

FLOSSMOOR COMMUNITY CHURCH
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, AUGUST 28, 7:00 PM

FCC FAMILY ROOM

"NOW TO EACH ONE THE MANIFESTATION OF THE SPIRIT IS GIVEN
FOR THE COMMON GOOD" 1 CORINTHIANS 12:7

Members present: Stephanie Byrd, Sharon Dobben, Dana Dolan, Theresa Gibbons, Lois Glasgow, Rosanne Goodrich-Schutz, Rick Hanzelin, Esther Jenkins, Betty Jo Norby, Vanessa Richardson, Chris Riedel, Phyliss Royster, Jennifer Wojcikowski

Staff: Betsy Hanzelin, Fred Lyons, Jenny Sykes

Members excused: Linda Gilley, Christian Kneeland, Tim Sullivan

OPENING PRAYER (Dana)

JOYS & CONCERNS were shared

DEVOTION (Dana) Reflection Pastor Fred's sermon: Just Imagine What God Can Do With Us

Discussion focused on how we all have opportunities where we can reach out to others and share our faith through our own particular gifts and in *any* kind of setting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES from June 26, 2018

Minutes were approved as submitted.

TREASURER'S REPORT (Chris)

"Pad the Plate" initiative has been successful, helping to put plate collections ahead of budget

Pledges are tracking reasonably well and special offerings are tracking lower than budgeted

Recent expenditures for community house maintenance went slightly over budget

Overall, currently on track to end fiscal year with a balanced budget

PASTOR'S REPORT (Fred)

Pastor Fred enjoyed his 2 weeks of vacation, looking forward to gearing up for the new program. Currently plan is to have January be a sabbatical month. Pastor Fred will provide the Governing Board with more details as we move closer but overall, plans to be out after Christmas Eve and back January 27th for Annual Meeting.

Question raised about whether or not FCC will be getting another intern soon - Pastor Fred responded that no changes regarding staff are planned unless we have a significant increase in pledging.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

- Governing Board Strategic Planning (Dana)

Focus area was ministry to children and families. Leslie Maxie serving as interim children's ministry director.

- Summer Vacation Bible School

Had 67 children participate in summer vacation bible school, many of whom were new, and over 40 volunteers.

Key takeaway - a week full of energy, meaningful content for kids, well organized, intergenerational interaction - very pleased with the success for our children and families

Governing Board signed a thank you card for Leslie for her efforts this summer

Discussion about whether or not to continue supporting programs like that. All agreed that programs like that promote church growth and wanted to continue a “less is more” approach, focusing on low-cost games/crafts/interaction rather than more complex summer camp programs.

- Summer Community House Fest

Governing Board recognized Brooke King for her work in the successful Community House Summer Fest and signed a thank you card.

Discussion about whether or not to continue supporting this event. All agreed it was an important opportunity to engage the community. Discussion about best time of year (Summer/Spring/Fall) and adding an element for teens. Betsy asked Governing Board Members to email Brooke ideas about doing it again.

- Personnel Update (Pastor Fred)

Leslie Maxie is serving as the interim Children’s Ministry Director. Discussion around future budget planning regarding that position.

- Lay Ministries Board (Theresa)

Down one position for Lay ministries board. Motion was made to approve Jennifer Ermshler coming onto the Lay Ministries board. Motion approved.

- Stewardship Update (Rick)

Stewardship campaign will kick off October 7th and culminate in consecration day on November 4th.

Campaign will focus on where the money is going, the process of pledging, the difference it makes. October 7th will include a video about a “day in the life of the church”

October 7th will focus on the nuts and bolts of the campaign; next 3 Sundays in October will be dedicated to three topics: Abundance, Gratitude, and Hospitality

--want to get folks aligned with what we want to make happen in the church

--and will have Wednesday night Bible study on those topics as well

- Volunteer needs (Betsy and Dana)

Betsy asked for Governing Board Members to sign up to be liturgists

Dana asked for volunteers for Flossmoor Fest on September 8th

PADS – Discussion about Governing Board Members volunteering for PADS. Considering either the 5th Sundays of the month December 30th and March 31st) or pick a few Sundays to host the dinner

Decision was made to host a few dinner dates. Proposed dates will be brought to the next Governing Board meeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS (Dana)

- Read Betsy’s packet about Adult Ed, and the sheet of key meetings and the upcoming congregational meeting
- Reminder – kickoff Sunday is September 9th
- Thursday, August 30th is the Children’s Ministries Kickoff Party

CLOSING PRAYER

ADJOURN – at 8:23pm

**Report of the Diaconate Board
To the Governing Board
September 18, 2018**

Highlights

- Next meeting is scheduled for September 23, 2018
- Pastor Fred conducted an additional education session on Visitation Ministry. Nine (9) Board members were present who were either unable to make the first session or desired a review. Diaconate Board is responsible for supporting hospital visitations weekly on Tuesdays. The education handout and session summary are available for all members.

