

**FLOSSMOOR COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
**GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 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, Rosanne Goodrich-Schutz, Rick Hanzelin, Esther Jenkins, Christian Kneeland, Betty Jo Norby, Vanessa Richardson, Chris Riedel, Phyliss Royster, Tim Sullivan, Jennifer Wojcikowski

**Staff:** Betsy Hanzelin, Fred Lyon, Jenny Sykes

**Members excused:** Linda Gilley

**OPENING PRAYER** (Betty Jo Norby)

**JOYS & CONCERNS** were shared

**DEVOTION** (Dana Dolan) Governing Board Brainstorming and Discernment: What is God calling us to do at FCC this year?

FCC Strategic Focus Areas

- 1) Ministry to Children, Youth and Families
- 2) Diversity/Safe Space
- 3) Community Engagement
- 4) FCC Publicity/Spreading the Good News

Goal of discussion was to discern 1 new idea or goal to prioritize for each focus area. Favorite ideas were then put on a poster board to be discussed at another time.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** from August 28, 2018

Minutes were approved as submitted.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** (Chris Riedel)

Currently under budget on expenses and ahead of the budgeted revenues. Exploring opportunities to work with the Foundation to request resources. This year, are planning to ask the Foundation to approve up to \$50,000 for church utility expenses, which would be presented as a special resolution at the annual meeting for next fiscal year.

Dana and Chris attended the weekly staff meeting to talk with staff about building their budgets. Chris asked those within the Governing Board who have a budget for their committees to provide a baseline/first draft budget by Mid November. Chris will provide a budget template.

**PASTOR'S REPORT** (Fred)

Strong start to the new season, especially regarding growth within our Children's Ministry participants. Fred asked for prayers for a strong Stewardship Campaign.

Fred is working with Allison and the Youth Groups to get youth involved in the sharing of the elements for World Communion Sunday.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Board of Outreach Ministries Report (Esther)

Discussed process of identifying groups FCC chooses to support through special offerings (like World Communion, Easter, etc). Esther shared a list of organizations FCC had given to between FY15 through Yy17, as well as those coming up in FY18.

Discussion focused on how best to choose, how to help raise awareness about the organizations chosen, and what kind of volunteer opportunities church members may be interested in. One suggestion was to consider having an entire service devoted to outreach, or organizing group FCC volunteer outings on Sunday afternoons.

- Stewardship Update (Rick)

FY18 Stewardship Campaign starts Sunday, 9/30 with preview Sunday. Rick and Janet Bolton to speak about what stewardship is and why it's important and include a video of "day in the life" of the church. Janet will share a letter about stewardship at FCC from her father, who was the Chairman of the Governing board 50 years ago.

October 14, theme will be about abundance

October 21, theme will be about gratitude

October 28, theme will be about Hospitality

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS** (Dana)

- Information for the congregation –
  - Faith Family Matters – need to be to Brooke by the Tuesday before the Sunday it goes out
  - Narthex – needs to be to Brooke by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month
  - Next meeting: Tuesday, October 30th

#### **CLOSING PRAYER** (Phyliss)

**ADJOURN** – at 8:36pm

**Report of the Women Helping Woman  
To the Governing Board  
October 30, 2018**

**Highlights**

Prepare sign-in sheets (keep track of attendance and the ratio of members to guests.)

Save the Date! All Women Are Invited  
Women Helping Women Seminar Series  
Sunday, November 4th in the Bell Chapel @ 11:00 am

Topic: Planning Your Final Exit - What Steps Can I Take Today?

Please join us as we welcome Michele Johnson who brings more than 20 years experience in funeral service. Would you like to learn about pre-planning your funeral?

Bring your questions about burial, embalming, cremation, new technology, trends in the industry, effects on the environment.

Invite a female friend to attend service with you on this day and stay for the seminar.

09/13/18: Reserved Bell Chapel for 11/04/18 @ 11:00 am.

**Hopes**

To be able to provide assistance to women when it comes to making choices in regards to funeral planning for themselves or their loved ones.

Conduct monthly or semi -monthly meetings for women to come together and be with other women to seek guidance on topics of their interest. This was done once as a pilot meeting last year hosted by Trina Hayes and the outpouring was very successful.

I have found a guest speaker for the first after church breakout session

Some of the women polled asked for assistance in regard to funeral planning.

