

Winter Congregational Meeting December 12, 2021

In person and streamed via youtube

Meeting bell at 11:06 am

Rev. Oscar provided opening words and lit the chalice

Keith McGuffy described voting method, conducted online after the meeting online and through mailed paper ballots. Quorum based on votes counted. Votes will be valid if received within 48 hours.

Welcome by Lori Straatman

President's report was given by Lori Straatman. Report on activities over the year. Membership is steady. Happy to back in person. Pledge drive has been sufficient. Staffing is steady. Congregational wishes include more diversity on committees, more art, coffee house, more anti-racism work, adopting 8th principle, in-person engagement, capital campaign for new leadership, diversity in leadership, unstructured social activities, and recognition of staff. New church year priorities are:

1. Deepen connections and increase engagement with church community including children, youth, and adults
2. Continue engagement with dismantling racism, addressing climate change, and recertifying LGBTQIA welcoming status.
3. Timeline and plan for building and grounds maintenance and replacement needs.

Lori reported that there were no significant staff raises but there is a plan in place for raising salaries to mid-range, but the board did approved end-of-year bonuses to staff and minister.

Judy Hart provided report on church's participation in Beloved Conversations program. Church has completed Within phase and is currently participating in Among phase (with 20 members participating).

Dorothy Ramsey provided report from LUF committee, on behalf of Kristi Wamstead, president of LUF.

Theresa Forsman presented the proposed 2022 budget. Increases including insurance premiums, heat. 2021 income is at 110% of budgeted income, including Paycheck Protection Program grant. 2021 expenses are lower than expected, leaving surplus of ~\$50,000. \$20,000 that surplus will be put towards 2022 income. Thanks to Bruce Raymer for matching donation in pledge drive, the congregation raised the full match. Floor opened for questions. Congregation is asked to vote on this matter.

Lori proposed change in Rev. Oscar's title to Senior Minister. The congregation is asked to vote on this matter.

Nominations Committee (report provided by Lori). Nomination name provided on December 2nd, so the Board is asking Congregation to suspend 2-week review period. Kristi Wamstead has been nominated to continue on the Nominations Committee. Congregation is asked to vote on the 2-week rule suspension and on the nomination.

Oscar provided the Minister's Report.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 pm

Addendum:

The Congregation voted and approved by electronic ballot to:

- Approve the change in Rev. Oscar Sinclair's title to Senior Minister,
- Suspend the 2-week review period for the nomination of Kristi Wamstad to continue on the Nominations Committee
- Approve Kristi Wamstad for continuation on the Nominations Committee.