



Winter Congregational Meeting Minutes

First Christian Church

January 22, 2023, following the Church Service

The meeting was called to order by board president, Scott Hays-Strom at 11:32.

The number of members attending was 26 (present in the sanctuary and via zoom) – the quorum is met for the meeting.

Scott prefaced the meeting by stating God blessed our church as we go through change and to look at the joy into the next year.

1. Congregational Meeting Reports

a. Pastor Search – Given by Scott Hays-Strom

- i. Extended Pulpit Fill Pastor – Rev. Patrick Crocker for the next 6 months. His duties have been extended to include preparation and preaching for services and provide pastoral care for congregational members in need. Note: The board decided to use an extended term pastor instead of an interim pastor.
- ii. Search Committee for a Settled Pastor
The search committee is charged with creating a church profile to understand the type of pastor to search for.

Pastor Search Committee:

Ralph Holmes
Lynn Brightman
Sue Stefford-Grey
Aletta Wilson
Julie Wojtko

b. Event Committee – This committee will head both internal and external events. They will organize the events but will need our help to be successful.

- i. Internal events include church potlucks, welcoming and other similar events.
- ii. External events include local community events where the church should have a presence, for example Pride and other festivals.

2. Elections – Led by Scott Hays-Strom

Board Slate:

Past President	None
President	Esther Devall
President Elect	Scott Hays-Strom
Treasurer	Bruce Weber
Secretary	Karen Holmes
Finance Secretary	Eric Hays-Strom
Member-at-Large	Sherry Woods (2 years)
Member-at-Large	Phil Brooks (2 years)

No nominations from the floor – The board slate was approved.

Elders:

Deb Cook
Paul Cook
Patrick Crocker
Esther Devall
Scott Hays-Strom
Kamy McKenzy-Shaw
Melissa McKenzy-Shaw
Sandy Weber

The elders are appointed and not elected. No one requested to join the elders. Persons may join the group later if feel called. Do not need to wait until next year’s elections.

Deacons:

Steve Blink (1 year)
Melissa McKenzy-Shaw (2 years)
Mary Lou Pendergrass (1 year)
Virginia Rice (2 years)
Dave Wofford (1 year)
Lyn Wofford (1 year)
Julie Wojtko (2 years)

No nominations from the floor – The slate of Deacons was approved.

Pastoral Support Committee:

Deb Cook

This position is appointed from the board. Deb Cook is approved for the position in the Pastoral Support Committee.

Building and Grounds:

Dave Wofford – agreed to continue as the Director of Building and Grounds

3. Budget – Presented by Bruce Weber

There were no questions with the presented budget and it was approved.

2023 Proposed Operating Budget - January 22, 2023	2022 Actual	2023 Budget
OPERATING INCOME		
Giving to the General Fund	109,869.63	\$106,604.00
Building Use: Contract & Non-Contract	20,420.00	19,980.00
INCOME SUBTOTAL	\$130,289.63	\$126,584.00
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Administration & Property Personnel	\$32,555.18	\$33,191.38
Minister: Salary + Housing + FICA Offset + Benefits	\$51,485.15	\$0.00
Extended Term Supply Pastor	10,598.29	42,000.00
Hourly: Office Admin/Video Technologist + Sexton	24,787.13	26,733.37
Payroll Taxes on Hourly Employees + Workers Comp	2,894.55	3,095.10
Committee/Activities: Advertising; On-line Services, etc.	3,145.12	3,611.04
Outreach: DoC, UCC, El Calvario	4,603.00	5,618.00
EXPENSE SUBTOTAL	\$130,068.42	\$114,248.89
ADJUSTMENTS: Special Gifts / 2023 Search Committee	\$5,000.00	-\$8,000.00
OPERATING INCOME - EXPENSE (Suprlus/Deficit)	\$5,221.21	\$4,335.11
Offerings to Church Improvements / Maintenance Reserve	16,267.00	10,496.00

4. Strategic Plan – Presented by Scott Hays-Strom

The 5 year strategic plan for FCC is located in the FCC Board of Directors shared drive.

[FCCBoardofDirctors/2 FCC Strategic Planning/ FCC Strategic Plan 2023.docx](#)

The 5 Year Strategic plan is for the years 2023 – 2027.

The goals of the strategic plan are:

- Strengthen Relationships – not only during worship.
- Make Connections –
 - Through digital means like Facebook, social media and web pages.
 - Outreach through our community here in Las Cruces and in the Southwest. Our neighborhood is changing with the addition of new senior housing.
 - We should have a presence at all possible events.
- Build Foundations – This includes both physical and social foundation building.
 - Our facility needs – acknowledge the limitations and work to make it more accessible.
 - Outreach programs
 - New Mexico State University invited FCC to join their Interfaith Council.

Comment from Ric Brightman and Scott that the plan will be re-evaluated every 30, 60, 90 days to ensure it is relevant.

The strategic plan was approved.

The congregational meeting closed at 11:42.

Submitted by Karen Holmes,
Secretary