

2023 ANNUAL CHURCH MEMBER MEETING IMPORTANT DETAILS AND SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

- Date:** Saturday, January 28, 2023
- Time:** 10:00 am
- Location:** Grace Hall, North and via Zoom
- Qualified Members:** Must be either an Active or Associate Member of First Community and meet the criteria for membership as defined in the *Membership at First Community* brochure.
- Zoom Information:** There are two ways to access this Zoom Annual Meeting if you choose not to attend in person:
- 1) Online with Passcode
 - 2) Telephone with Meeting Code
- Required Registration:** Registration is required and will open on January 18, 2023. After registering, a meeting information packet will then be emailed. To have a packet mailed to your home, please email annualmeeting@FCchurch.com to provide your name and address. Registrations for those attending via Zoom must be submitted by 5 pm on Thursday, January 26th.
- Voting Policy:** First Community members must attend this meeting in-person or via Zoom to vote.
- Voting for Governing Board, Deaconate and Proposed Constitution Amendments:
- 1) For those attending via telephonic or online Zoom, you will be unmuted to provide your verbal vote.
- Voting for Nominating Committee:
- Those attending in-person may complete a Nominating Committee ballot at the meeting. For those attending online, all completed Nominating Committee ballots (download and paper) must be received at the church no later than February 10, 2023 in order to be counted. Ballots can be emailed to annualmeeting@fcchurch.com, dropped off at First Community North in the white outside mailbox by the Rose Wing entrance, or mailed to First Community, Attn: Nominating Ballots, 1320 Cambridge Blvd, Columbus 43212
- Assistance Available:** For assistance with Zoom, please email annualmeeting@FCchurch.com or call (614) 488-0681

FIRST COMMUNITY**2023 ANNUAL CHURCH MEMBER MEETING**

Saturday January 28, 2023, 10:00 am

Grace Hall and via Zoom

AGENDA**Welcome**

Call to Order

Alice Finley, Chair Governing Board 2022

Opening Prayer

Reverend Mary Kate Buchanan

Reports

Governing Board

Alice Finley, Chair Governing Board 2022

2022 Financial Result

Deb Humphrey, Treasurer

2023 Budget/Operations

Seth Stearns, Exec Director of Operations

Senior Minister

Dr. Glen Miles, Senior Minister

New Horizons Campaign

Ginny Barney

Presentation of SlatesGoverning Board and
Board of Deacons

Lenny Smith, Chair Nominating Committee

Presentation of 2023**Nominating Committee Ballot**

Cydney Philbin, Past Chair Governing Board 2022

Passing of the Gavel

2023 Looking Ahead

Molly Hagkull, Chair Governing Board 2023

Additional BusinessApproval of 2022 Annual
Meeting Minutes

Molly Hagkull, Chair Governing Board 2023

New Business

New Business

Constitution Revisions

Molly Hagkull, Chair Governing Board 2023

Closing

Adjournment

Closing Prayer

Molly Hagkull, Chair Governing Board 2023

Dr. Glen Miles, Senior Minister



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2023 ANNUAL MEETING *Ballot for Gov. Board and Board of Deacons*

FOR CHURCH MEMBERS ONLY

In accordance with Articles IV and VIII of the First Community Church Constitution, the Nominating Committee presents the following names as candidates to serve a three-year term on the **GOVERNING BOARD**.

Only church members in attendance at the Annual Meeting are permitted to vote. Voters are instructed to mark the ballot with a checkmark in the space to the left of the name of **four (4) candidates for a three-year term**. Ballots will be collected and counted by duly appointed tellers.

_____ Kristyn Anderson

_____ Jennifer Short

_____ Dan Davis

_____ Lois Zook

FOR CHURCH MEMBERS ONLY

In accordance with Article VIII of the First Community Church Constitution, the Nominating Committee presents the following names as candidates to serve a three- year term on the **BOARD OF DEACONS**.

Only church members in attendance at the Annual Meeting are permitted to vote.

Voters are instructed to mark the ballot with a checkmark in the space to the left of the name of **eight (8) candidates to serve a three-year term**. Ballots will be collected and counted by duly appointed tellers.

_____ Jack Burtch

_____ Connor Kinsey

_____ Gwen Carmack

_____ Bill Mead

_____ Ron Gardner

_____ Beth Ryan

_____ Dave Heigle

_____ Ted Stutz



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2023 ANNUAL MEETING
Ballot for Nominating Committee

FOR CHURCH MEMBERS ONLY

In accordance with Article VIII of the First Community Church Constitution, the Governing Board presents the following names as candidates to serve a two-year term on the **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**.

Only church members in attendance at the Annual Meeting are permitted to vote. Voters are instructed to mark the ballot with a checkmark in the space to the left of the name of **up to twelve (12)** of the candidates. **Ballots will be valid only if there are twelve (12) or fewer selections made.** Ballots will be collected and counted by duly appointed tellers. You may only vote once.

_____ Susan Anderson	_____ Jim Hutchins
_____ Jerry Browning	_____ Jayne Kaylor
_____ Holly Dabelko-Schoeny	_____ Leah Miller
_____ Kathy Glass	_____ Dave Nickel
_____ Ralph Griffith	_____ Jennifer Peterson
_____ Diane Haddad	_____ Nancy Rummel
_____ Craig Hagkull	_____ Tom Stewart
_____ Karyl Hanhilammi	_____ Ned Timmons
_____ Katherine Harper	_____ Scott Toop
_____ Ray Harpham	_____ Darian Torrance
_____ Susie Harpham	_____ Jim Turner
_____ Mark Hollinger	_____ Ed Wojniak

Ballot must be either mailed to FCC South, 1320 Cambridge Blvd., Columbus, OH 43212, scanned and emailed to annualmeeting@FCchurch.com or left in the White Mailbox at North by **February 10, 2023** to be counted.

