

OFFICIAL BOARD MINUTES

February 1, 2024 6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER Called to order by Rich Hambright, Rob Miller, Lori Brooke, Leon Larson, Shaun Krueger, Bob Dewar, Pastor Deborah Mann, Treasurer Keith Barnhart, and Secretary Mary Larson.

OPEN IN PRAYER – Pastor Deb

APPROVAL OF DOCKET Motion to approve docket with the addition of the digital sign topic; unanimous approval.

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

TREASURER’S REPORT

Keith highlighted the high grounds maintenance costs due to the snowstorms and we shall pray the remainder of the winter is milder. He explained items from the In/Out column as well as noting that the annual interest disbursement from the Endowment Fund had been received, easing our bank account balance. He closed his report with a review of other checks written and assurance that he will review the denomination per capita information for the new year and anticipate those payments. There was a motion to approve Treasurer’s Report; unanimous approval.

Start of Month balance	\$2,052.35
Receipts	\$26,094.70
Sub Total	\$28,147.05
Disbursements	\$27,914.92
Ending Balance	\$ 232.13
Board Checking	(\$12,266.82)

PASTOR’S REPORT

Pastor’s Activity for January, 2024

My yearning for a little bit of snow last month was met with a wild snowstorm the beginning of January. We had to reschedule Shirley Sterner’s funeral and go to Zoom Only on one of our Sunday morning worship services. Thankfully, Dustin Bower’s snowplow team helped us out tremendously. January also saw the installation of our new projectors and screens and everyone is overjoyed. The clarity is truly amazing!! A HUGE thanks to Brenda Miller and any others who helped make this project happen. What a wonderful use of Walt’s memorial that all can benefit from! The Ministerial Association was able to meet, but due to the severe weather and church cancellations, the decision was made to cancel our annual Pulpit Exchange on Jan 14th . Visits to church members had to be canceled or postponed. Phone calls were made instead to check on the well-being of those stuck indoors. At Simpson, worship services have continued to be held on Friday mornings by one of 4 pastors (including myself) who rotate each week. Our Disciples Cluster held their monthly meeting via Zoom and then the region held its Minister’s Institute for several days of training at the end of the month. Due to a fall on the ice, I missed my scheduled Zoom Presbytery meeting. CYG began with our annual FUN night at WLCF, but had to be called off the 2nd week due to the extreme temperatures and weather. There has been much prep work also being done to finalize our CYG Spring schedule and summer mission trip to Nashville, TN. WOW also started back up on the 24th, due to the sanctuary work being done on the 17, with a fun movie night and popcorn. Regular office hours were held as weather allowed. Thankfully, we have the capability to work from home if needed. Even with this month’s weather concerns, our faith community managed to get down the

Advent decorations and enjoy a potluck meal together after the Annual Meeting. In addition to my regular duties, I have been heavily working on confirmation and Lenten preparations, and doing research for online giving before meeting with the Stewardship Committee. On a personal note, Lee Ann and I made a quick trip

to Peoria, IL to support a dear friend in the passing of her husband. While it has been a challenging month with scheduling and rescheduling events, I am once again grateful for the many hands and hearts that have stepped in to assist. Giving thanks we are one step closer to Spring ;)

Respectfully submitted,
Pastor Deb Mann

As the Board

ONGOING BUSINESS:

1. Church
 - a. Canopy – Bob requests this item be tabled until Missy can be present for discussion
 - b. Sanctuary water damage – No information provided. Bob suggests this item also be tabled until Missy can be present for discussion. Board members asked :
 - i. Has the insurance company had been contacted? Many structures are getting benefit of roof repair and/or replacement due to storm damage
 - ii. Has the local vendor provided any feedback at all, or expressed interest to bid?
 - iii. Is it time to seek another vendor such as West Branch Roofing or Meza Construction?
 - c. Committee to review online giving – Pastor Deb has received a few suggestions/options from congregation members. Denominations have provided resources currently in use by other churches. Pastor Deb will look at reviews of these websites/resources and will work with stewardship members and others to see if other tools are useful for FCU.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Endowment Committee Update on church camp – Mary explained the Endowment Committees decision toward funding 2024 summer camp expenses for families served by FCU. An information sheet was created for parents and families who would like to request financial support.
2. Digital Signage – After receiving requests from congregation members to improve our existing sign, Mary contacted a vendor for whom she received favorable referral from another church. A demonstration was made to a small group of FCU members earlier in the day. Copies of the vendor quote (approx. \$40,000) and a recommendation from the demo group were shared with the Board. Rob requested approval to proceed with the project and volunteered to lead a fundraising campaign to the congregation. Board members, with Treasurer input, agreed to use accumulated interest from one of the special endowed funds to supplement the project if needed. Motion to approve; unanimous approval.

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

PRAYER CONCERNS SHARED/CLOSING PRAYER

NEXT MEETING March 7, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.