

Country Club Christian Church  
Congregational Board Minutes August 2, 2022

**Attending:** Jennifer Austenfeld, E.J. Becker, Kathy Buckley, Liz Copeland, Sara Engber, Dana Flora, Shelle Jensen, Phil Klever, Becky McElduff, Glenn Mills, Matt Moeder, Kay Moffat, Tom Thornton

**Not Attending:** Erin Feitz, J.J. Jones

**Guests:** Mary McClure, Dan Jensen

**Staff:** Carla Aday, Tulley Beard

***Welcome and Meditation***

Jennifer Austenfeld the gave opening meditation based on Isaiah 11 and Old Testament visions of the coming of Jesus Christ.

***Construction Update***

Dan Jensen reminded the Board the final bid received in the spring was \$2.5 million over budget despite specific contingencies and months of pre-work. This was due to significant and rapidly increasing industry-wide inflation. Since then, the Centennial Anniversary Building Committee has spent considerable time working on modifications with the design team. The east entrance work has been scaled back to end at the existing kitchen on the interior, at the existing shed on the exterior. The Social Hall renovations are backed into the next phase, and remodeling the kitchen is not within budget.

Mr. Jensen said expectations are four-six weeks to re-bid. The industry is seeing some slowing in the acceleration of expenses. Optimally there will be site work happening in early November.

Mary McClure provided a budget update. The paperwork is complete for the construction loan up to \$3 million. Pledges are at \$11.5 million, in line with the update to the Board in March. As of today, \$4.9 million has been received. The Committee anticipates making additional asks when the construction bid is final.

***Consent Agenda***

Ms. Austenfeld 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 June 21st Congregational Board Minutes.

***Senior Minister Report***

Rev. Carla Aday provided a refresher of the Board's role being covering the "banks of the river," not steering the boat or handling the fish. She gave an overview of the monthly

Dashboard Report through June 2022 (Attachment 1). The end of the fiscal year reflects \$93,000 revenue over expenses. Giving reflects an increase in this fiscal year due to full-pledge prepays.

Rev. Aday reviewed the process the prior year's Board followed to determine the Next 5 strategic goals and the adopted goals (Attachment 1). She led the Board members in categorizing and discussing priorities for overall importance, urgency, and what is critical for Board action. At the end of the discussion, Rev. Aday observed the Board gave priority to the goals addressing the development of programs. She introduced the partnership with the William Jewell College Center for Faith and Culture and four other metro congregations and gave an update on summer progress toward the programming goals. Several of these goals are connected to the new associate minister position, for which the search is underway. Rev. Aday reviewed the staff organizational chart including expected changes.

### ***Personnel Committee Report***

Sara Engber asked the Board to approve the collection of a love offering for Paul Tucker in recognition of his service to the congregation. The Board unanimously approved the request.

Ms. Engber said Tepring Crocker agreed to serve as interim communications director until there is a permanent hire. The Committee is in an active search for the senior associate minister. Facilities will have a position remain open for the time being with Cody's departure and Silas taking that role.

### ***Open and Affirming Update***

Matt Moeder reminded the Board that in June it adopted a statement of support for pursuing a formal Open & Affirming Congregation designation. He described the O&A program and support available through the Disciples of Christ national organization. The Board set a priority to engage with and educate the congregation more broadly about the program and what it means for the congregation about communicating to the community who we are.

Rev. Aday and Ms. Austenfeld are planning the engagement process. Mike Graves will be teaching a class around the theological underpinnings for O&A. Ms. Austenfeld said the welcoming statement the Board developed puts words to showing vulnerable and marginalized people that they are welcome here, and taking part in an external program is important. Rev. Aday discussed the planned first engagement at the September Elders and Deacons meeting. From this and the educational element, we will discern whether we need more engagement. Shelle Jensen said she is excited for the Elders and Deacons to have this role. Ms. Austenfeld invited the Board to a mini retreat at her home in September where additional planning for the Elders and Deacons meeting would occur.

### ***Closing Prayer***

Ms. Austenfeld called the meeting to a close and Rev. Aday led the Board in a closing prayer.

# Senior Minister Report August 2022

Rev. Carla Aday

## Dashboard Review

Worship Attendance decrease over last summer because of 2 factors:

- 1) Only live streaming 11 am; 9 and 10 are reruns from previous week
- 2) Increase in travel and in person activities due to covid shifts

Giving increase over last summer due to prepaid commitments and catch up on commitments

Other notes: Breakfast added to increase engagement; still having first time visitors each week; no Sunday school this summer for children and few adult classes meeting.

# The Next 5 Strategic Priorities



## The Next 5 Strategic Priorities

1. Develop a reimagined and comprehensive new member program that nurtures individuals through all phases of engagement including recruitment, initial welcome, onboarding, full participation, potential leadership, and retention. (New Members)
2. Invite others into a relationship with the church through a broad spectrum of offerings including shared interests, topics, goals, activities, service, and intergenerational opportunities. These offerings will specifically be geared towards individuals who are not affiliated with a church or denomination, Millennials, Generation Z, and young families. (Engage unaffiliated young people)

## The Next 5 Strategic Priorities

3. Develop a small group program that sustainably creates new groups and supports existing groups. Goals of this program will include fostering new relationships and deepening our spiritual, intellectual, and service experiences. (Small Groups)

4. Strengthen the church's external and internal identity as an inclusive congregation by: (Inclusivity)

- a) effectively communicating our message and programing with the external community;
- b) examining the representativeness and appropriateness of the congregation's name; and
- c) focusing on how we can perpetually manifest inclusivity.

## The Next 5 Strategic Priorities

5. Develop and implement an integrated, organization-wide communication strategy that enhances the ministerial work of our staff and empowers lay members to more easily participate in and promote the activities of the church. The strategy will effectively utilize technology to provide connection and integrate our emerging online community into all aspects of our ministry. (Technologically savvy communication)

## The Next 5

- A. Which is the most important?
- B. Which is the most urgent?
- C. Where do you see overlap or connection?
- D. Which one needs the board's attention?



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 COUNTRY CLUB CHRISTIAN CHURCH DISCIPLES OF CHRIST	 Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral
 SECOND CHURCH Liberty, Missouri	 VILLAGE CHURCH Pleasanton, OHIO

## Summer Progress

Partnership with Jewell ( Goal 2 engage unaffiliated)

Community Camp (Goal 3 Small Groups)

Service Learning Weeks for Children and Youth (Goal 3 Small Groups)

Swope Parkway Partnership (Goal 4 Inclusivity)

Scraps Mission Partnership (Goal 2 engaged unaffiliated)

Search Committees

Human Rights Pilgrimage to Alabama (delayed)



## Upcoming Sermon Series

Late Summer

We meet you where you are and walk alongside you on the spiritual journey to a life with greater meaning.

Fall

Turning Points