

Country Club Christian Church
Congregational Board Minutes February 8, 2022

Attending: Jennifer Austenfeld, E.J. Becker, Sara Christensen, Tepring Crocker, Erin Feitz, Karen Gallagher, Phil Howes, Shelle Jensen, Nancy Lear, Mary McClure, Becky McElduff, Matt Moeder, Kay Moffat, Jayson Parker and Tom Thornton.

Not Attending: Dana Flora

Staff and Guests: Rev. Carla Aday, Sherri Hill, David Forsee, Amy Guthrey, Christopher Hill

Welcome and Meditation

Matt Moeder, Board Chair, called the virtual meeting to order at 7:03 pm. Tepring Crocker gave an opening meditation centered on finding one's purpose in life based on the Japanese model of ikigai.

Centennial Campaign & Centennial Building Update

Christopher Mitchell with Look, A Design Studio, gave a detailed look at the exterior and interior building plans for an exterior pavilion and reception/social area on the east side of the building, as well changes to existing interior congregational spaces. One primary goal has been to create exterior spaces for programming equivalent to interior spaces for programming and gathering. He estimated 6-8 weeks from finalized construction plans (due Feb. 18th) to obtain necessary permits from the city before construction can begin by A.L. Huber led by Casey McBride.

David Forsee explained more than \$4M of the expense —more than half—is earmarked for system, elevator and safety improvements. Timeline for the “end of the beginning:” Construction bid is due March 14th for Building Committee study and decisions. Target for signing construction contract is currently March 29th.

Mr. Forsee walked through key upcoming approvals in four segments: 1) construction plan, 2) construction bridge loan to the end of the three-year pledge period, 3) construction contract and 4) secured donor loan. Total expense is currently \$11M including all construction and finishing, professional services and expenses. Legal and other professional services are engaged for review of the documents and Target for congregational board and endowment trustee approval is the March 8th regular congregational board meeting. Board members should email Mr. Moeder any questions for routing to the best contacts.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Moeder asked the Board whether there were any amendments or corrections to the items on the consent agenda. There were none. The Board unanimously approved a motion to approve the consent agenda including the January 11, 2022, Congregational Board Minutes as amended.

Finance Committee

Phil Howes reviewed the financial results for the first half of the fiscal year. Giving is above budget and above prior year results for the same period. Expenses are also lower than budget

primarily based on open staff positions in the early childhood program.

The Next 5: Five Year Strategic Plan

Mr. Moeder gave an overview of planning to date on developing a strategic plan with five goals to drive congregational programming for five years (Attachment 1). The engagement plan for gathering information starts with the elder/deacon retreat in February, and includes a congregational town hall meeting, small affinity/shared activity groups, ad hoc groups and gathering information from the homebound and others not already covered. Mr. Moeder asked for feedback on the engagement plan.

Mr. Moeder reviewed the five questions to be used uniformly across all engagement activities/groups. The board members responded on the message of the church—how we describe the message of the church to people who do not have a connection to this church or any church and how best to deliver the message.

Senior Minister Report

Rev. Carla Aday presented the Senior Minister Report (Attachment 2). She included a recently heard finding that mainline protestant churches appear to have started to grow after decades of decline in membership, as well as that 52% of people who say they do not have a church home represent a bright opportunity. Intense decision-making is underway for the final push on the Next 100 Centennial Campaign.

Closing Prayer and Adjournment

Mr. Moeder called the meeting to a close at 8:50 pm and Rev. Aday led the Board in a closing prayer.

Attachment 1: The Next 5—Five-Year Strategic Plan

Matt Moeder

Develop 5 strategic priorities that will guide the church for the next 5 years by gathering responses to five questions according to a specific engagement strategy.

Question # 1 (Message)

The perception of church in our modern world is often negative. But you know that our church has a unique and positive message. How would you describe that message to a person who has never attended?

Question # 2 (Connection)

Many members feel a sense of "belonging" at Country Club Christian Church. What programs/events have increased your sense of belonging or deepened the friendships you find here? How can we create the opportunities for others to deepen their sense of belonging, especially those who are new to or still on the margins of the community?

Question # 3 (Challenges)

As you think about Country Club Christian Church's next five years, what will be the top 3 challenges that we face?

Question # 4 (Societal Needs)

What are the most important societal need(s) that we are being called by God to address and how might we address them?

Question # 5 (Aspirational)

In your wildest dreams, what would you like to see Country Club accomplish in the next 3-5 years?

Engagement Strategy

- Elder & Deacon Retreat (2/19/22)
- Town Hall Meeting (Late March/Early April)
- Affinity Groups (March/April)
- Small Ad Hoc Groups (April)
- One-on-One Meetings (April)

Affinity Groups

- Anniversary Class
- Choir/Bells
- Club Kids' Parents
- Connections
- Crossroads/Outlook
- Everyday Justice
- FaithBistro
- FaithBook

- FaithPub
- Friday Morning BookClub
- Knitting Group
- Koinonia Class
- Men's Morning Group
- Metro Mission Team
- Mission Trip Team
- Monday Night Classes
- Neighborhood Communion Groups
- Small Groups: Berry, McQueeney & Klever
- Roots
- Sewing Group
- Vistas
- Wednesday Morning Bible Study
- Youth Group

May Congregational Board Retreat

- Evaluates information gathered during the engagement strategy
- Drafts strategic priorities

Attachment 2: Senior Minister Report: February 2022

Carla Aday

Attendance

- Lower due to snow and Covid
- Visitors higher than goal

Finances on target

GOALS FOR 2021-22

1. Invite our neighbors into highly visible activities based on a variety of shared topics, goals, or interests. As a first priority, build trust and a sense of belonging.

- Beyond Belief Class – Tyler Heston converted Pastor’s Class for adult education
- Life Worth Living series offered second time
- High ratio of first time and repeat visitors
- Many options narrowed due to covid

2. Build a deep, sustainable sense of life-transforming community that engages and empowers the congregation.

- Pastor’s Class – 20 students
- Pastor’s Class Redeux for high school seniors
- Della Lamb Engagement on rehoming refugees
- New Owl for video conferencing
- Zoom classes and groups
- Book Packets for Families
- Disciple Bible Study, Wed Bible Study
- Elder & Deacon Retreat
- The Next 5: Five Year Strategic Priorities
- Pastoral Care

Pastoral Reflections

- Senior Ministers of Disciples Churches met here
- Staff Retreat in February
- Long term effects of Covid on society
- Final push on Next 100 – funding, architecture, planning