

OFFICIAL BOARD MINUTES

December 5, 2023 6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER Called to order by Rob Miller, Karen Nortman, Missy Johnson, Shaun Kruger, Lisa Murphy, Dean Phelps, Pastor Deborah Mann, Treasurer Keith Barnhart, and Secretary Mary Larson.

OPEN IN PRAYER – Pastor Deb

APPROVAL OF DOCKET Motion to approve docket; unanimous approval.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Motion to accept minutes as written; unanimous approval.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Pleased to report is has been a good month for revenue. We will meet the 2023 pledged amount but remain almost \$42,000 behind on the budgeted amount. The Treasurer proposed that any accumulated interest in the Irey Fund be transferred to the First Church United checking account, to offset the revenue shortfall. Keith reviewed for the Board members the In and Out items and the list of checks written. To offset the additional fee paid for cleaning prior to a funeral, Missy suggested contacting Henderson Barker funeral home and have \$25 added to the expected funeral expenses. Pastor Deb volunteered to mention this to Scott Henderson. Motion to approve Treasurer's Report; unanimous approval.

Start of Month balance	\$578.90
Receipts	\$25,199.20
Sub Total	\$25,778.10
Disbursements	\$23,091.60
Ending Balance	\$2,686.50
Board Checking	(\$41,234.11)

PASTOR'S REPORT

Pastor's Activity for November, 2023

As we wrap up November and head into the holidays, there is much to be thankful for. Our church family continues to strengthen and support one another as we care for the needs of the community. This past month the WOW and Sunday School kids collected almost \$450.00 for Heifer International to support families globally, and 75 cereal boxes (to date) for our local food pantry/Christmas box giveaway. We also collected this month winter wear accessories to go with the coat giveaway and have assisted with other community fundraising activities such as purchasing toys, food and school supplies, supporting our local fire departments, and so on. Even our CYG kids and parents joined together to make 540 food packets, feeding 3,240 people in global need. So many generous hearts and souls working together to feed the hungry, clothe those in need, extend warm welcomes and care for the sick. As we do this for others, we are reminded in Matthew 25, we do it for Christ. Wrapping up our stewardship drive, we were reminded again that our pledges of commitment are needed in and out of the building. As for me personally, I continue to fulfill my responsibilities within the office and to provide pastoral care wherever needed. I attended the regular Ministerial Association, Cluster and Presbytery meetings, along with WOW and chime choir and wrapped up our Fall Bible Study and GriefShare classes. Lee Ann and I were able to help chaperone CYG youth to the Newsboys concert in Davenport and attended Marilyn's 90th birthday party here at the church. We also supported the high schoolers at their school play and area events at the Holiday Open House downtown. Over Thanksgiving, we were able to spend precious time with loved ones and then come back to help decorate with our church family after worship for the upcoming Advent season. We topped it off with a pizza luncheon thanks to Congregational Life. It is a joy to spend time with both of our families, here and away. Giving thanks and praying for a meaningful Advent season, as we remember the greatest gift of all – Jesus!!

Respectfully submitted,
Pastor Deb Mann

ONGOING BUSINESS:

1. Church
 - a. Canopy – Bob Dewar and Dean Phelps met with VJ Engineering. They requested to keep the canopy at 35’ but extend the concrete an additional width of 4’. A new drawing was received and shared with Ken Morrison Construction.
 - b. Sanctuary water damage – Missy specifically requested action from Ken Morrison Construction.
 - c. Sanctuary Technology Upgrade – Installation will be scheduled for January, 2024.
 - d. Church lawn – Dean contacted Kalona Landscaping and proposed the following services for 2024:
 - i. Roll entire lawn (\$675)
 - ii. Til and seed former garden area to north (\$1,275)
 - iii. Treat lawn 3x @ \$575 per application (spring, summer, fall)

The proposed services unanimously approved.

 - e. Kitchen equipment maintenance – ice maker needs filter replaced (Blaine Kelly will order) and kitchen sink is draining slowly. Missy will contact plumber if needed.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Pastoral Relations Committee Report and Personnel Committee Report – Pastor Deb and Board Secretary were asked to leave the room for closed session. Board members were presented recommendations from the Pastoral Relations Committee and the Personnel Committee in order to plan for the budget of 2024. The board unanimously to maintain current compensation packages for all workers. It was, however, decided to give a bonus to the pastor, christian education director, and office administrator.
2. Board members worked with Treasurer to complete the 2024 budget worksheet. Items of note included a per capita increase from denominations (but FCU support to denominations continues to exceed the per capita amount requested). Beginning in 2024, WOW and VBS expenses will be submitted to the Endowment Committee for reimbursement. The Christian Education line item with the FCU budget will be used for Sunday School expenses.

ADJOURNMENT Motion to adjourn at 7:55pm; unanimous approval.

PRAYER CONCERNS SHARED/CLOSING PRAYER

NEXT MEETING January 4, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.