

Minutes from the Congregational meeting, FINAL
May 17, 2015

Information about the meeting, along with supporting materials, was made available to the congregation eight days before the meeting, as required in the bylaws. It was done so via announce2serve, announcements from the pulpit, on Facebook, and through handouts in the church office.

About 85 approved members were signed in on the day of the meeting and given paper ballots for the officer election and bylaws changes. About 20 proxies were signed over. Handouts with the agenda and supporting information were available.

President Linda Randolph called the meeting to order at 12:15 PM. Her review of the year's accomplishments included

- recognition of the Program Council's spread of activities, including making the church more physically accessible to everyone.
- Adult Religious Education's expanded offerings for 2014-15.
- the strong presence of all ages in our multigenerational church.

The Board heard monitoring reports from areas and committees of the church including finance, music, worship, Program Council, membership, denominational affairs, outreach, building and grounds, communication, administration through the year, including goals and achievements. The Board also reviewed governance documents associated with these areas and committees this year, a big undertaking, to get them all updated.

The Building and Grounds committee installed 30 new lights in the hall and lobby; thanks to Will Dunklin for the installation.

Director of Administration Claudia Pressley-Wise reported on two projects underway:

- In June, we'll be able to accept credit and debit cards (as well as the current checks and cash) for offerings, pledges, shopping cards, etc. In the fall, we'll have a kiosk for swiping debit or credit cards for pledges, etc.
- The transportation task force, a result of the accessibility study, is partnering with CAC. Four people from the congregation are training to be drivers, and Shannondale and Atria will be the first places served. The cost to the users will be very small. CAC is also training people in first aid and CPR; if you're interested, come on Wednesday at 5:30 for training.

Minister Chris Buice said that the leadership team is leaning toward moving to one service in the fall for several reasons, including

- easing the burden on ushers, the choir, etc.
- more efficient use of our dollars
- most efficient use of our staff

He also noted that having two services was an experiment begun years ago, and that it never gathered as large a group for the early service as was hoped. There is adequate space to accommodate church members in one service only as long as we have a backup plan for possible overflow during traditionally full services, such as Christmas eve. They welcome feedback.

Beloved Conversations is a program working to transform congregations as a whole to be more multicultural and multiracial. Expect more workshops and popup discussions of issues of the day, facilitated by people trained in Beloved Conversations. They'll be expanding support and participation.

Parliamentary facilitator Walter Davis established that a quorum (at least 50) was present.

President elect Kathy Bohstedt, also member of the Nominating Committee, introduced the slate of nominees. (Biographies of candidates attached.) **A motion to accept the slate was made, seconded, and unanimously passed.**

Board member Grier Novinger presented a pottery bowl to Linda on behalf of the Board and congregation and in thanks for her service as president.

President elect Kathy Bohstedt explained two proposed changes to the bylaws, attached. In summary, responsibility for finding a Program Council Chair Elect moves from the Board to the Nominating Committee. Ballots were collected. Eighty-three voted in favor of both amendments; four voted against amendment one; three voted against amendment two. **Both amendments were adopted.**

Share the Plate Chair Terry Uselton reported on the third year of the share-the-plate program, in which undesignated offerings are split 50/50 between chosen programs and the church budget. Offerings have increased, as predicted, and last year each organization was given an average of \$866 each. The organizations are nominated by members, and ballots for voting were available. These will also be offered online until June 3.

Linda Randolph explained the vision task force, and member **Lance McCold** explained how the vision information was collected. (More details attached.) This is a representation of the congregation's vision that will be used to plan future goals for the church.

Treasurer Maureen McBride presented the budget, which is financially sound and balanced. (Attached.) More detailed budgets are available through Maureen McBride or Claudia Pressley-Wise. A motion to approve the budget was made and seconded; 78 voted yes. **The budget passed.**

Linda Randolph noted that if further pledges come in before June 30, they will be used to restore the hours for the positions of Member Coordinator and Pastoral Care and add money to the music budget. Another \$8800 would do the trick.

Tyra Barrett, Endowment Committee, reported on the Endowment Fund. (Attached.)

Chris Buice and Chloe Airoidi-Watters spoke about Caitlin Cotter, who grew up in TVUUC and asks that we sponsor her ordination. **The vote was yes.**

At 1:35 the meeting was adjourned. Sandwiches, prepared and sold by the youth, and homemade ice cream (now melted) fed the masses.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Moffett, Secretary
May 17, 2015