Country Club Christian Church Congregational Board Minutes June 11, 2019

Attending – Brian Campbell, Lynn Cockle, Tepring Crocker, Bruce Erickson, Hannah Fenley, David Forsee, Jeff Gibbs, Scott Glasrud (via conference phone), Anne Hoffman, Pat Martin, Mary McClure, Deb Plucknett, Mike Schaefer, Lauren Weinhold, , and Jeff Zimmerman

Not Attending – Jennifer Austenfeld, Karen Carlson-Cook, Erin Parkinson, Courtney Sullivan, Jim Wells, Travis Wymore

Members: Amy Guthrey, Peter Holt, Lesley Holt,

Staff: Rev. Carla Aday, Mike Graves, Corey Meyer, Carla Rauth, ChrisWendelbo

Opening Prayer

Pat Martin, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 and Deb Plucknett opened the meeting with a devotion on Fathers.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Ms. Martin asked the Board whether there were any amendments or corrections to the items on the consent agenda. Anne Hoffman noted that the last paragraph of the minutes should read 'Next Board Meeting – June 11.' A motion to approve the consent agenda, including the corrected May 14, 2019 Minutes and the Dashboard Report for May 2019, was approved unanimously.

Stewardship Report

Carla Aday introduced Chris Wendelbo, the new Executive Director of Operations, who reported on the status of the 2019-2020 Stewardship Campaign. Mr. Wendelbo reminded the Board that the campaign began late this year due to the timing of Easter and it is on-going. Follow up contacts will begin next week to give families an opportunity to participate. In addition, the Board was briefed on the new givers and the increased amounts of gifts from 52% of those that have already pledged this year.

Budget Approval 2019-2020

Lynn Cockle presented the proposed Operations Budget for the coming year, noting that the endowment numbers have not yet been approved. A motion to adopt the budget was unanimously approved.

Centennial Report/Feasibility Study Update

Rev. Aday welcomed Peter and Lesley Holt, Co-chairs of the Centennial Campaign, and Amy Guthrey, Gifts co-chair. Rev. Aday presented an overview of the last 100 years and vision for the next 100 for the church with 7 areas of interest: Welcome, Accessibility, Safety, Environmental, Children and Youth Spaces, Adult Connections, and Mission. Ms. Holt gave an overview of the vision for the building plan. Mr. Holt described the next steps for the feasibility study that was approved at the May Board meeting and addressed questions from the Board. A motion to move forward with the plan was amended to include \$500,000 for the mission component of the project and was unanimously approved. Results of the feasibility study are scheduled to be presented at the October board meeting.

Senior Minister Report

Rev. Carla Aday provided the Senior Minister Report, attached.

Recognition of Outgoing Board Members

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Ms. Martin thanked Scott Glasrud, Lynn Cockle, Travis Wymore, Deb Plucknett, Karen Carlson-Cook, Hannah Fenley, Jeff Gibbs, Jim Wells and Courtney Sullivan for their contributions to the Congregational Board.

Adjournment

Seeing no further business, Ms. Martin called the meeting to a close at 8:10. Rev. Aday asked Board members to share joys and concerns and provided the closing prayer.

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Attachment: Senior Minister Report, Rev. Carla Aday June 11, 2019 <u>Vision of Ministry:</u> 1) Create new and enhanced entry ways leading to deep Christian engagement and growth

Over the past year we have created new and enhanced entryways leading to deep Christian engagement and growth through worship, through adult education, through children/family ministry and through missions. The most exciting to me has been the new 9:01 worship service which has not only increased the attendance but also brought young families back into worship because they are genuinely engaged through leadership and participation. Worship also provided new ways for engagement through the creation of Service Partners (for newer folks to serve in worship) and the pick-up choir which has been a joy for participants and worshippers.

The second most exciting new entryway has been the new Connections/10:01 class for younger adults which has been very successful, creating new and vital friendship among the younger adults in the congregation and providing a place for visiting young couples or singles to attend and connect. Also in adult spiritual formation we added Faith Bistro for women, additional Monday night classes with Mike Graves and three new neighborhood communion groups. The Israel Trip and Christian Community Camp both filled and had a wait list.

In Children and Family ministry we have added parenting groups, club kids on a regular basis, parent night out, expanded Back Yard Bash, family service projects, Omaha zoo trip. Catherine is bringing a new vitality and pastoral connection to the ministry with families

In Missions we added the Houston and Puerto Rico mission trips for disaster relief and new service project opportunities for youth in the Northeast.

2) Learn about our potential new members and determine ways we might present ourselves to them

The clergy staff is currently conducting a series of 1-1 with members of the church who attend less frequently, have only recently begun attending or are not currently attending but have some connection to the church. This process has been enlightening and encouraging. We will complete these by end of summer. In addition, the board interviewed new members to learn what drew them to us and what they find meaningful here. The board also reflected on what drew them here and what might draw new folks in. Lara Schopp is currently working on a new elevator speech and or slogan that we can use to better articulate our identity to the larger community. This goal will continue into next year. Jeff and I plan to appoint a special task force to help the board work on this next year. I think we could better define our target market niche and devise ways to effectively reach out to and minister alongside those currently unchurched.

3) Advance our ministry with 6th to 12th grade students to support their spiritual formation and encourage them to form their own connection to church and faith.

Tyler Heston began as Minister to Youth on August 1. He has developed a steady and solid rhythm of programming and events for 6th- 12th graders, reaching an average of 10-20 youth on Sunday mornings and on Sunday evenings. Over 15 adults have been involved as sponsors. Youth have begun to bring friends to lock-ins, youth group and service projects. And this week 16 high schoolers are on the mission trip to Ecuador, exceeding the numbers we have reached in several years. "It feels like a youth group finally" said one of the youth at a fall Lock-in. The positive response to Tyler's organization, charisma, theological leadership and pastoral care has been amazing. Parents, colleagues and most importantly the youth resonate with him. He has also involved the youth in Circles of Care and leadership of the 11 am worship service. He conducts regular 1-1 with the students. And he is building relationships with the college students through a college newsletter, summer brunches and finals care packages. We hit the jackpot with Tyler.

And he is just getting started. He has big plans for growth! Stay tuned to see what God is up to in the lives of youth in our church.

Other News

The General Assembly of the Christian Church will be held this summer in July in Des Moines. Nancy Lear will represent us as a voting delegate. Several of our clergy will attend.

The Search Committee for a new Music Director will conduct interviews in June and we hope to have a new director by the fall. We have been very encouraged by the expertise of the applicants

New Staff members: Chris Wendelbo, Jill Sullins and April Booth are off to a great start. We have hired some new maintenance staff who are still temporary.

The Outdoor Service is going well. Kudos to Jason Ashley for his work on this. We have had to purchase additional chairs and speakers to accommodate the demand and I have sought additional donations to help underwrite this.