

Flossmoor Community Church

Governing Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 19, 2019 – 7:00 pm – FCC Family Room

2019: FCC's Year of Caring, Community, and Congregational Engagement

Members Present: Dana Dolan, Sharon Dobben, Theresa Gibbons, Linda Gilley, Lois Glasgow, Rosanne Goodrich-Schutz, Rick Hanzelin, Esther Jenkins, Betty Jo Norby, Vanessa Richardson, Chris Riedel, Phyllis Royster, Jennifer Wojcikowski

Staff: Pastor Fred Lyon

Members Excused: Tim Sullivan, Stephanie Byrd, Christian Kneeland

OPENING PRAYER (Dana Dolan)

JOYS & CONCERNS

Were shared

DEVOTION (Jen Wojcikowski)

“We’re Going on a Bear Hunt” Lenten Devotional Exercise – Questions:

- 1) Who or What is the “Bear”? Who or what are you really seeking in this Lenten Journey?
- 2) What one thing will you take up to deepen your journey and/or the journey of others/FCC?
- 3) What one thing will you put down to deepen your journey and/or the journey of others/FCC?
- 4) In the Bear Hunt, they’re journeying to a cave. In Lent, we’re journeying to the Tomb. What or how do you seek to be transformed when you get there?

APPROVAL OF MINUTES from February 26, 2019

Motion presented, granted. Minutes were approved.

TREASURER’S REPORT (Chris Riedel)

- Are currently below expected revenues by about 20%, but that’s somewhat expected because the budget is divided all 12 months and we are only 3 months into the fiscal year
- Staff is monitoring expenses closely. Are over slightly in some areas, but those are the areas where we have to pay in advance (such as funeral expenses) and will then get reimbursed
- A “reserve” fund was created which protects any left-over revenue from last year to be drawn upon if needed
- Cash position is strong right now
- The FCC Foundation has not yet made any contributions (which was intentional because they were waiting for the market to pick up). Now that the market is improving and they’re seeing a stronger return, they will disburse their annual contribution
- More inquiries about the Community House for weddings, so we may see an increase in those rental fees this fiscal year

PASTOR’S REPORT (Pastor Fred)

- Looking for a new Director of Church Operations (to replace Jenny Sykes); the duties are being divided among staff in the interim
 - Jamie Ford is going to be taking care of properties
 - Shari Sweeney is managing the financial side of the operations (in collaboration with Judy Jensen)
 - Hoping to have someone on board before May or early into May
 - Dana shared a thank you note from Jenny to the Governing Board
- Lent is going well – good turnout for Ash Wednesday
- Will be having a meeting of the Long Range Vision Committee and select Governing Board Representatives on 3/31 to explore the possibility of having an Associate Pastor come; will be discussing the job description and what we can offer financially
 - Fred is asking for prayers that we reach a place where FCC can have an Associate Pastor again
 - Dana added that we will be looking holistically at the whole church staffing model, discerning and dreaming about what the church needs

NEW BUSINESS

- **Outreach** (Esther Jenkins)

Outreach is recommending two organizations to receive funds from the Easter offering – FCC Weekday Preschool (for their Scholarship for families), and Project H.O.O.D.

Action item - Approve Easter offering for:

- FCC Weekday Preschool Scholarships, and
- Project H.O.O.D. (Helping Others Obtain Destiny)

Motion was made to divide the Easter offering between these two organizations. Motion approved.

- **Personnel Update** (Sharon Dobben)

Interim Pastor's Assistant for Pastoral Care – Fred has gotten some responses, Tim Sullivan and others on the committee will be interviewing top choices.

Stephen Ministries members have been helping out as needed in the interim. Fred asked about whether or not a search committee was being formed for the Director of Operations position. Tim Sullivan will be heading that up.

- **FCC Foundation Update** – (Lois Glasgow)

Lois discussed assets that the Foundation is reviewing.

