

# APPROVED NOVEMBER CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

(The November Minutes were approved at the December 8, 2022 Church Council meeting.)

## FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Church Council Minutes

November 10, 2022

Call to Order by Jason Jacque @ 6:36

Pastor Scott, Jason Jacque, Phil Stepanski, Bill Bond, Mike Spalding, Ken Matthews, Eric Olson, Jennifer Dimmer, Jodi Cowen, Shandy Roehrig and Rhonda Thompson.

Opening Meditation – Eric Olson read a prayer for veterans- A Prayer to feel Honored, A Prayer to be Understood, A Prayer to be Healed, A Prayer to be Rewarded and A Prayer to Know You.

Approval of the Minutes – October 2022 Shandy motions to approve the August minutes with the stated revision and Bill seconds the motion. The minutes are approved.

Monthly Budget Review (Phil) – Phil has the October Statement of Activity as well as Budget vs Actual reports with year to date amounts for review. There were no major transactions. He has made transfers to cover payroll expenses. Mike is questioning how memorial income and spending is shown on the budget when it should be a separate account of it's own. Phil will look into whether or not this is possible in Quickbooks reports.

Pastor's Moment (Pastor Scott)- Congregational Care has highlighted shut ins, reaching out to them. They plan to take communion to the shut ins in December. Pastor Scott has asked another church member to join him and all seem to be enjoying the time together.

### Old Business

November 13th Congregational Meeting – Budget Presentation (Phil) – He used the Budget vs Actual 2022 budget with an equation of year to date line numbers through October divided by 10 and multiplied by 12 to come up with 2023 Budget. As of the meeting 14 pledges came in with a total of \$26,920- eight of which increased their amount, five stayed same and one was a new pledge. Phil would like to use this budget format (with few discussed adjustments from Team leader amounts) at the Congregational meeting. In the past most of the budgets did not balance and had negative balances. A paying tenant could make the budget balance or even positive. Phil will make changes and email the updated 2023 budget to us. Pastor Scott is hoping to have a membership count by December 31 which then will be factored into the 2023 budget.

Awareness Campaign update – (Pastor Scott) – The few meetings that have been held have gone well and productive, but several have been cancelled. There are a few November meetings left for anyone that would like to attend.

Building maintenance updates – (Bill) -The window repair guy was here to look at windows. The Heatwole window was not made with repairs in mind so the quote is to replace it. Pastor Scott suggests that Property Team look at church supply catalogs for a handrail option. Property Team is trying to cut back on light and heat by asking whatever is not being used get turned off. Security lighting needs to be adjusted as they seem to be on at all hours of the day and it's being looked into. Property Team plans to cancel some existing contracts in hopes of saving money and bringing down the annual payments.

Stewardship (Jodi) – Materials were sent. Huge thank you to Beckie, Amy and Pastor Scott. Everything is on the website. The committee will be given names of those that have not

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# CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES continued...

turned in their pledge so they can make gentle reminder notices the first few weeks of December. The church school kids will make the thank you cards that will go out to those that respond to their pledge request.

Rental Space update – (Pastor Scott) – Nothing new to report. If council would like to take on a more active roll in finding a new tenant help is welcome. Jodi will talk with Karen about photo listing and post the listing at work.

Associate Moderator position – Pastor Scott has reached out to a member and they are considering it.

“The Examen(ed) Church” – (Pastor Scott) – The deadline is November 18. Pastor Scott has started the application. Pastor Scott is hopeful for the acceptance.

Additional Team Updates – (Shandy, Eric, Jennifer, Mike, Ken) – Church School and Outreach have prepped for the Christmas gift drive. At this point they have adopted five children, but if more are needed they will try to get more. Fellowship is hosting an advent workshop on December 4 with a cookie exchange. The first soup and salad was reasonably attended. Mike says Usher guidelines have been updated, but the online sign up is not completed and has more empty slots than filled. The guidelines are located in the book by bell and will be emailed to anyone that has shown interest in ushering. Maybe we can ask Amy if she can put another announcement out for sign ups. Ken will be starting with the staff review process the first part of December and hopes to finish before the end of the year.

Closing Prayer and Adjournment - Meeting is adjourned at 8:20pm



## PROPERTY TEAM UPDATES AND MEETING MINUTES

Our Property Team is an active church team comprised of a handful of folks from the church. The team keeps a close eye on our church and works to maintain all aspects of our church building and grounds. The team would like to share their minutes, as well as their current to-do list with the church:

[November 2022 Property Team Minutes](#)

[Ongoing Property Team To-Do List](#)



## GENEROUS END-OF-YEAR GIVING

Thank you to all those who contributed to our December special giving opportunities! We received \$155 for the UCC Christmas Fund for Veterans of the Cross, which helps support retired and disabled clergy and lay employees of the church. We also received donations of \$1,775 for our church's financial support of Lighthouse Youth Ministry. During December, we were also invited to direct special gifts toward six local service organizations that we support on a regular basis. The Food Pantry received \$555, Balance received \$205, Advocates received \$245, Family Promise received \$444, Habitat of Ozaukee County received \$195, and Ozaukee Family Services received \$195. Altogether, in the month of December, we raised a total of \$3,769 for local and national groups to support their work. Thanks to all of you for being so generous!