**Flossmoor Community Church**

**Governing Board Meeting DRAFT Minutes**

Tuesday, December 13, 2016 7:00 pm

FCC Family Room

“Now to each one the manifestation of the spirit is given

for the common good” 1 Corinthians 12:7

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*Inspired by the Risen Christ*

*We*

*Seek – Connect - Serve*

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Members Present: Sue Detrick, Dana Dolan, Sue Durkin, Rick Hanzelin, Karen Hoag, Esther Jenkins, Denise Morris, Betty Jo Norby, Kim O’Lone, Chris Reidel, Tim Sullivan, Shari Sweeney, Nils Wickstrom

Staff Present: Betsy Hanzelin, Fred Lyon, Jen Sykes

Members Excused: Deb Robertson, Linda Gilley

OPENING PRAYER (Nils)

JOYS & CONCERNS

DEVOTION (Fred – “Waking up White” discussion)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES The November 7, 2016 GB meeting minutes were approved as amended to reflect that Anna Carvalho was not absent from the meeting, but rather had resigned her position at the time of the meeting.

TREASURER’S REPORT (Chris) The number of pledging units is up from last year, but the plate offering is down “dramatically”. Not sure why that is. However, overall the state of the budget looks good with expenses under budget.

PASTOR’S REPORT The church is still going through “trying times” as we cope with a number of deaths. On a more upbeat note, Fred noted that Katelyn, the new head of children’s ministries, is a welcome addition, and he feels good about the cohesiveness of the staff.

NEW BUSINESS

Building Church Membership (Shari): Small groups spent time discussing three questions related to “Growing our Church”: the unique role of the community church; reasons to grow the church; and ways to be more relevant and engaged with the community. A discussion followed.

Feedback re: Sunday worship (Shari): A short questionnaire asking to provide brief written feedback re what’s going well in worship/service, and what things that could be added/changed was completed by GB members.

OLD BUSINESS

Board of Lay Ministries (Dana) “FCC Congregational Survey”: Dana reported on the Lay Ministries questionnaire which will be launched the first of the year. The last day for completing the questionnaire will be at the annual meeting on 1/29/17. The survey will provide information re members’ interests/emergency contacts/etc.

90th Anniversary Up-date (Betty Jo): The 90th anniversary celebration will be a dinner in Fellowship Hall, and a dance for all ages at the Community House on February 24. The affair will be casual.

Re-settlement Project Update (Denise): The Syrian family is here and settled into their apartment on the north side of Chicago. Denise reported that the committee needs more volunteers to visit with the family. Ideally, would like for someone from the church to meet with the family every week or every other week.

Diversity Discussion (Shari): Boards/Committees’ discussion of diversity will continue in January and February, with groups reporting back.

PADS Volunteers for January 29: A sheet was circulated for volunteers to sign up.

Executive Session: With the exception of Fred, staff left the meeting and the board went into executive session for approximately 10 minutes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next GB meeting – Tuesday, January 24th, 2017

Annual Meeting and Pot-luck Lunch – Sunday, January 29, 2017 @ 12pm

90th Anniversary Celebration Dinner and Dance – Friday, Feb. 24

CLOSING PRAYER (Rick)

ADJOURNED @ 8:45 pm

(-Thanks to Esther Jenkins for taking minutes. Shari)

**Board of Christian Education**

**Chair – Linda Gilley**

Adult Education Report for January, 2017

Trina Hayes

The four-week discussion of Walter Brueggemann’s *Names for the Messiah* led by Trina Hayes and Pastor Fred Lyon was well received. 20 to 25 people attended each session held the four Sundays before Christmas.

The “Understanding Islam” presentation by Khalid Mozaffar on January 15 attracted many people from the community as well as church members. Attendees found it well-presented and they appreciated being able to ask questions. This was given as a part of the Confirmation 4 Adults class offered by Betsy and Rick Hanzelin that will explore topics that our youth learn in the Disciples Confirmation Class.  The winter offering will focus on understanding other Worship Religions, including Islam, Buddhism and Hinduism. Participants will join the Confirmation Class for part of their retreat and visit a mosque in Frankfort Friday evening, January 27 and the Hindu Temple in Lemont on Saturday morning, January 28. This class illustrates how the new configuration of Adult Education works. Learning about Islam and learning what your youth learn in the Disciples Confirmation Class was one of the most frequently requested offerings in the planning session last May and was also requested by several others.

Our focus for February will be a One-Book-One-Church discussion of the book *Waking Up White*. One-Hour discussions will take place at 11 a.m. and at 4 p.m. on the four Sundays in February. Trina Hayes will facilitate the morning discussion and Pastor Fred Lyon will facilitate the afternoon discussion. Both sessions will break into small groups to discuss the book. The Governing Board has been studying and discussing the book and we hope that Governing Board members will participate in the February discussions. Sign-up will be online or in the Gathering Space.

