

FCC Board Meeting
First Congregational Church of Minnesota, United Church of Christ
Thursday, June 20, 2024
7:00 – 8:30 pm
Meeting on Zoom

Minutes

Attendance: Chris Bohnhoff, Linda Valerian, Mary Byers, Jean Anderson, Xan Laurence, Carl Dyar, Kris Felbeck

Absence: Hikaru Peterson, Tom von Sternberg, Paul Fate,

1. Opening – Mary Byers
2. Check in with each other.
3. Approve minutes from May meeting (see attached). *Move/Second/Approve Carl/Xan*
4. Review and finalize the revised 2024-2025 program goals from our May Board meeting (see attached). *What is the Board's role in meeting the 2024-2025 program goals? What are the resources or support the Board, particularly, can provide for the congregation?*

Move to approve the 2024-2025 program goals: Xan/Jean/Approve

There was a lengthy, thoughtful discussion about how the Board would be involved in the implementation of the new goals. This is the summary:

- *There are five Ministry Teams (MT): Congregational Care, Hospitality and Engagement, Justice League, Worship Team, Faith Formation*
- *The MT leaders meet at the end of the summer at a retreat to discuss the new goals and to set somewhat of an agenda or plan for implementation of them. They then go back to their individual MTs to map out how, specifically, each MT will implement all or parts of each goal (not every MT will address every goal).*
- *There is an expectation that at some point, goal specific Task Forces (TF) will emerge or be assigned. Some are already in existence – the Flourish Task Force, for example, has been looking at issues related to Goal #2 (earning \$10,000 in rental income). A Task Force for Goal #1 (communication plan) would probably involve representation from most or all of the MTs, and also include individuals with specific skills in digital communication.*
- *A general preference emerged for placing the Board in an oversight role. MTs and TFs would report periodically to the Board, but would carry out their tasks or mandates somewhat independently of the Board. The Board would hold the larger goals first and foremost, and help the smaller groups if or when they get bogged down in the details. There is no expectation that all three of the goals would be fully achieved by this time next year.*
- *Board members and MT members would attempt to personally issue invitations to congregation members to serve on a Task Force, rather than simply relying on a general invitation.*

Additionally, a broader “net” would be cast, to attempt to engage people who have not been involved in the past.

5. *These reports were postponed to the next meeting. Ministry team reports.*
6. *Flourish Team Update: The Flourish Team is meeting with the Flourish organization, to determine what improvements might make financial sense and to determine community’s needs. The goal is to use remaining consultation time most effectively with the Flourish staff.*
7. *Sabbatical planning report – Linda Valerian*
Sabbatical Planning Team has been very active. Sabbatical Wednesdays have been experimental. We have been getting small responses so far, however, 13 people attended session with Clyde to hear about his new book. There was a camp themed service on May 19 and this coming Sunday (June 23) we will have a service on Awe and Mystery. The intent was to increase connections with each other. Story telling will continue to be a feature of these special services.

Jean: Only 3 people have signed up for Lisa’s bird walk, scheduled for June 26, so far – it’s very fun, she heartily encourages it.

Reports and action – Discuss only as needed:

- Treasurer and Finance Committee
- Building Committee
- Building Use group
- COVID working group
- Personnel Committee
- Planned Giving group
- Preservation Projects
- Principal Minister

8. Closing – Mary Byers

There is no Board meeting in July.

Next board meeting: Thursday, August 15, 2024, 7:00-8:30PM

Recorded by Kris Felbeck