Hopes

- Barbara Johnson and I have had ongoing discussions regarding the Prayer Shawl Ministry and opportunities for expansion. Areas of interest include: acquiring additional volunteers to donate supplies, make and distribute the shawls. We've discussed the possibility of expanding the ministry to include distribution of the shawls to Nursing Homes located in Flossmoor. Areas of concern include assessing the need/ interest in this project in the community, contacting Nursing Homes in order to determine their process for allowing and supporting the project and determining the level of congregational/ community support required.
- File of Life Medical Notification Project.
I've contacted the File of Life Organization, registered FCC as an organization interested in the program and requested the free informational packet. A review of the online summary presents the program as an opportunity to serve the church and community and provides preparation guidelines. Updates will be provided pending a detailed review of the guidelines and discussion with the Diaconate board members.

Submitted by Phyliss M. Royster, chair

**Report of the Board of Outreach Ministry
To the Governing Board
September 25, 2018**

Highlights

- Outreach voted to give Respond Now \$500 for its 5K "Run for Hunger" scheduled for 9/22.
- Outreach voted to make disbursements in the new year after all funds are in for 2018.
- Lori Tozer presented to the group on her 'life-changing' visit to the Mully Children's Family, a charity for homeless children in Kenya.

Hopes

- Our annual Heartland Blood Drive will be held on October 21.

Action Items

Motion(s)

To divide the World Communion Offering between the Mully Children's Family, a charity for homeless children in Kenya, and the Center for Inclusivity which is a Chicago based group that provides a space for individuals to explore their sexuality and spirituality. As the deadline for sending out the letter to the congregation was before the upcoming GB meeting, the vote was held by email.

Submitted by Esther Jenkins, chair

**Report of the Board of Christian Education
To the Governing Board
September 25, 2018**

Children's Ministries – Leslie Maxie

Highlights:

- Kick-off party was great! Had about 65-70 people there in total. Got 25 kids registered at the party and set the tone for a fun year of Sunday School
- New Season Sunday went well too with 67 kids registered but not enough teachers for all of them;-) 50 of the kids registered showed up and the teachers were able to handle it. Special thanks to Dana Dolan for stepping up and offering to help at the last minute that week.
- 2nd week was less busy with only 34 kids in attendance (many of them communicated with family events and softball going on that they wouldn't be there) Special thanks to Lois Toolan for stepping in to help as a "floater" this week.
- Oct 3rd is our first woohoo Wednesday of the season. We will be doing relay races and would love to have some extra hands!
- Oct 28th is the family Halloween party. It will be from 3-5 in the community house and is open to the community. Asking for Halloween desserts to be donated
- Looking for people to donate snack supplies for the 3-5-year olds weekly, there is a sign up to the left of the CM bulletin boards in the preschool wing, please spread the word! As an example, this week we learned about Joseph and his brother, we made a multicolored coat and had fruit salad with many different colors of fruit to go with the lesson.

Hopes:

- Hoping to get more volunteers. Our current teachers for 1st-4th are only on board for the month of September.
- Hoping to keep all these kids coming. It's a struggle competing with so many other activities.
- Hoping to keep it fun so that they want to be here instead of anywhere else.
- Hoping for a successful woohoo Wednesday coming up!

Youth Department – Allison Billings

Highlights:

- We merged our two high school groups to form one 9th & 10th grade youth group, Quest. So far it's been great!
- Our leadership team went on retreat August 17-19 at Tower Hill Camp in Sawyer, MI. We were lucky to have such beautiful weather for the beach and to start building our teams for the year.
- We have 2 new lay advisors this year; Emma Hanzelin who is working with Quest & Josh Grenard who is working with Tribes
- Sunday 9/9 was our first meeting and we had lots of youth there excited to participate in the year

Hopes:

- Sunday September 30th is our first Sunday Night Group (SNG). We'll be meeting in the community house with all youth for dinner & games.
- Sunday October 7th Youth will be helping in Worship for World Communion Sunday. We'll be using group time the previous week to plan for it.
- Sunday October 7th – Work Trip Information Meeting. June 8-15, 2019 our group will be heading to Staunton, VA to work with Habitat for Humanity and the Calvary United Methodist Food Pantry. This trip is open to all youth class of 2023 and above. The meeting is to get information out about the trip & start getting youth signed up.
- Friday October 12-Sunday October 14th – All of our youth will be on retreat at Tower Hill Camp in Sawyer, MI. This will be the first Junior High Retreat we're leading. The lay advisors & staffers are really looking forward to our groups getting closer!
- Sunday October 28th – Sunday Night Group & our youth will be serving PADS that night. They'll be participating in more than just the meal. We'll be handling the first shift including set up, clean up, serving the meal & making lunches. Since it's so close to Halloween, it will be a like a Halloween Party!

