

Country Club Christian Church
Congregational Board Minutes
August 13, 2024

Attending: Lori Bennett, Micah Blair, Kathy Buckley, Chris Christensen, Liz Copeland, Justin Cottrell, Sara Engber, James Guthrey, Greg Humphreys, Phil Klever, J.J. Jones, Becky McElduff, Jen Parker, Beckie Rogers

Not Attending: Glenn Mills

Staff: Rev. Carla Aday, Rev. Bryce Bowers, Rev. Ashley Cheung, Rev. Katie Mussat

Welcome and Prayer

Following a new Board member orientation, Jen Parker opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with prayer.

Board and New Staff Introductions

The Board members shared personal introductions. Rev. Katie Mussat shared her personal journey to the Minister of Families/Children/Students position that she assumed in July. She has made steps filling child care positions. She is working on filling children and youth director positions, filling Sunday School leader needs and building out the Fall schedule. Rev. Ashley Cheung talked about her history in Kansas City and impressions of the physical building, area and personality of the congregation. She wants to connect with Board members and others to learn the stories behind the beauty of the congregation. She started her position as Minister of Congregational Care this week. Beckie Rogers invited the new clergy to Faithbook.

Approval of Consent Agenda

The Board reviewed and unanimously approved consent agenda including the June 11th minutes.

Finance Report

Rev. Bryce Bowers provided a detailed update on the Generosity Campaign. More pledges were and still are being returned, as of now 28 more pledges than prior year reflecting 12.2% increase over prior year. There are increases in number of pledges, in first-time pledges and in the amount committed, all of this outside of unpledged contributions which are also projected in the budget. Pledged contributions as a percent of budgeted contributions were down more than 10% last year. This year shows an improvement in pledged contributions as a percent of budgeted contributions. There was discussion on facts underlying trends. There is also a committee looking at fee-based revenue, as well as next steps toward planned giving.

Personnel Committee Report

Sara Engber updated the Board on the allocation of mission responsibility with the new personnel. There is budget for a new part-time position if none of the people yet to be hired have interest and/or experience. The Board reviewed and unanimously approved the clergy housing allowances recommended by the Personnel Committee.

Senior Minister Report

Rev. Carla Aday reviewed the June and July dashboards. First-time visitors are exceeding goals, which is notable in the summer months. She noted current staff openings and the departure of Silas Williams as

Director of Facilities to a great new position elsewhere.

Rev. Aday gave an overview of the Next 5 Strategic Goals. She updated on progress toward each goal. On new member engagement, she praised the personal attention being given by staff to visitors. The next phase is for members to fill a specific role in the process of attracting and engaging visitors. Summer engagement programs had sustained attendance. Swope Parkway hosted our congregation for their second anniversary of using the chapel for worship. A committee is working on enhancing promotion of our Open and Affirming designation.

A congregational summit is on September 8th. Rev. Aday sought feedback on information that elders and deacons can share about these goals and the activity within them. J.J. Jones suggested the elders and deacons can look at the theology underlying these goals. Lori Bennett drew attention to the subgoal of bringing the online worship community into the life of the church as well as examining the representativeness and appropriateness of the congregation's name. Liz Copeland spoke up about needing better integration of the senior population into the technological resources.

Rev. Aday explained that the Next 100 project has now drawn on the line of credit in line with expectations.

Closing Prayer and Adjournment

Rev. Aday closed in prayer. The meeting adjourned at 8:50.