- **Holy Week Worship Services** – Spreading the Word (Pastor Fred and Dana Dolan)

Dana offered posters that were created by Brook for Lent and Easter at FCC, so Governing Board members could hang them throughout the community.

Fred mentioned that there will be special music on Maundy Thursday.

Board discussed how the “bring a friend to church” Sunday went. Dana brought a family; others remarked that they saw some new families. Lois said that she has new neighbors, and likes that we can give a nice door hanger to provide someone new to the community.

Board discussed ways to minimize noise from the PrayGround in church, while still encouraging kids to be in service. Looking into soft blocks rather than legos, removing tables to create a softer, quieter place.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Betsy Hanzelin Sabbatical – through March 24
- Palm Sunday and Bring a Friend to Church Sunday – April 14
- Easter – April 21
- Next GB Meeting – Tuesday, April 23 – 7:00 pm

CLOSING PRAYER (Chris Riedel)

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 8:08pm

Report of the Board of Outreach Ministry To the Governing Board April 23, 2019

Highlights

- At the previous meeting, GB approved Outreach's recommendation of Chicago-based Project HOOD and the FCC Weekday Preschool Scholarship Fund as recipients of this year's Easter Offering.
- On April 7, approximately 10 people attended the BOM Adult Ed hour, "What Is Your Passion", to talk about their volunteer activities and outreach goals for the church.
- On April 13, nine church members attended the 22nd Annual South Suburban Diversity Dinner at Rich South High School in Richton Park.

Future

- BOM will process info from the Adult Ed hour to make recommendations re: church outreach activities.

Submitted by Esther Jenkins, Chair

Report of the Board of Christian Education To the Governing Board April 23, 2019

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES:

Highlights:

- Spring Sing was a hit! Kids and parents did an awesome job.
- Numbers are back up after a long winter of hit and miss attendance
- Palm Sunday was lovely, lots of kids involved and made adorable Holy Week wreaths in Sunday school
- Easter Egg hunt with Bunny are mostly ready to go. Just need people to help place eggs at 9:15 on Sunday morning.

Hopes:

- Sunday Funday is May 5th, last day of Sunday school. Lots of fun bible games planned for outside
- 6th grade crosses being handed out on the 5th as well
- Planning for summer VBS is July 15-18 530-730
- No woo HOO in May, but 2 in June and 1 in August
- Brain storming for kickoff party ideas, as well.

FCC WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL:

- Staffing: The staff meeting March 8 included sharing ideas learned at many of the different conferences teachers had been attending, notes on assessments and observations and discussion about upcoming parent/teacher conference. Our spring meeting April 3 included some spring cleaning of closets, cupboards and supplies. Marji will be meeting with the staff individually in the next few weeks to discuss the past year and goal setting for the next school year.
- Licensing: This was relicensing year for the preschool. (The license is effective for three years and needs to be renewed every three years.) Marji had submitted to Gail Williams, our licensing rep. necessary paperwork in the fall. Ms. Williams visited the preschool February 5 to inspect the facilities and files and certifications and completed the relicensing.
- Enrichments: The winter/spring enrichments will be concluding the end of April and early May. These include Tumble Bears (full), Weekday Health Club (a few openings) and Weekday Scientists (full). Lunch Breaks will continue through mid-May.
- Professional Organizations: Marji took over as President of South Suburban Chapter of IL AEYC in January for a two-year term. We sponsored a couple of programs this spring including: A Directors' Network meeting held March 12 entitled "Strategies to Improve Program Leadership; and a Professional Development training for teachers, "Mud, Pud & Crud, Science in Action" on March 26. NINPA (Northern Illinois Nature Preschool Association) is sponsoring a professional development seminar April 18 - "NINPA at Night". Plans are underway for the Midwest Symposium we are hosting in June at Morton Arboretum.
- Fundraising: We are having a fundraising event at Bookies in Homewood on Sunday, May 5. A percentage of all sales will go back to the preschool when a flyer is presented (by paper or phone) at time of purchase. Special events are also planned during the day including crafts, "Sit, Stay Read" dogs, trained to work with children and a visit from children's book author Katie McElligott.
- Recycling: The preschool has been collecting caps for a recycling project coordinated by the WPPA. The goal is 200 pounds of caps that will be made into a bench for the playground. To date we have 180 pounds of caps cleaned and sorted! We hope to reach our goal of 200 caps as an Earth Day project Tuesday and Wednesday, April 23 and 24. The preschool also collects pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House.
- Registration: Registration for 2019 - 2020 school year will begin in March. We have received 67 registrations as of April 15.