Submitted by Rosanne Goodrich-Schutz, Chair

**Report of the Board of Christian Education  
To the Governing Board  
October 30, 2018**

**Children's Ministries**

Highlights:

- parent day went well, have a pretty good turnout.
- WooHoo Wednesday was a success! About 20 kids were here on the lawn doing relay races
- We had some more people step up for teaching Sunday school on the weeks that I don't have any one. I only have 3 weeks to cover.
- There is a lot interest in the family Halloween party, looks like it will great!
- Overall Sunday School is going well. I always wish that more of the kids who are registered would come more frequently.

Hopes:

- Hoping to continue to get more kids each week
- Hoping the Halloween party reaches more of the community and that those reached are interested in joining Sunday school

- Hoping for more interest in the next visitation day from kids and parents

### **Weekday Preschool**

- 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.
- The annual Weekday Sock Hop was held Friday, October 19 at the Community House. It was well attended, and a fun time was had by all. Children had decorated socks in their classrooms the week prior to the event. Many thanks to Leslie Maxie for providing music in the hallway Thursday and Friday morning and leading us in song and dance at the Sock Hop!
- The first Dine Out for Weekday was held Monday, October 22 at Aurelio's Pizza in Homewood. Thank you to all for your support.
- The next playground clean-up is scheduled for Saturday, November 3, 9:00 – 11:00. Our "to-do" list for the parent volunteers includes trimming some of the dead wood out of trees, raking up excess leaves and twigs, sweeping out the shed and toy bins and checking all toys and equipment for safety. Do you have an hour or two to spare? We can use all volunteers!! Many thanks to Dave Dau at the church who refurbished the playground benches – they look as good as new!
- The staff meeting on October 11 included a round table discussion on classroom challenges and documentation. Marji also met individually with all staff as a "check-in" from the beginning of the year.
- 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. There is a list of acceptable caps in the preschool hallway. Please clean all caps as the children will be sorting. The preschool continues to collect pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House and used ink cartridges to recycle with Funding Factory.
- Erin Keigher completed free speech and language screenings for three, four and five-year olds. Sixty children were screened this year and the results were shared with parents and applicable staff. She will be starting visits to the 2 and 3-year-old classrooms each week soon, (It is every other week schedule for the children), for a Language & Literacy circle time.
- Enrichment classes will begin the week of September 24 on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons and include Tumble Bears, STEAM and Weekday Scientists.
- Marji will be attending the NINPA (Northern Illinois Nature Preschool Association) board of directors meeting November 6 at Wildwood Nature Center. The group is exploring the possibilities of a grant through the Driskill Foundation to work with Chicago area grade schools offering Professional Development and mentoring for incorporating Nature education within the curriculum.
- 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 held a professional development opportunity for area teachers in October – "Building a Productive and Positive Learning Environment" – which many of the Weekday staff attended. In November the organization is sponsoring a Directors' Network meeting to discuss Gateways and ExceleRate licensing.

### **Youth Ministries**

#### Highlights:

- 9/30 was our first Sunday Night Group & it was a huge success. We had more youth on that night than we have any Sunday this year so far. We had a great time playing minute-to-win-it games & dinner.
- 10/7 the youth helped lead worship and serve communion for World Communion Sunday. They did a fantastic job & we're looking for more opportunities for youth to serve in Worship moving forward.
- 10/7 YM also had a meeting about our work trip to VA in June of 2019. We're working on putting together our team for next summer & hope we'll have lots of youth sign up by the deadline of November 1, 2018.
- 10/12-10/14, Quest was on retreat at Tower Hill learning about their life keys, Myers Briggs, & spiritual gifts.
- 10/20-10/21, Tribes had their overnight here at church.

#### Hopes:

- 10/28 is our next Sunday Night Group. All youth will be taking over first shift of PADS that night & serving the meal. We'll be hosting a Halloween Party for our guests!
- 11/18 is our November Sunday Night Group. We'll be hosting dinner in the Community House and helping sort/peel crayons for a project through SCARCE.

## **Adult Education**

The Slow Church class led by Jessica Groen in September and October has been well received. In October, during Stewardship season, the focus has been on how a church can bear witness to the Christian gospel's economy, one that isn't energized by a myth of scarcity, but by abundance, gratitude, and hospitality. Pastor Fred has led an October Bible Study on the areas in the Bible that correspond to the text.

Here's our November schedule:

- **Four Gospels, One Jesus**

Led by Phil & Rebecca Courington

November 4, 11, 18 & 25 at 11 am in the Family Room

Many people ask, "Do we really need four gospels in the Bible? Shouldn't one do the trick?" Maybe that would work if Jesus had been just a regular person who just did regular things. But he wasn't, and he didn't! We have four gospels because during the early church period, four people found it necessary to tell the story of Jesus from four different perspectives. Each of the gospels was written for a different audience, by a different author, who was trying to accomplish a different purpose.