Children’s Ministries

Katelyn Keller

We have our community event, Blizzard Blast, happening on 1/20 and everything is looking good for that. We hope to have 75 children from 1st-6th grades in attendance to enjoy games, snacks, and dancing.  We're also working on improving volunteer outreach for Sunday School teachers. Our third graders will be starting their 4-week Bible study course during Sunday School on 2/12 and will be presented with their Bibles during service on 3/12.

Allison Billings

Youth Ministries

What we’ve been working on:

We had a great break from YM for Christmas & New Years.

January 8th Children’s & Youth hosted a joint event to set up for PADS guests.  It was great!  Very well attended and offered a chance for our youth and children to get to work together.

What we have coming up:

Kicking off Group for the Spring Semester 1/15/17

Disciples class serving PADS 1/22

Disciples World Religions Retreat 1/28-1/29

Sophs Sex Retreat 2/3-2/5

Tribes will be collecting for Souper Bowl of Caring on Sunday 2/5 during worship.  All proceeds will be donated to Respond Now.

Aside from regular programming, our work trip team will be meeting 1/17 to get the ball rolling on our fundraising and additional prep for our trip in June – Very exciting!

Weekday Preschool

Marji O’Leary

Enrollment at 114. A couple of families withdrew at the end of December, (change of schedule/moving) and families from waiting lists filled these spots. Also several new enrollees starting in Parent/Tot program in January. Preschool classes currently full.

New registration materials went out before winter break for Winter/Spring Enrichment classes. The response has been very good and we are looking to see if we can add sections to classes where interest has exceeded space! Classes will start in mid-January.

Marji continues to work with the SSAEYC (South Suburban Association for the Education of Young Children) Board as President-Elect, co-editing the newsletter, and the Public Policy and Advocacy co-chair. A number of events are being planned for spring including a Directors’ Network meeting with a pediatrician to discuss vaccinations, health and wellness issues, a Teachers’ Workshop on Promoting Social/Emotional Competence and a children’s concert for families and school groups.

Marji continues to attend NINPA meetings and the group is working on planning their second annual child care symposium in the spring.

The preschool had the classroom floors and rugs professionally cleaned over break as they were showing signs of wear. We are looking into having rugs replaced.

Looking ahead:

The second Dine Out for Weekday Fundraiser will be held at Portillo’s in Homewood on February 21, from 5 – 8pm. 20% of purchases will be donated back to the preschool.

The WPPA is also planning the Winter Family Fun Event for Saturday, February 25.

Amanda Irwin

WPPA

● Our next dine out event will be held on February 21st at Portillo’s in Homewood from

5pm-8pm. The Preschool will receive 20% back on food purchases.

● Christmas Angels was a great success! I went with to deliver the gift to the family and it was a

wonderful experience! we were able to supply them with a full size crib, mattress, and

changing table that was graciously donated by a family in the area. Along with those items we

were able to provide the family with clothes, gift cards, and even a few toys for the kids.

● Family Fun Day will be held on Saturday February 25th from 10-11:30am.

● Butter Braid Fundraiser will begin on March 13th with orders due by the 24th. Butter Braids

will be delivered on April 11th or 12th, right in time for Easter.

● Our next playground cleanup will be on April 8th

**Report to Governing Board**

**From Board of Congregational Life**

The Board met at 7 pm on Monday, January 9

**Highlights**

Organized work teams for the potluck/congregational meeting on January 29

Continued planning on 90th Anniversary Party – Friday, February 24

* Name is “Cheers to 90 Years”
* Decision to make this a free event, to include EVERYONE. Dress and dinner will be casual.
* Dinner in Fellowship Hall from 6:30 – 7:30 pm, followed by games and dancing with a DJ and a toast at 8 pm.
* Publicizing via posters, Facebook Event, Website and an invitation sent to active members and visitors.
* RSVP online or at Gathering Desk

**Hopes**

That our events our successful, well attended, and provide an opportunity for connections between people of all ages.

**Report of the Diaconate**

**To the Governing Board**

**January 2017**

Highlights:

* The Diaconate Board with the assistance of members of the congregation

delivered more than 70 poinsettias which had graced our sanctuary at

Christmas, to members of the congregation who have experienced loss,

recently been hospitalized, are facing illness, or just need a little encouragement.

* During the last several months members of the Diaconate prepared and

served at many Memorial receptions for church members. At our last

meeting Sue Durkin, chair, thanked the Diaconate members for the many

hours they sacrificed to make these receptions possible.

Hopes

* After much discussion of how to create a database of emergency contact

information for church members for pastoral use and Diaconate use,

the Diaconate succeeded in including a request for this information

on the Church Survey being collected through the Lay Ministries Board.