2023 Governing Board



Lois Zook

I started singing in the Chancel Choir of First Community Church in 1987 and am still singing! My husband Glenn and I became members of the church in the fall of 1988. A year later I joined the FCC Administrative Support staff in the Worship & Arts Department and held that position until June of 2020 when I retired. We are very lucky to have both of our children and their families living close by us in Dublin and actively involved at FCC as well. Amanda/Mandy Levell, husband Keith Levell, Kara 11 and Anderson 7 and Michael/Mike Zook, wife Amalia/Mollie Zook, Maggie 13, and George 11.



Jennifer Short

I have been a member of First Community for 10 years. I've served on Older Adult Council and Mission Council and volunteered as a Greeter. I'm a member of Guild A, and have served on the Guild's Executive Committee. I coordinate the Guild's annual "We Love You Luncheon" for First Community staff members. I have also volunteered for Big Brother Big Sisters for many years. I'm an estate planning lawyer for DuPont and Blumenstiel, LLC, following many years at Nationwide Insurance. I enjoy spending time with my extended family and friends and traveling overseas.



Daniel Davis

I grew up in First Community Church, attending with my family. As a youth I participated in the Block of Wood and Seven Keys. I was the first youth deacon in the church during my college years at Otterbein. I met my eventual wife, Vickie Murphy, in the youth program. I was also a counselor at Akita during college. I've served on the mission council and participated in the Back Bay Mission as well as volunteering in Heart to Heart with Vickie. Vickie and I joined friendship group number 66. My cousin in law Rev. Jim Long and I presented a workshop on Dr. Roy Burkhart. Jim and I also co-facilitated a grief and loss group together. I also co-facilitated a life transitions group with the Rev. Dr. Deb Lindsey. I am a forensic psychologist and maintain a private practice in the Grandview area. I graduated from Otterbein College and earned my doctorate from The Ohio State University. While in college, I founded and served as the first director of Concord Counseling in Westerville. I have served as the psychology supervisor for the Timothy B. Moritz Forensic Unit of Twin Valley Behavioral Hospital. I also served as the clinical director of the Buckeye Ranch and as a clinical director for mental health within the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections. I have consulted with the Ohio Department of Youth Services. Most recently I was a Senior Forensic Psychologist for the Netcare Forensic Center. I am board-certified in forensic psychology and have authored or co-authored four books, book chapters as well as numerous peer reviewed research articles. Most importantly, Vickie and I have a blended family of 5 adult children and have 7 grandchildren. We have a puppy mill rescue golden retriever named Gabby (whom the grandkids named Gabriella Pizza). Vickie is very active in the church music. Vickie has been very active in church music since her youth. She sang and played guitar at North Campus and now is in the Cambridge Choir. Consequently, I am best known as her "Roadie."



Kristyn Anderson

I discovered First Community Church upon relocating to Ohio with my family during the second half of 2019. My first engagement with the congregation was via the contemplative way group. My husband Troy Anderson and I, and our son Colin Anderson began attending worship online during Covid's peak. Our family was welcomed into the Congregation in April of 2021. As the community emerges from the pandemic, I have become engaged with the Community Justice Ministry Team, specifically dedicating time to racial equity, non-violence, and supporting Pride activity in the summer. Our family is excited for Colin to join the Mexico mission trip this Spring. I have worked in education for the majority of my career. I bring experience as a primary grade-level Montessori assistant and high school teacher in West Virginia. Currently, I serve the Student and Staff Well-being department with Upper Arlington Schools. I have been a Registered Yoga Teacher since 2016. My husband Troy and I have been married since 2000. We are parents to Colin and enjoy trying to contain the energy of our two dogs and two cats. We have lived in California, West Virginia, Arizona, and now Ohio as a family. We enjoy hiking, kayaking, paddle boarding, attending local music events, and volunteering in the surrounding community.

2023 Deacons



John Burtch



Gwen Carmack



Ron Gardner



Dave Heigle



Connor Kinsey



Bill Mead



Beth Ryan



Ted Stutz

Nominating Committee Slate for 2023 Annual Meeting



Susan Anderson

Susan Anderson is a Certified Public Accountant and currently works as an Audit Manager with PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC). She has been a lifelong member of First Community attending Camp Akita, Block of Wood/Crossroads, La Vida, and LIFE Guard programming as a youth, and formally joining the church in 2009. Susan was a Counselor at Camp Akita for 2 summers and continues to serve on Akita Council and has helped with the Camp Store for the last 6 years. She has been a Crossroads Leader since 2016. She is currently serving with the 11th graders and is Secretary of the Board of Deacons.



Jerry Browning

Jerry is currently serving the church in Circles Groups, boards, committees, volunteer jobs, stewardship campaigns, choirs, etc. She is also serving on the Spiritual life and Learning Center team and will be Co-Chair with Jayne Kaylor beginning this year. She is also a member of WW Guild. Her areas of past involvement (church or community) include serving on the Adult Learning Council for three years before it merged with the Burkhardt Center. She has also volunteered at the Trading Post and with the Community Garden. She enjoys belonging to FCC as a member and serving our various efforts for evolving self and for helping others in spiritual ways, support of kindness and advocacy, and basic needs. Some of her eight grandchildren have enjoyed Camp Akita and a few more will begin this summer. She likes to travel and also spends time in Florida throughout the year.



Holly Dabelko-Schoeny

Holly is currently serving as an Usher. Her past activities include Engagement with the Spiritual Life and Learning Center, her children grew up attending Camp Akita and she was a member of the K-12 Council.



Kathy Glass

Kathy has been a member of FCC for 30+years. She has helped out with Sunday school when her children were young. She served two terms on the Membership Council and the Care Committees. Kathy is the Head Usher for North 11 (Group C) as well as for Greeters. She loves FCC and advises new members to join a Circle, committee, choir, or usher to truly enjoy fellowship as a great way to meet people.



