

Community Congregational Church
Church Council Minutes
Sunday, August 20, 2023

Robyn opened with prayer.

In attendance: Linda O'Riley, Cathy Karr, Nancy Lindley, Robyn Firth, Tina Hudson, Pastor Heather, Pryncess, Lyn Ettinger-Harwell, George Whitt, Jan Hinkley, Julie Wells, Betty Armstrong, Maribeth Peninger, Guests: Andy Kovats, Rich Baker, Jane Hart. Quorum was established:

Minutes of last meeting were amended to only list Danny White once.

Rich Baker requested to address the group. The tree at the northwest corner of the front lawn is dying. He and Brad Gibson would like to take it down in time for the City's chipping day. Requested granted with thanks.

Treasurer: Bookkeeper needs a copy of our parking lot contract with the City. Pryncess stated that she checks the amount received from the City.

Trustees: No meeting this month, BJ Reichelt resigned from Trustees so we need a replacement.

Staff: Request was made to the Elementary School to staff out parking lot to avoid an accident. The City would like to man our parking lot for the Coffin Races, contact needs to be secured from them.

Pastor Heather read excerpts from "Unstuck Church." The premise of this book is: Change or die. She showed a bell curve chart depicting the life of our Church. Discussion was held. She also requested an organizational chart of responsibilities for our church. That committee meets this week to produce such.

Arlene reported our pantry is serving an increased number of neighbors. We provided the requested number of packages of college ruled notebook paper and were able to send a check to WS Cares for the excess. We will be helping WS Cares with their Thanksgiving Baskets again this year. We will be adopting two families at Christmas since last year's family did not ever get in contact with us to receive their gift cards. We will use those cards for one family and will request additional gift cards for another family.

Robyn says she is already working on the music for the near future since Stevie is retiring on Sunday, September 3.

Next meeting will be Sunday, September 17.

Arlene Penman, Secretary

Staff Reports for Trustees/Council: JULY 2023

PASTOR HEATHER MCDUFFEE

- Met with Kurt Berridge about his mother's funeral.
- We had a successful Adult VBS on July 7. Taco Bar, games, songs, video lessons and we ended with an ice cream bar.
- Celebrated Pastor Susie's retirement with Manitou pastors.
- Met with the Scholarship Board about ideas and direction of the Trust.
- Visited Marlene on July 11.
- Attended The Place's annual fundraising breakfast on July 13.
- Met with Sara Vaas, who organizes musicians for concerts.
- Had a wonderful concert with J. Chang on July 22. About 40 in attendance.
- Energy Resource came to assess the building needs on July 25.
- Had coffee with Dan Stuart about planned giving on July 31.
- Visited with Rhoda Cordery on August 1.
- Berridge Memorial was held on August 5.
- Prynness trained our new custodian, Paola Garcia, who started on August 15.
- Attended the Inside Out Gay-la fundraiser for LGBTQIA+ youth and young adults.
- Worship in the Park and Ecumenical Potluck was held on August 13.
- Wrapped up the Summer Sermon Series: "Alive in the Stories of Creation."
- I created a new Timesheet process for hourly staff. Susan, Stevie, Paola and Prynness will submit their hours to Prynness who will send them to Sue by the 20th of the month.
- We also have a process for worship music supply during Susan's leave of absence during her treatments and recovery. Susan will contact Stevie and Prynness who will then contact myself and Sherri about changes in the worship schedule.
- Met with Stephanie Chol about the month she did not work (July). She reimbursed the church for her pay.
- Attached is the Council devotional schedule. The person assigned the month does the opening devotion/prayer and the person for the next month will close us in prayer.

What's Coming:

- Worship Series: In September we will learn about the United Church of Christ in a series entitled: "A Course in Belonging", October will be a series on stewardship entitled: "A Future with Hope" with Stewardship Sunday on November 12.

- Planning some events for the Fall: Membership Inquiry Lunch (Sept 17), Stewardship Kick Off (October), Community Dinner (October 14), Youth Fall Retreat (October 20-22), Stewardship Sunday (Nov 12)
- Meeting with Sam from PPREF on August 22 about using the Parsonage for income and community good.
- I'm officiating a wedding in Chicago and will be out on August 25-27.
- Scheduling a Diaconate work day to organize the sacristy and refill supplies in the pews.
- I'm going on vacation September 20-29 to get married and go on a honeymoon. There will be a pulpit supply substitute on Sept 24.
- I am working on a packet entitled "Thoughtful Endings" to help parishioners in planning end of life decisions with their families. I want this packet in every home of our church.

Personal:

- I am enjoying my time at CCC. I am learning a lot about small church work and am trying to find ways to use the gifts of congregants more.
- I am reading several books about church finances and trends, church life cycles and sustainability of small churches.
- Brandy and I are getting ready (and excited) to get married in Ohio.

