



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS ZOOM MEETING

## Meeting Minutes

March 15, 2022, 7PM

**Moderator:** Rev. Dwayne Johnson

**Board Members:** Lilah Blackstone, Johanna Hardy, Terri Neal, Knut Panknin, Phil Helbling, and Monika Lawrence

**Trustees:** Ace Barbari, ~~Scott Frazier, Cecelia Hayden Smith,~~ Tamara Orebaugh and Denise Wright

**Guests:** Rev. Cathy Alexander, Dr. Carla Sherrell, Dr. Teresa Tygart

- Song (Lilah) Deliver Me by Leandra Johnson and Scripture (Johanna) Acts 10:44-48.
- Approval of Agenda – Motion to approve agenda moved by Phil, seconded by Knut. Approved.
- Consent Calendar – Motion to receive the Consent Calendar moved by Phil, seconded by Lilah. Approved.
  - Treasurer’s Report:
    - Discussion of sign-ups for board members for April for check signing. Pastor Dwayne noted that there will be no need for anyone come in to the church check signing on Easter Sunday. Terri noted that we will still need checks signed and will need someone to come in. Lilah said she lives close-by and can come in during the week to sign checks.
    - General Fund balance is \$24,809.27.
    - Far Reaching Trust Fund balance \$616,133.98
    - Buchanan fund \$689.72
    - Money Market Account which includes the recent bequest \$106,053.46.
    - Remaining balance for the \$175K approved by the congregation for repair work is at \$109,753.48
    - Rental Income of \$2820.75 transferred.
    - Knut asked how many payments are left for the HVAC and about a discussion with Heron. Terri reported that a conversation can be set up with Heron. And that we know how many payments are left but not sure the exact number of this meeting.
    - Motion to receive the Treasures Report – Moved by Phil. Second by Knut. Approved.
  - Pastoral Report
  - Generosity Campaign update – Generosity Initiative ongoing through 4/24. Discuss BOD participation in the initiative.

- Pastor Dwayne discussed the excellent reception of the Generosity campaign and the video produced by Knut and shown at the Congregational Forum on 3/13. Pastor Dwayne suggested everyone think about reaching out two people each to talk about the Generosity initiative. We want to invite people into conversation and reflection on this. Darryl Walker has produced a brochure.
  - Rev. Cathy mentioned that the discussion could include any other topics that are on congregants' minds. Think about how you might address people's questions about the budget.
  - Pastor Dwayne mentioned individual "giving cards" for people to estimate their giving. We will be announcing the outcome of that on 4/24. Pastor Dwayne emphasized thinking about the prayer "God what is it you want to do through me" as they think about their generosity. Pastor Dwayne mentioned about recording people when they decide and talk about their giving commitment and then sharing those recordings with the church. This is something we may want to think about doing that Tom Melzoni thought would also be a good idea. Ask when you hear the phrase "Full to the Brim" what comes to mind?
  - Lilah said the first thing that comes to mind is "abundance". Terri said "sufficient". Tammy said "grateful". Dr. Carla said "faith". Johanna said "joy". Knut said "overflowing" and "living water". Monika said it makes her think of "enthusiasm". Rev. Cathy said that all of these words and more are all good and speak to the heart of generosity. Dr. Carla said we did this kind of exercise during the retreat. Pastor Dwayne said hopefully we can keep it lighthearted and fun and have everyone on the board be enthusiastic and we might make it 3-5 minute part of our meetings.
- 2022 Ministry Action Plan – Update following the Congregational Forum.
    - Johanna said she was pleased at the participation we had at the Forum.
    - Rev. Cathy agreed and signaled a good way ahead.
    - Knut noted that people were forward looking for instance about music and the safety concern (Covid). Knut demonstrated his illustration of a word cloud of words people mentioned about generosity.
    - Johanna liked the word cloud image and said the words really call to people and may be good to put outside the church as people think about re-entry to in-person church. She also noted that there was a lot of interest in the Safeway and Giant cards that the church gives to those in need and that we should do more to make these things the church does more visible.
    - Pastor Dwayne talked about having the generosity pledge cards also known as SHARE cards blessed, and shared and sent out to others so they could see what kind of an impact the campaign is having. Perhaps even leaving pledge cards around the neighborhood.
    - Terri noted that since no one will be in the building easter Sunday that she will organize the checks that need to be signed so they can be signed earlier in the week. Terri noted that Rev. Cathy often works with Melvin to generate the checks. But that Melvin will be out the week of easter. So this needs worked out in terms of timeline.

- Covid 19 Advisory Team Update
  - Pastor Dwayne thanked the people on the Covid 19 advisory board.
  - Pastor Dwayne reported that the Advisory Team suggested at the Sunday after easter 4/24 for in-person worship. The team strongly recommends a larger volunteer base to support the return to in-person worship. Need 10 volunteers each Sunday to make the service happen. 4/10 will be a volunteer test run. Pastor Dwayne noted that waiting after easter until all our volunteers and practice are worked out and not wanting to do that on what could be a busy Sunday (easter).
  - Phil asked about ushers. Pastor Dwayne said Chocolate and Rev. Cathy are part of that outreach. Rev. Cathy mentioned recruitment is a need. It's important that we as board members ask people to volunteer. That it can't be all on the staff to do the recruiting. Johanna clarified that it is not just recruitment for ushers, but for all that support making the service happened. Johanna said that Chocolate suggests a minimum of 15 to make service happen.
  
- Other items (to be discussed, as needed)
  - Virtual church update – No update
  - HVAC Replacement update – no update
  - DC Homeland Security grant – Pastor Dwayne reported that it is moving. But moving slowly due simply to the bureaucracy. Not any fault on our part.
  - Innovation Hub update – no update
  - Roofing Project – no update
  - Sanctuary Screens Project – no update
  - Mid-City Development – no update
  - Early Learners Academy Update – Melvin continuing to steward this.
  - 50<sup>th</sup> MCCDC Anniversary – we will continue to look at what is doable considering Covid 19.
  - Other Discussion/Informational Items – MCC DC has signed up for Pride 2022. Knut got us signed up at the new discounted rate. But we need a new coordinator. Knut has done it the past 10 years and will be unable to do this year.
  - MCC General Conference – registration is open and Rev. Cathy said if you are interested to reach-out. It will be entirely virtual this year.
  - TikTok – Johanna noted that one of our MCCDC postings got approximately 1400 views. Johanna mentioned about doing a video and making it a duet. But that only applies to videos that are 1 minute or less.
  
  - Shout-Outs – Phil gave shout outs to Knut for the generosity video and Johanna for the MCCDC TikTok video that is getting over 1000 hits. Knut gave a shout out to Terri to making sure the money we receive gets deposited. Johanna gave a shout out to Chocolate for the work she has done for re-entry to in-person services and their commitment for what we need to do to be safe. Terri gave a shout out to Rev Cathy on her work on the ministry action plan. Rev. Cathy gave a shout out to the generosity team: including Clara, Darryl, Dr. Carla, Pastor Dwayne, and Tom Melzoni. Johanna gave a shout out to the Covid 19 Advisory team. Terri gave a shout out to Monika and Melvin for distributing the giving statements. Pastor Dwayne gave a shout out to Rev Dr Gorslin for his impact on the writers ministry.

- Scripture and Song for following meeting – Monika will do the scripture and Phil will do the song.

- Announcements/Online Events

Motion to adjourn Lilah and Knut. Motion passed.

Closing prayer – Rev. Cathy.

Meeting ended 8:23pm