



HOPE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Congregational Meeting

Agenda

February 25th, 2024

[Meeting Slide Presentation](#)

AGENDA & MINUTES:

- Welcome & Call to Order (Nellamor King)
 - Called to order at 12:25
- Opening Prayer (Pastor Amber Henry-Neuroth)
- Certification of Quorum (Kathy Chamberlain)
 - 33 out of 84 present or by proxy and have met quorum
- Hope UCC Covenant (All)
- Investment Update (Nellamor King)
 - \$100,000 of capital campaign funds invested in Cornerstone fund
 - 3.5% interest for 6 month term
 - Maturity June 5, 2024
- Building & Grounds Update (Marion Ekpuk)
 - Lots has been done this year! Playground, parking lot, outlets, thermostat, etc.
- Proposed: [Weapons Policy](#)
 - Questions were raised about the language in the statutes “without good and sufficient reason”
 - Request for stronger language around the prohibition of firearms and who is responsible for enforcing this policy

- Request for clarity around the conceal carry statutes
- We will clarify the language and bring this to the June congregational meeting for a vote
- Treasurer's Report (Doug James)
 - Currently at 57% income
 - Expenses 49%
 - 55% of pledge income, \$16,800 prepaid pledges
 - December pledges were very high
 - While we have a \$22,000 surplus right now but this will diminish over the next several months
 - Plate is at 31% so trending lower than expected
 - Rental income at 51%
 - Fundraiser Income 75%
 - Personnel 51%
 - Operating 43%
 - Admin expenses 45%
 - Capital Projects Fund
 - Total \$68,410
 - Income: \$95,696 (Bethel Grant)
 - Expenses: \$40,500 (Parking lot), \$2771 Airfare
 - Building Fund
 - Total: \$125,009
 - Income: \$ 2630
 - Expense: \$9,019
 - 100,000 investment with Cornerstone
 - Grand total of \$225,009 building fund
 - \$369,261 Grant total of all accounts
- Proposed: [Financial Bylaws Amendments](#) (Doug James)
 - We will not address the endowment fund edits today but will move this to a future Congregational Meeting
 - There was concern over the lack of inventory of property owned by the church-This should be done, but not by the Treasurer
 - Concern brought up over use of Ensure, Confirm or Assure would be better
 - Maintain or cause to be maintained is the legalistic answer
 - Motion to approve the financial bylaws as a package. (Including change from "ensure" to "maintain or be maintained")
 - Amanda Barton seconded
 - Motion carried

- Capital Building Project Update & Discussion (Kristine Sedey & Nellamor King)
 - *Please see meeting slides for at top of this document to view slide presentation*
 - Question about permits was raised. A building construction permit is included in the grand total
 - Goals of the original project were both a better welcome and more space
 - Detail of projects and possible paths forward are in the slides
 - Worries about putting ourselves in debt with the loan, but it is important to do something (maybe only the bathroom or doors and bathroom)
 - Concern about the current elevator brought up
 - How many people have left because of it?
 - On borrowed time with the current elevator
 - Celebration of the work that this team has done and the faithfulness of the team and congregation
 - Suggestion of looking into improving the exterior for accessibility rather than focusing on the elevator
 - Team will formalize a specific way to collect feedback, ideas and ways to move forward from congregation

- Thank you for Attending (Nellamor King)

- Closing Prayer (Pastor Dawn Jefferson)
 - Closed at 1:47