Ralph Griffith

Ralph Griffith and his wife Dotsy have been members of FCC since 1992. He is the CEO and President of Value Recovery Group and its subsidiary, Global Recovery Group, financial services companies with offices in Columbus and in the Washington, DC area. His prior business experience encompassed Financial Advisory and Business Consulting positions as well as a Lender in commercial banks. Ralph has been the Chair of the First Community Foundation for the past two years. He is also Finance Committee Chair of the Ohio Housing Finance Agency Board, a member of the Rotary Club of Upper Arlington, is on the Strategic Initiatives Committee of the Furniture Bank and served seven years as a Children's Leader for Bible Study Fellowship International. He is a graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University and has an MBA from the Keller Graduate School of Management.

Diane Haddad

No bio

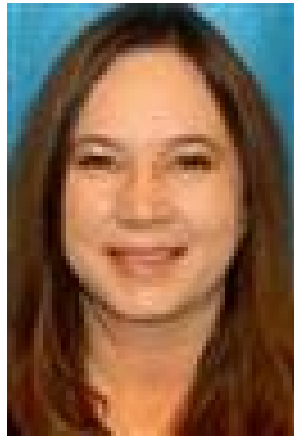


Craig Hagkull

Craig's family (Molly, Brady, and Connor) have been involved with First Community since 2013. The boys have gone through Sunday school, Block of Wood, Confirmation, etc. They have also attended Camp Akita Family Camp many times. He has been active in the Columbus Chiller Youth Hockey Association for many years as both a Coach and a Board Member. Currently he is an Assistant Coach for Upper Arlington High School Hockey team and has also been involved with the Childhood League for many years.

**Karyl Hanhila**

Karyl is currently an Usher at North, Chair of Guild Group C, and she volunteers for the Share and Learn Garden. Her past church involvement includes K-5 Sunday School Teacher, Service Board, Governing Board (past Chair), Board of Deacons, Nominating Committee, Mission Council, and Older Adult Council.

**Katherine Harper**

Katie Harper grew up in Cincinnati, Ohio, first participating in church services as a Kindergarten Youth Choir Member at Forest Chapel United Methodist Church. Growing up singing in the choir is what led her to seek out church membership as an adult when she moved to Columbus to work for the State of Ohio. She is currently a member of the Chancel Choir. Being able to contribute to the overall worship experience through singing with the choir has brought her great joy. Currently she is a member of the Chancel Choir.

**Ray Harpham**

Ray's current church involvement includes Circle 19 and Deacon. His past church involvement includes Akita Council, Design Architect Camp Akita Re-Creation, "It's About Time" FCC Stewardship Campaign, Stephen Minister, FCC Governing Board (1995-1997, Chair 1999)

His past community involvement includes Buckeye Boys Ranch, Volunteer Action Center, Member and Chair, Juvenile Probation Council, and Counselor.

**Susie Harpham**

Susie's past church involvement includes Akita Council and "It's About Time" FCC Stewardship campaign. Her past community involvement includes Childhood League, Junior League, Kelton House Committee, and Columbus Landmarks Co-Director.



Mark Hollinger

In 1996 Mark and his wife Mary became members of First Community. In 1997 they volunteered on the Mission Council. His past church involvement includes member of the Mission Council. He was the lead on the National/World sub-committee for two years, was on the Mission Council Executive Committee for all 8 years, was either President or Vice-President of the council two separate years, each. He participated in the collection and distribution of flood response needs during the flood in Southern Ohio. He has worked with the Red Cross, led a First Community team to respond to individual homes to perform flood cleanup, participated in the Garage Sale for 9 years, and was a Deacon for 3 years. For 2 years he led the North Campus Communion Group. He was on the Board of Back Bay Missions for 8 years. After Katrina hit the Biloxi area, he lead a team to determine the status of the Mission's 7 buildings. Mark worked on the rebuilding of the Mission's main campus, mainly reviewing construction documents. For 6 of the 8 years on the Board, he was either the Chair, Vice-Chair or the Past Chair of the Board. He was a member of the First Community Nominating Committee for 2 years. Mark participated on the Strategic Planning Committee. In January 2010, he received the First Community Church Service Award. In 2018 he participated as one of the leads in a group of a multi group 6-week "Discussions" at the church and also retired and moved to South Carolina. In 2021 due to the isolation of COVID, he and Mary decided that they wanted to move back to Columbus to be close to family, friends and First Community. In 2021 with the church's formation of the Justice Committees, he became a volunteer. In 2021 and 2022, he participated on both the Environmental and Gun Violence Committees. He became a member of Moms Demand Action and a Lead in Columbus for Moms BeSMART educational program on secure gun storage. He assisted in coordination between Moms Demand Action and First Community on several events and on a specific initiative in Clinton Township on gun violence. He was on the Church's Pride Parade Committee and assisted in construction of the float. This year he intends to continue working on the Justice Committees with emphasis on gun violence prevention and LGBTQ+ fight for equality/safety and also continue to work with Moms Demand Action on gun violence, coordinating efforts with First Community. He is also working on promoting community outreach/involvement.



Jim Hutchins

Jim is currently involved with the Spiritual Life & Learning Center Board. Previously, he served on the Foundation Board, was a Trustee for the Hannah Neil Children's Center, and a Trustee for Unverferth House and volunteers for "I Know I Can". Jim is a graduate of Upper Arlington High School, Northwestern University and the Ohio State University Moritz College of Law. He grew up in Upper Arlington, where he was an Eagle Scout and President of his class three times. He has been a member of First Community for 60 years. His two children were baptized and are active in the church. Jim was a Corporate Attorney in Real Estate Finance, Banking, and Real Estate Development in Columbus. He was the Founder and first Chairperson of the Legal Issues Committee of the Mortgage Bankers of America. He ended his active legal career by helping people save their homes during the Great Recession, serving as a Foreclosure Mediator. Jim also was a Trustee for the Hannah Neil Children's Center, Trustee for Unverferth House and a volunteer for "I Know I Can". He is now doing volunteer work for the Columbus Metropolitan Library Reading Buddies Program, Central Community House, Advocacy Committee and Columbus Legal Aid Society.



