

Country Club Christian Church
Congregational Board Minutes
April 22, 2025

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

Not Attending: Becky McElduff

Staff: Rev. Carla Aday, Tulley Beard, Rev. Bryce Bowers, Ashley Cheung

Welcome and Prayer

Jen Parker called the meeting to order at 7:02 and Chris Christensen shared a devotion about Earth Day.

Approval of March 11 Minutes

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

Monthly Dashboard

The Board reviewed the monthly dashboard. Attendance and giving are lower than prior year, likely because Easter was in March in 2024.

Generosity Campaign

Ashley Cheung described the upcoming annual generosity campaign Bright and Beautiful. There are weekly focus activities involving all generations. There is special music, a ministry fair and an art show to demonstrate God's gifts among the congregation. The campaign culminates with generosity commitments from the congregation. J.J. Jones asked if there is interest at sharing the art show with students at the Kansas City Art Institute. Tulley Beard answered that this particular show is intended to share the gifts inside the church community and there could be other opportunities to use the space for art from the student or local community in the future.

Small Groups and Membership

Rev. Bryce Bowers shared a presentation and plan about the conversion of first-time guests to joining the congregation formally as members. The analysis is there is a need to increase "stickiness" by providing a way to get involved beyond worship as soon as a visitor is interested in other ministries. The action is a new marketing campaign on Kalos Groups starting on June 29th. Kalos is Greek for "good." It is intended to be the overarching term for small groups, which fall into sub-categories for the equivalent of Service Corps Explorers, Neighborhood Communion Groups and Common Thread groups. Common Thread groups are those in the same life stages or interests like running or specific spiritual practices. There will be an initial enrollment opportunity in the summer, which includes an annual moment to take the off ramp from a group. Kickoff for the groups' operation will be end of summer with support for using Church Center and effective leadership and communication, plus annual recap and reflection for each group flowing into the overarching level. Greg Humphreys asked that the descriptions have clear statements about the frequency or level of commitment involved. There was brief additional discussion and feedback on this work in progress.

Nominating Committee Report

Phil Klever reported that the Nominating Committee is almost finished with its work, which will culminate in the presentation of a slate of the new congregational lay leadership for approval by the congregation following an upcoming worship service.

Ashley Cheung Ordination

Rev. Carla Aday described the steps leading up to the ordination service for Ashley Cheung on June 22. The Ordination Committee has found that all the steps needed for Disciples of Christ ordination have been met and is excited to recognize Ms. Cheung's calling in this way.

Senior Minister Report

Rev. Carla Aday gave updates on progress toward the Next 5 Strategic Priorities, each of which has projects underway. She gave special recognition to Dr. Matthew Thompson for his thoughtfulness and planning for worship service anthems, sometimes six months out. His joy is evident in the music offerings and the growing choir. She also gave a shout out to the Green Team for keeping the church grounds beautiful which is the perennial feedback Rev. Aday gets all over town—how beautiful the church is. The clergy will have a mini-retreat to optimize teamwork now that all clergy and staff positions are filled. Bryce gave an unofficial summary of the annual auction results including a healthy \$8,000 fund-a-need for the youth game room. Micah Blair echoed that the guests she brought to the auction were thoroughly impressed with the staff and professionalism in this event. The fundraising was under goal, though it was a successful event and fundraiser.

Closing Prayer and Adjournment

Rev. Aday closed in prayer. The meeting adjourned at 8:22.