Council Devotional Schedule

January: Lyn Ettinger-Harwell

February: George Whitt

March: Arlene Penman

April: Julie Wells

May: Betty Armstrong

June: Robyn Firth

July: Linda O-Riley

August: Laura Ettinger-Harwell

September: Tina Hudson

October: Nancy Lindley

November: Maribeth Peiniger

December: Cathy Karr


Pastor Heather's Recommended Covenant for Community Congregational Church

As followers of Jesus Christ we promise to respect each other at all times in the following ways:

We will approach all things in prayer ♥ We will speak from our own personal experience, from "I" not "we" or "they" ♥ We accept disagreement as normal & natural to community processes ♥ We will assume the best about each other. ♥ We will speak face-to-face, honestly and without rancor, avoiding triangulation and hearsay ♥ We will listen with an open and non-judgmental mind and try as hard to understand as to be understood ♥ We will recognize that each person's story and accept the reality of our differences of interpretation, opinion and experience. ♥ We are committed to being inconvenienced for the Gospel ♥ If we are unable

to effectively communicate with each other, we will ask a third party to be present to assist us
♥ *We will support the final outcome of the decision-making process* ♥ *As forgiven people, we will choose to forgive one another.* ♥ *We will not have a meeting after the meeting in the bathroom, parking lot, by text with a select group of people that agree with us.* ♥ *We will practice healthy self-soothing should our anxiety, fear or anger begin to get the better of us.* ♥ *We seek to discover what is best for our church as a whole, not what may be best for ourselves or for some small group in the church* ♥

Prynness's July Report

Donated 31 work hours 
July... already? And it's HOT!!

- Reached out to a tech team to provide an assessment of our AV system
- Met with the Berridge brothers
- Worked with Robyn to create a slideshow for the service
- Worked with Pastor H to recreate a program for Julane Berridge
- Set both spaces for the Julane Berridge funeral
- Learned a bit more about what the women's ministry does and does not do
- Completed laundering the linens from the reception
- Estimated \$\$ funds
 - Pikes Peak Vajra YTD \$800 end of year estimate \$1600+
 - Makers Market YTD \$1050 end of year estimate \$2100+
 - Indoor Market (Nov/Dec) YTD \$00 end of year estimate \$2100+
 - 2 funerals YTD \$1500 end of year (unsure) \$2000+
 - Weddings YTD \$1600 end of year estimate \$4000 +
 - Pikes Peak Bulletin YTD \$300 end of year \$800
 - Community Hall Event Rentals YTD \$700
- Advertising Update:
 - Funds Spent YTD: \$150.86
 - Outside Audience Reached 3,871 Humans
- King Soupers donation update: April-June
 - 29 families
 - \$205.80 incoming
- Busy month but nothing we can't handle, Lets GO!
- Facilitated 14 community hall/ sanctuary tours
- Thanks to Danny for sending detailed instructions to Robyn and I.. We figured out the sound!
- Set up with a friend for the J. Chang Concert! (thanks to my long time friend from Denver #tablesareheavy)
- Attended VBS! That was fun! Thanks to the ALMOST NEWLYWEDS!
- Strategized with Denver venue Director on how to optimize ticket sales and flow for future concerts
- Met with Mr. Rich for Keys for Paola! Thank you sir!
- Created parking passes! Huzzah!!
- Work in progress.. sprucing up the Bridal/Marrier Suite

- Bridal emergency kit
 - What should this include?
 - Relocate candle collection
- Held the greatest J. Chang Concert!! Dont leave yet we will see you in December for another concert... The Christmas Edition! Let's deck the hall together!
- Toured the space and accepted the Deposit for another wedding
 - October 14th, 2023
- Lots of Phone calls this month and soooo many emails!
- Deciphered through the comcast bill to find the missing link to Mrs. Sues questions
 - Increase in monthly charges
 - Answer: inflation and the equipment
- Set up the facility for a sanctuary/portal/bridal suite for tours
- Thanks to Josh for cleaning that saved me a day of scrubbing!
- #notallheroswearcapes
- Hired Paola
 - I'll be in direct contact with Paola. Please let me know if you have and comments or concerns with her cleaning
- Overseeing daily operations of the Sanctuary/ Community Hall/ Parsonage
- Updated our website to reflect current events and campaigns
- Enjoyed Christmas in July so much!!
- Met with our October 31st bride and went over the logistics of her wedding
- Supported a couple in hiring a musician for their wedding ceremony
 - Facilitated expectations and scores for the wedding
- Update the directory to reflect new contact information from members
- Shared calendar info with incoming callers for scheduling and tour availability
- Updated the online calendar daily to reflect accurate info from emails including up and coming events for 2024!
- Implemented new media based on trends in customer interactions and planned digital campaigns to build community online.
- Responded to comments/ dms on all platforms
 - Instagram
 - WIX
 - Facebook messages
 - Facebook comments
- Sent invoices to our renters
- Revamping long term operational strategies for the Community Hall to generate revenue
- Handling grievances in person and by phone in regards to the parking lot and parkers getting tickets