pastor Mary Elizabeth Hanchey*** opened the meeting with a prayer.

**Moderator’s Report**

Moderator ***Mary McMillan*** provided a report on activities of the church and church boards during the 2022-2023 church year. She highlighted:

• The return of more people to in-person worship and the end of mandatory masking as Covid cases in the community declined

• An extremely successful fund-raiser for the Habitat for Humanity Weaver’s Grove project

• Creation of a Property Management Committee under the Board of Trustees to provide long-term building maintenance planning

• Jenny Shultz Thomas return to UCCH to help with the youth program

• Caleb Wolf’s new role coordinating the La Mesa services

• The great work of the pastors, music program leadership, and staff.

Moderator McMillan also noted challenges, including the resignation of Pastor David Mateo and the impact of the Covid pause in church activities on the youth program.

She also explained the importance of UCCH to her family in encouraging church members to volunteer their time as church officers, board members, Sunday School teachers, and support for fellowship events.

**Approval of Updated Open and Affirming Covenant**

***Jill McArdle***, who led a UCCH committee to update the covenant, described the process. The committee modeled the new Opening and Affirming Covenant on other UCCH covenants. After developing a first draft, the committee asked for feedback from the congregation on the draft revisions through discussion sessions before presenting a draft to the Church Council.

**Motion: *Alex******Cordova*** moved to approve the updated Open and Affirming Covenant.

**Second: *Larry Kroutil***

**Vote: Unanimous**

**Acting Head of Staff Report**

As Acting Head of Staff during Senior Pastor Cameron Barr’s sabbatical, ***Pastor Mary Elizabeth Hanchey***, gave a brief report, noting that Moderator McMillan had provided a good account of church activities in the past year.

***Pastor Hanchey*** presented Mary McMillan and Erica Tillman with plaques in appreciation for their service as Moderator and Assistant Moderator.

**Approval of Church Officers for the 2023-2024 Church Year**

***Moderator McMillan*** read a statement from ***Toby McCoy***, nominee for church Moderator, who was unable to attend in person because of a prior family commitment. The statement shared information about his experience as a long-time member of UCCH and thoughts about how he would approach service as Moderator if approved by the congregation. ***Moderator McMillan*** then introduced ***Linda Soto*** as the nominee for Assistant Moderator. Ms. Soto spoke about her long history with UCCH; what the church means to her; and her hopes for the future of the UCCH congregation.

Church Clerk ***Robin Smith***, who chaired the Nominating Committee, presented the full slate of officers nominated by the Church Council: Toby McCoy as Moderator; Linda Soto as Assistant Moderator; Doug Bruce to continue as Treasurer; Derek Harrison to continue as Assistant Treasurer; and Robin Smith to continue as Clerk. ***Smith*** reported that the Church Council had not yet filled all board seats that will be vacated on July 1, 2023 when one-third of the members of each board will rotate off as their two-year term ends. As a result, the Church Council asks the congregation to authorize the Council to fill vacancies on boards as provided in the UCCH by-laws.

**Motion: *Robin Smith*** moved to approve the slate of church officers nominated by the Church Council and to authorize the Council to fill vacancies on church boards as provided in the UCCH by-laws.

**Second: *Karen Denby*** and ***Vicki Gardner***

**Vote: Unanimous**

**Treasurer’s Report**

***Doug Bruce*** reported that UCCH is in good financial condition. UCCH has a year-to-date surplus of approximately $10,000.00. Although some one-time building maintenance costs have caused year-to-date expenses be over budget, year-to-date contributions exceeded budget.

**Adjournment**

Following a closing prayer by ***Caleb Wolf,*** ***Moderator McMillan*** adjourned the meeting at 1:30 p.m.