Adult Education – Betsy Hanzelin

October Offerings

Sundays at 11 am, continuation of our Book Study of “Slow Church” led by Jessica Groen.

Wednesday Night Bible Study

“Abundance, Gratitude and Hospitality”

October 3, 10 & 17; 7 – 8:30 pm in the Family Room

Join Pastor Fred in this biblical exploration of the themes in the Economy section of our “Slow Church” book study; abundance, gratitude and hospitality. Together we will explore the fullness of God's blessings, and how we can live as good stewards of our life, with thanks for our blessings and a readiness to share them with others. All are welcome and participation in the book study is not required.

Looking ahead to November ...

- Rebecca & Phil Courington return to lead “Four Gospels, One Jesus” at 11 am in the Family Room.
- Theresa Gibbons will lead a book study on Anne Lamott's newest (Oct. 2018), *Almost Everything: Notes on Hope* at 11 am in the Parlor.

Weekday Preschool – Marji O'Leary

- The 2018 – 2019 school year is off to a fabulous start. Most classes are full although there are a couple of openings for specific age groups and schedules. Parent/Toddler began September 20 with one class meeting in Fellowship Hall on Thursday mornings, 9:15 – 10:15.
- Playground clean-up on August 18 brought out parent volunteers to spruce up the playground for the start of the school year. Bushes and trees were trimmed, sand and wood chips were “fluffed” and raked, toys were cleaned, sorted and checked for safety and loose parts, and a new magna wall purchased with fundraising money was installed. Dan O'Leary also came the following week to sand and paint the playhouse.
- Following the playground clean-up, the Popsicle Social was held on the playground. Many children and their families enjoyed socializing on the playground at this annual event.
- Brendan McCormick, Executive Director at Good Shepherd gave a training “Unlocking the Puzzle of Autism” to the Weekday staff at the staff meeting on September 12. In August the staff also

attended an annual review of Licensing Standards, Health and Safety, Food Safety/Allergy protocols and Universal Precautions, presented by Marji as required by DCFS.

- The preschool will be 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. The preschool continues to collect pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House and used ink cartridges to recycle with Funding Factory.
- Erin Keigher will be starting visits to the 2 and 3 year old classrooms each week in early October, (It is an every other week schedule for the children), for a Language & Literacy circle time. She is also conducting free speech and language screenings for three, four and five year olds. The screenings began the week of September 17.
- Enrichment classes will begin the week of September 24 on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons and include Tumble Bears, STEAM and Weekday Scientists.
- Marji attended the NINPA (Northern Illinois Nature Preschool Association) board of directors meeting September 20 at Morton Arboretum in Lisle. The board meeting was followed by a member meeting where the topic was “what’s in your backpack?” Members brought different ideas for engaging children in nature for a make and take. The WOW (World of Wonder) International Nature-based Early Learning Conference was held August 1 – 4 at Brookfield Zoo that NINPA co-sponsored. Over 400 educators from 11 countries and 38 states attended a wide variety of workshops and trainings over three days and the fourth day attended field trips to various sights in the Chicago and Milwaukee area.
- Marji also sits on the board of the South Suburban Chapter of IL AEYC, (Association for the Education of Young Children), as President-elect. The organization is planning a professional development opportunity for area teachers in October – “Building a Productive and Positive Learning Environment” – which many of the Weekday staff will be attending. In November the organization is sponsoring a Directors’ Network meeting to discuss Gateways and ExceleRate licensing.

Submitted by Linda Gilley, chair

Report of the Board of Congregational Life

To the Governing Board

September 18, 2018

Highlights

- Finalized plans for All-Church Potluck on Sunday, September 30 at noon in Fellowship Hall.
- Worked on our Fall Adult Event: BYOBoos on Friday, October 26 from 7 – 9:30 pm. This will be a Halloween themed night out for adults, with a DJ, trivia games, shared appetizers, desserts and beverages. People are welcome to wear costumes (optional) and there will be costume contests!

Hopes

- Good attendance at our events, and our church and community enjoy fellowship and fun!
- Working on coordinating “Dinners of 8” in second half of program year. Informal dinners to help members and visitors get to know people they may not typically interact with.

Submitted by Betsy Hanzelin, staff liaison

Submit “No Report”

Lay Ministries, Vanessa Richardson
Nominating Committee, Theresa Gibbons
Personnel, Tim Sullivan