* The Diaconate Board desperately needs to add to our list of volunteers

for assisting with the meal ministry, transportation ministry and

volunteers to serve at memorial receptions. Our hope is that we might receive some additional names from the current church survey.

Action Items

The Diaconate currently does not have any action items requiring

Governing Board approval.

**Board of Lay Ministries - Governing Board Report**

***From January 17, 2016 Meeting***

**Accomplished**

* Congregation Survey launched on January 1st, with 65 completed surveys in to-date, with 2 weeks to go until survey deadline of January 29th. Survey promotions with the congregation still in motion.

**Next Steps:**

* **Connect & Involve - Survey:** Developing a process for getting the congregation’s interests and ideas out to Board, Committees and program leads in February and March for follow-up.
* **Connect & Involve - Survey:** Updating the church database and membership directory with updated contact information from surveys.
* **Connect & Involve:** Assisting Board of Congregational Life with 90th anniversary party on February 24th.
* **Membership Development:** Preparing for next Inquirers’ Meeting on Sunday, February 12th from 11 – 2 p.m.
* **Membership Development:** Chip Young will attend Race Talk on Tap for the Board and report back on program.
* **Membership Development:** Board agreed to prioritize three initiatives to launch this spring, with the goal of getting the word out about FCC, engaging the Community, and ultimately helping attract more visitors and new members:
  1. **Promote and spread the word about existing church events in the Community**

(e.g. H-F Chronicle, Flossmoor Village newsletter, postings – from social media to bulletin boards, sponsoring Little League teams, postcard mailings to south suburban residents, etc.)

* 1. **Start a “Share What You Love” about FCC communications campaign with a new symbol** to use in communications as a visual reminder to think about inviting friends and neighbors to FCC programs that you love such as Youth Group, Children’s’ Blizzard Blast, Women’s & Men’s Association lunches, Lenten programs and Easter services, etc.
  2. **Plan and host a quarterly calendar of all-Community events at Community House** (e.g. Flossmoor Forum on community concerns, speaker series for parents of youth, topics on diversity and race, Ted Talks, open Mic music and the arts, tutoring program for kids, etc.)

**Nominating Committee**

**Karen Hoag, Chair**

**Hopes**

We will need to fill the following board/committee vacancies

* Member, Children’s Ministries, for the term ending 2019 replacing Cheryl Barbaro
* Member, Lay Ministries, term ending 2017 replacing Carolyn Parsons
* Member, Long Range Vision, for term ending 2017 replacing Anna Carvalho
* Member, Diaconate Board, for term ending 2019 replacing John Schneider
* Member, Finance for term ending 2018 replacing Diana Ferguson-Staton

**Action Items**

Plans from the most recent meeting that require Governing Board approval

**Motion(s)**

*Approve Chip Young as member of Lay Ministries replacing Dwayne Staton with term ending in 2018.*

**Rationale(s)**

*Chip Yong is an active member of FCC. He is a Stephen Minister and member of the Praise Ensemble. Dana Dolan, Chair of Lay Ministries, has had extensive conversations with Chip about the work of Lay Ministries, and he is excited to serve.*

**Outreach Committee**

**Esther Jenkins**

**Hopes**

*Plans for the future*

BOM will host a showing of the Netflix documentary “13th” on Sunday, February 12, 4-6 p.m. in the chapel. The film explores the historical roots of mass incarceration of Black Americans. The title of the film refers to the 13th amendment that abolished slavery, except for criminals. The showing is open to the community. A discussion will follow the film.

**Resettlement Committee**

**Denise Morris**

**Highlights**

* Family arrived Nov. 9th  thanks to a fabulous team.
* Receiving services from Refugee One; English classes, tutoring, transportation passes. The oldest boy has enrolled in school.
* FCC members (primarily the Morris family) will have visited 5 times since arrival. They all seem happy and very welcoming.
* Communication remains difficult but improving. We utilize Google Translation Ap. Difficult to assess all needs. Communication continues to be limited with Refugee One.
* Website has raised $2975. Refugee One requests $6000-$8000 per family to assist in expenses. We will be sending a check for $5025 this week so that our donation will be $8000. This will cover their rent for 6 months.
* We still have funds available for other needs, from the Outreach Board funds and also from private donations.

**Hopes**

* Have not had a meeting of the group but will be holding one on January 25th to discuss further educational activities for the congregation, other outreach ideas, and plans for visits.
* To continue to assist assimilation for the Mahbani family.
* To get committed volunteers to visit regularly.

**“No Report” from the following Boards and Committees:**

Personnel Committee – Tim Sullivan, Chair

Worship & Arts – Rick Hanzelin, Chair

Properties Committee – Sue Detrick, Chair