Jayne Kaylor

Jayne is currently an active member of the Spiritual Life and Learning Council and has been for several years. Beginning this year, she will Co-Chair this Council with Jerry Browning. She is also a member of Open Door (greeters). She attended Camp Akita in middle school and became involved in First Community as a youth, receiving The Block of Wood, Seven Keys, was on the Youth Council, Bar None planning and worked at Camp Akita during the summers. As an adult she served on Early Childhood, Children's, Middle School, and High School Councils, was a Deacon, on the Nominating Committee and part of many fundraising and other events through the years.

**Leah Miller**

Leah is currently involved in Circles, boards, committees, volunteer jobs, stewardship campaigns, choirs, etc. Areas of past involvement church or community include youth programs when her three children were younger. All three of her children were baptized, received their Third Grade Bibles, and took First Communion at FCC. Along the way, she volunteered to help in the church with various programs/classrooms that her children were involved with. She was the Lead Volunteer for several Sunday School classrooms, volunteered for Akita 1, 2, 3, volunteered with Mid-week Missions and helped with the Children's Choirs. Her teenage children still go to Akita each summer and now they give back through LIFE guarding, etc.

**Dave Nickel**

Dave has been a member of First Community for over 25 years and currently serves on the First Community Foundation Board. He previously served as Chair of the Adult Learning Council for three consecutive years and was a member of the Council for approximately 10 years. Dave is also a member of the Board of the Jungian Association of Central Ohio. Dave earned his PhD from Indiana University with a double major in Chemistry and Higher Education Administration. He taught and was in leadership roles for 20 years in universities and for 20 additional years with Goodyear and Lockheed Martin Corporations. He played a significant role in advancing the participative management processes within these corporations. He has also served as a Lecturer with The Ohio State University Fisher College of Business and taught for two summers in Wuhan, China, in association with Ohio State. He and his wife, Jennie have two adult children and five grandchildren, all of whom reside in the Columbus area. He is also an avid baseball fan.



Jen Peterson

Jen's current areas of church involvement include Circles, boards, committees, volunteer jobs, stewardship campaigns, choirs, etc.

She is also involved with the Community Justice Committee.

Jen's children previously were involved with Akita, Choir, Mission Trips to Dominican Republic, Crossroads, Block of Wood and Adopt-A-Family

She is also a Gun Violence Prevention & Safety Task Force Member.

Outside of FCC, she sits on ALVIS, Leadership Columbus and The Center for Healthy Families Boards of Trustees.

She was previously on Boards of Dress for Success, CATCO and The Junior League of Columbus.



Nancy Rummel

Nancy's current areas of church involvement include First Community Foundation Board, Secretary, Governance Committee Member, Development Committee Member, Capital Campaign Committee Member, Co-Chair of the Public Phase Committee, Circle C Member, Fourth Monday Feeding the Homeless, and Heart to Heart volunteer. Her areas of past involvement include Adult Education Council Member, Missions Council Member and Garage Sale volunteer.



Tom Stewart

Tom Stewart was married at First Community Church nearly fifty years ago to Pam, who is a 3rd generation member of FCC.

They have two daughters who both attended the Mary Evans Pre-School Program at the church and who are fourth generation members of FCC. They also have five grandsons, all baptized at FCC, and who are fifth-generation members of the church. Tom has been active in the Columbus Business Community serving as the Senior Executive Officer of the WBNS Radio and Television Stations prior to his retirement in 2001. Since that time, he has served as a Faculty Member of The Ohio State University teaching courses in Communication where he was recently named a "Distinguished Lecturer" by The University.

He has served in leadership positions on numerous community Boards and organizations, both profit and non-profit, including Grange Mutual Insurance Companies, The Integrity Mutual Insurance Companies Headquartered in Appleton, Wisconsin,

The Columbus Zoo, The Ohio Association of Broadcasters, The Upper Arlington Community Arts Committee, The Upper Arlington Education Association, Nationwide Children's Hospital, The Franklin County Hospital Commission and The United Way of Central Ohio.

Tom is especially interested in the Worship and Music Ministries of the church as well as the Television Ministry which allows the terrific programs and offerings of FCC to reach well beyond the two campuses of the organization.



Ned Timmons

Ned was baptized at FCC in 1946. His youth activities include Cherub Choir, Youth Choir, received Block of wood 1960 also Seven Keys. He was married at FCC to Marti Garvin in 1970 by Rev. Art Sanders. Both of their daughters were baptized at FCC. He has also served on many FCC Councils and Committees, Worship and Arts, High School Council, Missions Council, Nomination Committee, Media Group, "By Faith Together" Committee, and "FCC Centennial Celebration Committee. He was a Sunday School Teacher for 10 years. He is currently a member of FCC Media Group and a Liaison to Missions Council from Habitat for Humanity. He has been a Habitat for Humanity FCC volunteer for 35 + years and has built 30+ houses.



Scott Toop

Scott Toop is a retired Attorney. He most recently served as Wendy's General Counsel, and before that as General Counsel for Tim Hortons in Toronto, and KFC in Louisville. Scott and his wife Laura Rosene joined First Community in December 2017. Their twin sons, Eric and Patrick love Camp Akita and regularly participate in Crossroads. Scott is a member of the Older Adult Ministry Team, The Gun Violence Prevention Team, and the ElderWisdom Book Group. He also actively participates in Thursdays at 10, First Community's Pride events, and volunteers at Camp Akita. Outside of church, Scott volunteers at Columbus Academy and has coached youth sports for over 15 years.



