



Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes

Date: January 28, 2018

First United Church of Oak Park, IL

Convening in the sanctuary, moving to Centennial Hall for lunch and program.

Rev Britt Cox offered an opening prayer. Moderator Kelly Pollock called the meeting to order at 12:08 pm. Clerk Barbara Metric verified a quorum of the membership was present.

I. Presentation and Action on the Proposed 2018 Church Budget

Kelly Pollock discussed the specifics of the budget. \$643K in pledges, with \$65K in regular non-pledged dollars. We believe this to be the new norm. Kelly shared not all items requested by committees were approved. Q&A followed: We expect to form PNC in the late spring, but to have interim through 2018 so no budget in 2018 for permanent lead pastor. The budget was approved with a negative balance just under -\$10K. Finance feels we have up to \$10K in cash reserves (checking acct) to cover the difference, so this negative was acceptable by Finance. 2017 is expected to come in at -\$28,766, due to almost \$50K in unexpected, unplanned expenses (HVAC, bridge building). We are relying on cash reserves (checking acct) to cover. The Moderator confirmed that we received a partial distribution from another planned gift in 2017, but that we have to receive the final distribution of this gift before we decide the best allocation. Every month there is a balance sheet, Maureen Wheeler (CPA) is finalizing some corrections and then a monthly balance sheet and annual balance will be published monthly. We are pleased to announce all Full time staff have access to health insurance – either through spouses or through First United. Gene Armstrong shared an update on the Gephart Fund: it is subject to draw restrictions, can't exceed 5%, the same as other general draw funds. It is not available to general church operating expenses.

Action: Joanne Despotes moved to pass the 2018 budget. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

II. Prayer of Blessing

Rev Deborah Kapp led the congregation in Centennial Hall singing “Johnny Applesseed”.

III. Program: Alive. Share. Potential.

Everyone was asked to take a picture of something that is meaningful to them at Church. In Centennial Hall, after lunch, every person at each table was asked to explain how the photo: makes them feel alive at First United, makes them want to share something about First United with others, and what potential they see here. Discussions continued, focusing on what the pictures tell us about GOD at First United. Each table shared their answer to that at the end.

IV. Adjournment and Closing Prayer

Jamie Shamhart moved to adjourn at 1:49pm. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. Rev. Lydia Mulkey led the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Metric, Clerk