

BUCC Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes

June 9, 2024

In-person, Fellowship Hall

1. Opening Prayer- Pastor Diane 11:14 a.m.
2. Call to order- R. Dechert
3. Verification of Quorum- R. Dechert Clearly had a quorum, meeting started 11:16 am
4. Leadership Council Annual Report
 - a. Pastor Dawn was unable to attend the meeting. Pastor Dawn's statement was read by Diane, thanking Ron for his service as president and to all other serving in elected positions. Diane shared that Dawn is grateful for the work with did with LMPC. Diane shared her thanks as well to the congregation.
 - b. Ron encouraged everyone to read Dawn's complete report. Focus next year is to finish bylaws work by the end of this summer, writing church profile, establishing a pastoral search committee, and starting the search. This could take 12 months or more. Diane encouraged congregation to call or email with any questions on the report.
 - c. Overview of FY23/24
5. Ministry Team Reports
 - a. Education, Eileen Koprowski – Summary of activities - Advent project – mitten tree, Lent Heifer Project, which was very successful, and pretzels. Thanks for everything the congregation does to support Education team and the kids. She looks forward to growing the group. They will have some summer activities but not formal Sunday School.
 - b. Youth Young Adult, Katie Rowan – She has been the leader for 6 years and is going out this year. Group has diminished but we look forward to when the littles grow up into the youth group. Youth are drawn to service opportunities – service projects, Food Gatherers, Crop Walk, Habitat for Humanity. The team provides Graduate Recognition and care packages / gift cards for college kids. Special thanks to Jesse's ongoing assistance and P.J. Lindemann as the Leadership Council liaison.
 - c. Outreach – no chair currently. Donations were made to Food Gatherers, Alpha House, and Peace Neighborhood Centers as budgeted. There were other special projects to raise money and donate goods throughout the year. Thanks to all.
 - d. Member Care, Jenny Foster – Co-Chair with Judy Coucouvanis, who is not here today. Thanks to the team of 8 - Judy, Dindy Haab, Karen Goforth, Jackie Katz, Nan Lefton, Mary Jean Raab, and Pastor Diane. Dindy does a great job with the prayer chain. There are over 30 people in the chain. Mary Jean facilitates grief materials for families who experience a loss, Nan writes cards of recognition and support to homebound members. They have sponsored coffee hours and encouraged others to adopt a coffee hour. We are ALL Member Care.
 - e. Stephen Ministry, Kurt Schmerberg – This is a home-based ministry. We currently have 4 qualified Stephen ministers. There is currently only one active care receiver. If you know of anyone who could benefit, please reach out to Kurt. It is generally a short-term relationship, but they tend to develop ongoing longer-term connections. Receivers are confidential. Kurt would love to do another class to train more Stephen ministers.
 - f. Facilities, Steve Daar – Parsonages were upgraded for rental through Reinhardt. Steve and team supervise Bill Husted's tasks. Team came in \$4k under budget. Steve offered thanks to the entire team. John Erwin is negotiating new contracts for utilities. Expect an increase in utilities next year of \$2k. New AC in the office is being installed this month. No major updates planned for next year.

There will be some mortar repair. The elevator has been pushed out to 2028.

- g. Cemetery Board, Mary Jean – Thanks to Ron as Leadership Council liaison, and thanks to the entire team. Jim Lutz concluding his 6th year but will still advise as needed. All other members will remain. Marilyn will be elected. Thanks to Sue Buday in supporting the transition from the church office support to managing on their own. It was a very busy year. The new website is launched, with the primary focus to make information available including prices for the cemetery. Vets Life program – Mike and Dindy Haab are very active with this. Every year they find more people that need to be recognized. Adding lights for safety. Received a proposal from local architect to add a small area for natural burials. 75% cremations now which has changed the cemetery business. Other upcoming projects include a proposal for the unpaved roads, tree work, other maintenance. Reports are available in the Visitor and in the annual report packet. Mary Jean welcomes questions. Thanks to Jim Lutz for his 6 years.
 - h. Cemetery finances – annual report includes last year’s report.
 - i. \$62k checking
 - ii. \$831k perpetual care
 - iii. \$346k Cemetery association account – money is pulled from this account when needed.
 - i. Welcome – refer to report, Jane not here today. We are all Welcome – encourage everyone every day to Welcome
 - j. LEADERSHIP COUNCIL – Refer to report. Thanks to all the volunteers! Quick rundown of the year:
 - i. Annual meeting last year we had an open senior pastor position.
 - ii. July – Pastor Dawn was hired
 - iii. Summer – Art Fair parking
 - iv. Fall – Rally Day, fall cleanup, football parking
 - v. All Church Potluck, rebuilding fellowship and restarting coffee hour
 - vi. Advent – Hanging of the greens, Advent Workshop, special Christmas services
 - vii. Winter – archive room was set up, Bethlehem moments by John Schmale
 - viii. Spring -- spring cleanup, hosted visiting choir, anniversary open house, hosted domestic violence film
 - ix. Thanks to all the volunteers - ushers, AV support, door openers
6. Review of current and proposed budget-T. Krell, P.J. Lindemann
- a. See report and slides in annual report packet - P.J. presented the actual revenue and expenses for the year versus the budget, and then compared the proposed budget to the actuals for the year. The balance sheet was also reviewed, and she confirmed that the balance sheet ties to the bank balances.
 - b. Call for vote for proposed FY 24/25 budget
 - i. There was a motion to approve budget as presented. Motion was seconded.
 - ii. Discussion – Mary Jean noted that none of the church operating funds are spent on the cemetery. She also asked how the rentals will proceed moving forward now that Ron has completed his position on Leadership Council. There are contracts/agreements in place. We use Reinhardt for the house rentals, Religious Rentals for the facility rentals by other religious organizations, and direct contracts for the local use of gyms. Gwen handles the day-to-day activities related to the agreements.
 - iii. After discussion, the budget was unanimously approved.
7. Review of elected officer openings and nominations- R. Dechert
- a. See report of openings and volunteers for election
 - b. Add Steve Daar to the election roster for Facilities to ensure it is properly documented.
 - c. Any volunteers/nominees from the floor? None.
 - d. Questions re. unfilled positions

- i. liaison from council will support
 - ii. Leadership Council can appoint people to open positions for the remainder of the year
 - iii. Possible restructure of governance as we continue the work on the by-laws and make recommendations to the congregation.
8. Call for vote on elected officer nominations – Motion to approve slate of volunteers with the addition of Steve Daar. Motion seconded and approved unanimously.
9. New business from congregation – add language to by-laws to allow for electronic meetings per report
 - a. Motion to approve language was made and seconded, approved unanimously.
10. Kurt Schmerberg moved that we approved last year’s minutes with amendment re. treasurer – P.J. was moved from Secretary to Treasurer at the end of the meeting. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.
11. Diana Slaughter offered thanks to Ron especially as well as all volunteers.
12. Prayer of adjournment- Pastor Diane Meeting adjourned at 12:30