Darian Torrance

Darian's current areas of church involvement includes First Community Foundation, Board of Trustees 2017-2023, Chair, Grants Committee 2020-present, Women's Guild, Treasurer, Guild C, and Recording Secretary of Women's Guild Board.

Her current community involvement includes OSU Retirees Association, Board of Trustees 2020-present, OPERS Representative for the OSURA Board, OSURA Fall Conference, Travel, and Benefits Committees, Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees (OCHER), Association for Research and Enlightenment (A.R.E.), Central Ohio Area Co-Coordinator 2012-present, and A.R.E. Search for God Study Group Member 1973-present.

Her areas of past involvement includes First Community Church Service Board, Deacons, Adult Learning Council, Spiritual Searcher Committee, Women's Retreat Committee, Tuesday at 10 Group and Sunday Morning Seminar, First Community Foundation, and Foundation Administrator 2016-2016.



Jim Turner

Jim's current church involvement includes Couples Circle 47. His past church involvement includes 14 years at Camp Akita as a camper and Summer Staff, member of First Community Nominating Committee, First Community Governing Board Member, Akita Council, and multiple capital campaigns. His community involvement includes serving as the Past President of the Rotary Club of Upper Arlington, Trustee, Columbus Zoo and Aquarium 17 years, Developer and Director of The Dowd School for Homeless Children, Founding Trustee of Upper Arlington Education Association, Founding Director of Upper Arlington Alumni Association, Chairman of Mayor Rinehart's Select Committee on Drug Abuse, Director North American Telecommunications Association Chairman, Ohio League of Young Republican Clubs, and proud past member of The Columbia Record Club.



Ed Wojniak

Ed's involvement in First Community began over 10 years ago when he came to listen to a speaker, Michael Conforti. He continues to attend various events sponsored primarily by The Spiritual Life and Learning Center. In 2013, he and his wife Jan, started attending FCC culminating in mid-2020 when they both became members. Membership at FCC represents a new chapter in their lives, one of vital spiritual growth, on a path that began with their conversion experiences as young adults. Ed's participation in the community has its roots in his educational career at The Ohio State University, the Clintonville home he has shared with his wife and five children (two daughters and three sons – now adults with children of their own) over the past 46+ years; his children's education at Tree of Life Christian Schools, church attendance and men's and small group leadership positions through the years (e.g., Vineyard of Columbus and Upper Arlington Lutheran Church); Board Membership in the Jung Association of Central Ohio, his 30-year-long career at Franklin County Children Services, and his second career as a Psychologist which began in 1996.

First Community
Annual Church Member Meeting Minutes
January 29, 2022
Grace Hall/Via Zoom

WELCOME

Governing Board Chair, Cydney Philbin, called the meeting to order at 10:00 am and welcomed those in attendance. Rev. Mary Kate Buchanan was then called on to give the opening prayer.

REPORTS – Cydney Philbin

Cydney thanked Chris Montgomery, Parliamentarian, Bobbie Mueller, Meeting Administrator, Stewart Pitchford, and the Media Team for their assistance.

C. Philbin thanked the Governing Board for their successful year and recognized the outgoing members: Stacy McVey, Sally Hughes, Pam Shisler, Jodi Patton – Past Governing Board Chair

Cydney highlighted the work of the Board of Deacons and thanked the outgoing Deacons: Marianne Anderson, Buck Byrne, Carrie Narcelles, Chris Casavant, Michael Barger, Rob Dingle, Graham Webb, Ron Johnson, Chair, and Rev. Jim Long who is now Pastor Emeritus.

With great appreciation Cydney thanked the clergy, program staff and church staff for going above and beyond and creating solutions for ever changing situations. She also acknowledged the excellent leadership of Paul Anderson and Dr. Glen Miles.

Cydney outlined financial accomplishments; Paul Anderson was able to get a 2nd Cares Act PPP loan and the employee retention credit. For the second year in a row, the church ended the year in the black. Cydney thanked Treasurer, Jason Milligan, and the Finance Committee for all their arduous work and the church members for doing whatever they could to fulfill their yearly commitments.

Gratitude was expressed to Dr. Miles for keeping the Church moving forward with optimism, hope and faithfulness. He has built an online following that is still thriving today.

A huge thank you from Cydney to the First Community Foundation and Board members. The Foundation provided \$489,000 in grants. Grant money was used towards Akita improvements, updating the second floor of South, emergency relief for Missions, new glass doors in the Weist Room, COVID protection expenses and more.

Pam Shisler was thanked for putting hundreds of hours into organizing, leading meetings, and prioritizing goals for the Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan has been created to provide for the continued development of the ministries of First Community and to assure long-term viability.

CHURCH TREASURER'S REPORT – Jason Milligan

Jason Milligan reviewed a financial summary of 2021. A copy of the report is attached to these minutes.

OPERATIONS REPORT AND 2021 BUDGET – Paul Anderson

Executive Director of Operations, Paul Anderson, thanked Jason Milligan and all those behind the scenes in preparing for this meeting. He mentioned that 2021 was a challenging year given the uncertainties regarding COVID.

Paul stated the 2022 budget was created with resumption of most of the ministry activities. It is balanced with revenue and expenses at \$4.96m. While the budget was prepared prior to the completion of the Strategic Plan initiatives, the budget supports the Strategic Plan. The 2022 Budget includes all activities and ministries. This is the first time since the early 1990s that a budget has been prepared that includes all ministries in the operating budget.

First Community has applied for an Employee Retention Credit of \$345k, another stimulus benefit. This is not included in this year's budget as it not yet confirmed. The Church still has a debt of \$5.7m from the Realize Capital Projects. Outstanding pledges will reduce that to about \$4.5m. Those pledges are expected to be collected in 2022. Ginny Barney is leading an effort to raise funds for the retirement of the debt. It is in the quiet phase at this point with active discussions ongoing.