YOUTH MINISTRIES:

Here's what we've been up to:

- Spring Break! We hope all our families had a relaxing week off of school
- Our Work Trip team raised \$1200 through our Wall O' Money Fundraiser which will cover the cost of renting our van for the trip.
- The last Sunday Night Group was April 7th. We had a trade up scavenger hunt which was great! Groups started with a big paperclip and traded them to houses around the neighborhood for all kinds of interesting things like chairs, a microwave, a telescope, & even a lawn mower. Check Facebook for pictures! \

What we have coming up:

- Easter (4/21).
- 4/26-28 is the Quest Spring Retreat to Pilgrim Park

- 5/5 is the last day of Youth Group for the school year.
- Staffer interviews will be the 3rd week in May and our Leadership Team is starting to think about moving lay advisors around, and what the team will look like for the fall.
- I'm also starting to gather pictures for Senior Recognition Sunday in June.

ADULT EDUCATION:

- The Lenten Bible Study led by Jessica Groen and Trina Hayes will continue through May 5. It has consistently had twelve to twenty participants and they are enjoying engaging with the difficult, weird, and troublesome parts of the Bible that had bewildered many previously. Author Rachel Held Evans offers excellent strategies for understanding and wrestling with scripture.
- The Board of Outreach led a program to determine congregational interest in organizations on April 7.
- We've received many ideas for programming for next year.

Submitted by Linda Gilley, Chair

Focus Elder Report to the Governing Board April 23, 2019

- 3/24/19: Seminar was attended by 7 people (5 members & 2 guests)
 - 5 heard about it from Faith Family Matters, 1 Facebook, 1 Pastor Fred mentioned it at the beginning of service.
 - Gena Jones was awesome! She engaged each attendee with an interactive Power Point presentation.
- Next Seminar Possible Topic: Local Female Family Lawyer - Trusts, Wills & Estate Planning
- Another possible topic - FAFSA enrollment in October & checklist to complete prior to registering for the 2019-2020 school year.

Submitted by Rosanne Goodrich-Schutz, Focus Elder

Nominating Committee Report to the Governing Board April 23, 2019

Highlights

- Nominating met again on Sunday April 7 to discuss remaining open spots
- A round 2 roster was created
- A second round of letters have gone out

Hopes

- That the committee's candidates will accept their positions
- That more names will come forth to fill in the missing pieces
- That we will have a full slate by May

Submitted by Theresa Gibbons, Chair

Properties Committee Report to the Governing Board April 23, 2019

Highlights:

- Flat roof above the music patched. Will be contacting multiple roofing companies to estimate cost of replacement.
- Ejector pump in basement workroom replaced.
- WPS exterior door frame was secured and the replacement entry door has been ordered.
- Mulching around building perimeter was completed (first half done in fall of 2018).

In Progress:

- Contacted Nesko for Sanctuary theatre lighting upgrades. Two electricians have already turned down the job, due to the scope of the work. Nesko was the electric company used during Project Sacred Space.
- Scheduling exterior painting of building.
- Considering options for front church door refurbishment vs. replacement.

Submit “No Report”

Board of Congregational Life, Betty Jo Norby
Board of Lay Ministries, Vanessa Richardson
Foundation, Lois Glasgow