As we read through the gospels during this 4-week class, look for new insights and details you may have missed in before. Try viewing the events and lessons from a new or different perspective. As you read, ask yourself these questions:

- What does Jesus say about himself?  
Who is Jesus talking to? (disciples? enemies? a crowd?)
- What does Jesus say about God?
- How does Jesus react to different situations? What pleases him? What upsets him?
- What does Jesus tell people to do?

To prepare for classes, please read the following Mark (for 11/4), Matthew (for 11/11), Luke (for 11/18), John (for 11/25)

- ***Almost Everything* by Anne Lamott**

Book Discussion Led by Theresa Gibbons

November 4, 11 & 18 at 11 am in the Parlor

"Almost everything will work again if you unplug it for a few minutes. Including you" - Anne Lamott  
Struggle, anxiety, hopelessness, sometimes all it takes it catching a snippet of the news to make one feel instantly depressed and despondent about the future of the world. We all could use some time to unplug from the clamor and hear the still message of hope inside us. Anne Lamott author of *Hallelujah Anyway*, *Small Victories*, and *Help, Thanks, Wow* has a new book out exploring hope in seemingly impossible times through her vulnerability and trademark humor that is so very relatable. *Almost Everything* is about the persistence of holding onto hope in difficult times. Available on Amazon, Kindle, and Bookies in Homewood (Shop Local)

- ***Hum if You Don't Know the Words* by Bianca Marais**

Book Discussion Led by Trina Hayes

Sunday, November 25 at 11 a.m. in the Family Room

Join us for a discussion of a novel of apartheid's effects described by Publishers Weekly as handling topics "such as grief and racism with a delicate intensity that will make readers fall in love with her characters. From the first few heartfelt chapters to a fast-paced and heart-wrenching ending, Marais has created a stunning historical drama that shouldn't be missed."

Submitted by Linda Gilley, Chair

**Report of the Board of Lay Ministries  
To the Governing Board  
October 30, 2018**

**Highlights**

- **Membership Information Session (MIS)** sub-committee has been formed and met in September. All information in folders, the PowerPoint and discussion is being updated to reflect what FCC would like new members to know, and what is of interest to newer members. Next MIS is [Sunday, October 21 from 11 – 1 pm](#), and 14 invitation letters were sent.
- **FCC Hosts:** Facing weak commitment from FCC Hosts on certain Sundays, and the difficulty recruiting new volunteers for a permanent monthly shift. Working towards having a regular team of 2-3 people for each week and adding a monthly sign up of substitutes and other volunteers to fill out the schedule.
- **Connecting Members:** We plan to continue the “Coffee and Conversation” program started last year and will be hosting our first C&C [on November 11 at 11 am](#). New Members from last 2 years will be invited, and church leadership will be invited for fellowship and information sharing.

**Hopes**

- Begin new neighbor outreach program, which may include door tags to drop off by FCC members at homes of new residents.
- Inspire visitors to join the membership of FCC!

Submitted by Vanessa Richardson, Chair

**Report of the Stewardship Committee  
To the Governing Board  
October 30, 2018**

**Highlights**

- Janet & Rick will introduce campaign in worship on September 30.
- Three Stewardship Speakers have been lined up for Oct. 14, 21 & 28. Di King = Abundance, Kathi Orr = Gratitude, and Fredric Mitchell = Hospitality.
- The Committee discussed pledge goals and decided to ask people to increase by an amount, rather than a percentage (i.e. \$10/week).
- Campaign materials to be sent out October 15 (day following Stewardship Kick-Off)

**Hopes**

- People will prayerfully consider the Stewardship Messages and be inspired to increase their levels of giving.

Submitted by Rick Hanzelin, Chair

**Report of the Board of Outreach Ministry  
To the Governing Board  
October 30, 2018**

**Highlights**

- Outreach sponsored the annual Heartland Blood Drive, coordinated by Annie Detrick, on October 21. A total of 15 people gave blood.
- Mully’s Children Family and Center for Inclusivity were selected to share the World Communion Offering.
- We are getting progress reports from agencies that received Outreach funds last year, and Outreach members are visiting those agencies.

Submitted by Esther Jenkins, Chair

**Submit a "No Report"**

Board of Congregational Life, Betty Jo Norby

Nominating Committee, Theresa Gibbons

Diaconate Board, Phyliss Royster