The Foundation received gifts of \$778,000 and the assets grew to \$10.5 million. The return it achieved was 13.5%.

SENIOR MINISTER – Rev. Dr. Glen Miles

Service Awards were presented to:

Chris Casavant

Joy Converse

Connie Johnston

Upon reflection on the last year, Dr. Miles spoke of the story of David and Goliath as a lesson of courage, faith, and overcoming what seems impossible. Dr. Miles used this to illustrate the giant issues that face churches. The story challenges us to shed fear, trust in each other, to trust in God. First Community is entering a new governance year and we are ready and excited to enter the fray.

PRESENTATION OF GOVERNING BOARD AND BOARD OF DEACON SLATES -RYAN MILLER

Ryan Miller presented the following candidates to serve a three-year-term on the Governing Board in accordance with Article IV of the First Community Church Constitution. Ryan asked members joining online to unmute themselves so they could participate in the vote. The candidates are:

Catherine Adams

Ginny Barney

Rose Konrath

Rebecca Wolfe

Ryan Miller asked for nominations from the floor. None were noted. Ryan moved to approve the above names by acclamation. The motion was seconded and carried.

Board of Deacons. Ryan Miller introduced the following nominees for the Board of Deacons to serve a three-year term:

Angie Andujar
Amy Baughcum
Doug Bodin
Tim Carlson
Tracy Dickens
Ryan Miller
Joan Talmage
Jon Welty

Ryan Miller asked for nominations from the floor. None were noted. Ryan moved to approve the above names by acclamation. The motion was seconded and carried.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE BALLOTS

Jodi Patton, Chair of the Nominating Committee, explained the responsibility of the Governing Board Nominating Committee and provided a brief synopsis of the responsibilities for selecting candidates to serve on the Governing Board and Board of Deacons. She then presented the slate of twenty-four candidates for the 2022 Committee, from which twelve are elected to serve a two-year term. Jodi asked for nominations from the floor. None were noted.

The nominees present were asked to stand and thanked for agreeing to serve. Time was given for those in attendance to cast their ballots. Members joining the meeting via Zoom were given the option of mailing their ballots or dropping them off at North or South by Monday, February 7th, 2022. The nominees:

Jane Briggs	Jon Costin
Elizabeth Downey	Bob Everhart
Greg Guy	Brad Griffith
Jenny Hicks	Jim Hutchins
Julie Keefer	Carrie Narcelles
Walter Neff	Dave Nickel
Chris Potts	Megan Potts
Matt Prescott	Laura Rosene
Jill Snyder	Bob Stillman
Laura Watson	Rick Watson
Felicia Wilson	Ed Wojniak
Larry Woods	Mike Zook

The Nominating Committee reported on February 9, 2022, that the following twelve people received the highest vote count as a result of the balloting at the meeting and subsequent to the Annual Members Meeting:

Jon Costin
Bob Eberhart
Julie Keefer
Walt Neff
Megan Potts
Larry Woods

Elizabeth Downey
Brad Griffith
Carrie Narcelles
Chris Potts
Bob Stillman
Mike Zook

PASSING OF THE GAVEL

Cydney Philbin thanked Jodi Patton for her work as the Past-Chairperson. Jodi made a few comments about her experiences as a Board member, Chair and Past Chair. Cydney then welcomed Alice Finley as the new 2022 Governing Board Chairperson.

2022 GOVERNING BOARD CHAIRPERSON – Alice Finley

Alice first thanked Jodi, Cydney and Jason for their leadership and work the past year. She acknowledged Paul and Glen's leadership. Alice pledged to work internally and externally allowing God's spirit to guide us as she welcomed the new members to the board.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Alice asked for a motion to approve the 2021 Annual Church Member Meeting minutes, held January 30, 2021. Ron Johnson made the motion, and it was seconded. The motion was approved.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

Alice asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made and seconded. The motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

Alice asked Dr. Miles to end the meeting in prayer.

2021 Results

	2022 BUDGET	2021 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	2020 ACTUALS
Pledge Revenue	2,012,000	1,967,136	1,915,000	1,971,226
Sanctuary Offering	24,000	17,157	35,000	9,858
Fee Supported	2,205,832	2,097,631	1,915,923	964,712
Program and Facilities	243,965	781,038	145,272	177,990
Gifts and other Support	<u>476,513</u>	<u>1,190,523</u>	<u>512,320</u>	<u>1,290,290</u>
Total Revenue	<u>4,962,310</u>	<u>6,053,485</u>	<u>4,523,515</u>	<u>4,414,076</u>
Fee Supported	1,934,182	1,931,481	1,806,234	1,200,601
Ministries and Programs	609,876	865,582	389,154	361,559
Facilities and Admin	1,057,835	1,074,649	1,035,751	928,124
Salaries and Benefits	1,360,416	1,320,171	1,292,376	1,476,718
Total Expenses	<u>4,962,310</u>	<u>5,191,883</u>	<u>4,523,515</u>	<u>3,967,001</u>
Net Change	\$ 0	\$ 861,602	\$ -	\$ 447,075



Constitution

First Community Church

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Adopted January 24, 1983 Reprinted September 1997 Reprinted September 1999 Amended February 3, 2001 Reprinted November 10, 2002 Revised January 31, 2010 Amended January 30, 2021, Amended January 29, 2023

CONSTITUTION of THE FIRST COMMUNITY CHURCH of Columbus, Ohio

(Incorporated Under the Laws of the State of Ohio)

Article I GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1: Name

The name of this Church shall be THE FIRST COMMUNITY CHURCH OF COLUMBUS, OHIO (the Church).

Section 2: Statement of Purpose

We are called together as a congregation of believers and as followers of Jesus Christ. It is our purpose to work and continually live by the love of God.

