

**Holy Covenant Metropolitan Community Church
Minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting
December 15th, 2019**

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 11:20 p.m. by Rev. Martha Daniels.

Opening Prayer by Susan Calahan

Certification of Quorum:

The Clerk, Barbara Adams Latsaras established that a quorum was present with 15 Members in attendance out of 21 total Members.

Minutes:

Motion to adopt the Minutes from the November 11th, 2018 Congregational Meeting by Steve Marz, seconded by Andrew Hillum 2nd. Unanimously approved.

Board Reports:

a) Moderator's Report (Rev. Martha Daniels)

- Rev. Martha gave a synopsis of her report to the congregation and talked of community outreach, pastoral care to those who request it and her pastoral care of two inmates in Cook County Jail that she does on her own time and expenses yet represents Holy Covenant.
- Certificates of Appreciation were handed out to congregants who show commitment with time, talent and treasurers.

b) Clerk's Report (Barbara Adams):

Barbara Adams Latsaras informed the congregation that we have 21 Members.

c) Treasurer's Report (Joanie Baird):

i) Financial Report

Joanie presented the financial picture for the church for the last year.

- Giving was \$8000 less than 2019
- Pastor's reduced salary by \$7,000 because of the grant.
- Ian worked then retired and was paid for back pay.
- Designated fund has about \$1,900 for our new air conditioner.
- UFMCC assessment forgave half of 2018 assessments and reduced 2019 from 11.5% to 7%. It will become less for next year with less members

Motion to approve the Board Reports by Steve Marz, seconded by Jim Baer. Unanimously approved.

ii) Presentation of the 2020 Budget (Joanie Baird)

iii) Budget Approval

- Joanie talked about the differences between the two budgets.
- Joanie is in discussion with Church Mutual to get our insurance lowered as we will only have one person for Workmen's Compensation

Motion to accept the 2020 Budget by Mary Ann Latsaras, seconded by Steve Marz Unanimously approved.

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Interim Lay Delegate's Report (Holly Blonde):

- Holly and Rev. Martha voted virtually at the July meeting only for the Moderator and the Governance board members
- MCC realized that the LGBT+ community is changing. MCC is looking to create committees and will rely on these committees to direct the church instead of the churches themselves. This will be the Governance Board to look and approve changes within the church and to make new bylaw amendments.
- Rev. Cecelia Eggleston was elected as the new Moderator of UFMCC in July.

Ministry and Program Reports:

- Buildings and Grounds Report (Sue Calahan): We had the Boy Scouts out to help clean the weeds from the side of the church as a requirement for their badges.
- There were clean-up days for the inside and outside of the church. Thank you to everyone who helped.
- Looking for snow removal volunteers and for cleaning the church inside and out
- Sue will put up a list of what needs to be done for people to volunteer to do it
- We are still collecting for our new air conditioner
- Will have spring clean-up days and thanks to Mary Ann Latsaras and her grandson Bryan Wilson for cleaning up and chopping down brush and trees this summer.
- Board was here on December 7th to clean-up and reorganize the Board office and to move the old paperwork to the garage loft.

2) Social Media Report (Barbara Adams Latsaras):

- Website changes done as needed throughout the year
- Posting on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook
- Will add another calendar to the website as the Google calendar now costs money to use

3) Social Action Ministry Report (Rev. Martha Daniels):

- Received 1,000 socks from Bombas and have handed them out to worthy groups
- Beds Plus was here for one week this summer
- We attended Pride marches in Aurora and Berwyn
- Revitalization project still moving forward with Roxann, Andrew and Rev. Martha implementing changes as needed
- The Flying Cross was dedicated in October which was a gift from Doyle Chappell
- Some suggestions for fundraisers is House of Blues Gospel Brunch and a trip to Lips

4) Pastoral Care Ministry Report (Rev. Martha Daniels):

- Have communicated within the church, in newsletters, website that Rev. Martha is available for home or hospital visits and for giving communion. Rev. Martha did visit someone recently to give communion. Have Communion Will Travel as she says!

Motion to approve the Ministry and Program Reports by Steve Marz and seconded by Jim Baer. Unanimously approved.

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Elections:

Motion by Rev. Martha to move the Board election to before the Ministry and Program reports. Holly Blonde moved and Carol Siepka 2nd. All in favor.

A) Lay Delegate:

As there were no applications for the position of Lay Delegate, the Lay Delegate will be appointed by the Board at a future date.

B) Election of Board Members:

Joanie Baird was elected to the Board of Directors for a two-year term.

C) Motion to Destroy Ballots:

Motion to destroy the election ballot papers by Barbara Adams Latsaras, seconded by Roxann Victory. Unanimously approved.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:20 p.m. by Barbara Adams Latsaras, seconded by Jim Baer. Unanimously approved.

Closing Prayer by Rev. Martha Daniels