We accept the message of the Bible and are committed to sharing the good news of Jesus Christ through worship that is enriched by the breadth of Christian tradition, education that nurtures faith through all its stages, fellowship that reaches out with acceptance and love for all persons, and prayer that keeps us ever open to the working of the Spirit.

We believe that our response to the needs of all people requires the responsible dedication of ourselves and our material resources. We are committed personally and corporately to proclaiming the love of God in our community, and the world through service to others, through our support of efforts to bring wholeness, dignity and justice to all people; and through our willingness to make public statements on matters of Christian faith and conscience.

We are committed to working with other Christian churches and to promoting a spirit of ecumenical participation among people of all faiths.

Pursuant to this purpose there shall be public worship on each Sunday and other days as deemed necessary, and a communion service at least once each quarter of the year.

Section 3: The Statement of Faith

The church professes faith in God as creator, redeemer and guiding spirit. This faith is fully articulated in the creedal statements of the denominations with which the Church is affiliated. The Church summarizes its faith as follows:

I believe in the living God, the creator of all humankind. I believe in Jesus Christ as revealed to me in the Bible as the Lord and Savior of my life and the world. I accept, as the guiding principles of my life and conduct, the teachings of Jesus, who, when asked, "What is the greatest commandment?" said: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind; and the second is like unto it; you shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Section 4: Form of Government

This Church, having been incorporated under the laws of the State of Ohio, shall be governed and administered in accordance with this Constitution.

Section 5: Church Year

The Governing Board shall set the fiscal year of the Church.

[\[No Change to Article I\]](#)

Article II MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Qualification

Any individual may become a member of the Church by accepting the Statement of Faith of the Church either in public worship or private meeting or **in online consultation** with the Senior Minister or the Senior Minister's ordained clergy designee.

[Updated to include electronic consultation.]

Section 2: Rights and Duties of Members

~~All members shall have equal rights in the governance of the Church and its programs and be deemed members in good standing who support the worldwide faith community and the Church, by actions and conduct, participation in worship and/or programs, and support, including financial, to the best of the member's ability. shall be deemed in good standing.~~

Those who participate in the Church, and contribute financially, to the best of their ability, shall be deemed members in good standing. The Church shall maintain a roster of members currently in good standing. Those members shall have equal rights in the governance of the Church and its programs, including the right to vote in elections available to members.

[Rewritten to clarify who is a member in good standing and to separate rights and duties.]

Section 3: Termination of Membership

A member may terminate membership in the Church by submitting a letter of resignation. The Governing Board may terminate the membership of a member who has failed to fulfill their membership duties as described in Section 2 of this Article by a vote of two-thirds majority of the Governing Board.

Termination of membership may also be effected in accordance with Section 4 of this Article.

[No change.]

Section 4: Membership Rolls

The Governing Board may cause the membership rolls of the Church to be reviewed periodically for the purpose of assuring that such rolls accurately reflect the status of the

Church membership. If upon such review, it appears that any member has failed to fulfill their membership duties as described in Section 2 of this Article for a significant period of time as defined by the Governing Board, and if it further appears that efforts to reactivate such member has been unavailing, the Governing Board may thereupon terminate the membership of such member.

[No change.]

DRAFT

Article III

MEETINGS OF THE MEMBERS

Section 1: Annual Meeting

An annual meeting of the members of the Church shall be set by the Governing Board **and** held after the end of each fiscal year ~~in each year. If not so fixed, the annual meeting shall be held on the fourth Monday of the month immediately following the end of such fiscal year.~~ The purposes of the annual meeting shall include the election of members ~~of to~~ the Governing Board, Diaconate and ~~members of the~~ Nominating Committee, ~~a report~~ **Reports shall be heard** on the fiscal affairs of the Church, ~~the receipt of and~~ any others ~~written or oral reports as are required under this Constitution or as may be requested by the Governing Board or the Chairperson~~ **Presiding Officer** of the meeting, ~~and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the members of the Church at such meeting.~~ **Other business pertinent to the entire congregation may also be transacted.**

[Changes made for clarity.]

Section 2: Special Meetings

~~Special meetings of the members may be called at any time by the Governing Board or upon written request to the Governing Board by at least one hundred members of the Church.~~

A request for a special meeting shall state the reasons ~~therefore~~ and the business proposed to be transacted at such meeting. The Secretary of the Governing Board shall arrange for such meeting to be held, ~~with respect to a special meeting~~ called by the Governing Board, ~~on the date established by the Governing Board or, with respect to a special meeting held upon~~ **or by** written request of ~~at least one hundred~~ **3% of church** members **in good standing**, ~~of the Church~~ no later than ~~forty-five~~ **thirty** days from the date of the receipt of the request. The business of the special meeting shall be limited to the business stated in the notice of the meeting.

[Changes made for clarity; changed 100 members to 3% of members in good standing to accommodate changes in the size of church membership; changed 45 days to 30 days to speed up the scheduling of a special meeting.]

Section 3: Meeting Notice

Notice of ~~all an~~ annual or special meetings of the members of the Church shall be ~~given~~ **communicated** to members by the ~~Secretary of the Governing Board~~ in writing ~~not less~~

~~than twenty days and not more than forty days prior to the meeting~~ by electronic means, in church publications, and on church website and with printed copies available at North and South campuses. The ~~Such~~ notice shall ~~be given either by electronic means or by including the notice in a regular or special edition of the Church publications or by posting on the Church website.~~ The notice appear at least fourteen days in advance of the meetings and shall state the place, date, time and purposes for which the meeting is called.

[Changed to clarify, to allow for electronic communication of meetings]

Section 4: Presiding Officer; Secretary

At all annual and special meetings of the members, the Chair~~person~~ of the Governing Board or, in his/her ~~their~~ absence, the Vice Chair~~person~~ of the Governing Board, ~~or in the absence of both, any member of the Governing Board present as may be elected by a majority of the Church members present,~~ shall preside at, fix the order of, and direct the business of the meeting. In the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair, another member of the Governing Board shall be elected by those physically present to preside. The Secretary of the Governing Board shall act as ~~the~~ secretary of such meetings and cause the minutes ~~thereof~~ of the meeting to be kept and reported.

[Changed Chairperson to Chair throughout for consistency; updated pronoun to “their”; and eliminated redundancy.]

Section 5: Quorum: Rules of Order

The members ~~physically~~ present or ~~communicating through other approved means~~ at an annual or special meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business ~~or~~ and other actions to be considered at such meetings. All elections and other matters to be ~~determined~~ ~~decided~~ shall be ~~decided~~ ~~determined~~ by a majority of those members in good standing, voting, ~~except as otherwise herein specifically provided,~~ physically or by other approved means. This voting shall occur in a timely manner previously specified and communicated by the Governing Board. *Roberts’ Rules of Order* shall be followed for the orderly transaction of business at all annual and special meetings.

[Changed to reflect new technology and to eliminate nonexistent exception.]

Article IV

GOVERNING BOARD

Section 1: Authority and Responsibility

The Governing Board shall have full authority to act in the name of the Church and on behalf of its members with respect to all matters affecting the Church **governance**, ~~except as expressly reserved to the members of otherwise limited herein.~~ The Governing Board shall **act on behalf of the congregation to oversee the mission and vision of the Church as executed by** ~~be responsible for the oversight of the~~ Church's ministries and programs. **The Governing Board shall also provide oversight of the business affairs of the Church, the conduct of its business affairs, and which includes the control and possession of its property and all other assets.**

[Changes to clarify the proper role of the Governing Board.]

Section 2: Members; Qualification; Term

The Governing Board shall consist of fourteen members, ~~comprised of~~ **four** ~~(4) new~~ members **shall be** elected by the members of the Church each year as provided in Section 4 of this Article IV.

~~the Chairperson, and the Immediate Past Chairperson. All voting members of the Governing Board shall be members in good standing as defined in Article II, Section 2 of this Constitution and shall have demonstrated financial support to the Church.~~

~~Except for the Chairperson, t~~ **The** term of office of each elected member of the Governing Board shall be three **(3)** years **with the exception of the Vice Chair, Chair and the Immediate Past Chair who shall each serve five (5) years.** The Governing Board shall elect a Vice Chair who has completed two years of their term on the Governing Board. **The Vice Chair shall serve one year beginning with the Governing Board Meeting after the Annual Meeting. The Vice Chair shall then serve as the Chair for one year and as the Immediate Past Chair the following year. The Vice Chair, the Chair and Immediate Past Chair shall be voting members.** ~~The member who is eligible to be elected Chairperson is selected from those who have served on the Governing Board for at least one year and after serving one year as the Vice Chairperson, that person will become Chairperson for a term of one year beginning with the Governing Board meeting immediately after the annual meeting. The Chairperson shall continue as a voting member and, regardless of the year or years of such service, shall be a voting member for one additional year as Immediate Past Chairperson. Accordingly, the member elected Chairperson may serve for a maximum term of five years.~~

Each member of the Governing Board shall have ~~the right to~~ **an equal** vote ~~except as otherwise provided in this Constitution.~~ **except as otherwise provided in this Constitution**
A person who has served at least two full years as an elected member of the Governing Board shall not be eligible for re-election to that position for two years after the expiration of that person's ~~previous~~ term.

[Changes to make it more coherent. No substantive changes.]

Section 3: Members Ex-Officio

There may be ex-officio members of the Governing Board as provided herein, who may attend all meetings and take part in all discussions, except as otherwise herein provided, but shall not have the right to vote.

[No change.]

Section 4: Election of Members; Vacancies

At each annual meeting, the members of this Church shall elect four members of the Governing Board from nominees selected by the Nominating Committee as herein provided or nominated from the floor.

In the event a vacancy should occur on the Governing Board during a term of any ~~member or~~ **of its** members ~~of the Governing Board~~, the Nominating Committee shall furnish to the Governing Board the names of one or more nominees for each such vacancy. The Governing Board shall appoint one such nominee **within thirty (30) days** to fill each such vacancy until the next annual meeting, at which time the members of the Church shall elect a successor to fill any such vacancy for the remainder of the term.

[Change to streamline and to add time limit for GB to act to appoint for vacant seat.]

Section 5: Organization

The Governing Board shall meet periodically at the call of the Chair~~person~~, and at a minimum of ~~at least~~ six times a year. It shall prescribe its own rules of procedures, not inconsistent with this Constitution or the Articles of Incorporation of the Church.

[Change to update title and to eliminate redundancy; no substantive change.]

Section 6: Implementation of Program Responsibilities

The Governing Board, after consultation with the Senior Minister, may appoint the chair~~persons~~ ~~,who shall be members in good standing, as defined in Article II, Section 2 of this Constitution,~~ of all ~~commissions, councils, committees, and boards~~ **entities**

established by it pursuant to Section 5 of this Article ~~and may appoint the members thereof~~. The Governing Board may appoint the members of any **entity or delegate this task to a staff member**. The Governing Board may receive recommendations with respect to such appointments ~~and act~~, or act upon its own initiative. The Governing Board reserves the right to remove a member of any ~~commission, council, committee, or board~~ **entity**.

An entity may be a council, team, committee, task-force or other group established by the Governing Board after consultation with the Senior Minister. The purpose of an entity shall be to further the Church's programs, missions or strategic goals. Entities shall be led or overseen by at least one staff member. An entity may be disestablished by the Governing Board if its purpose is deemed no longer needed.

~~All commissions, councils, committees and boards shall conduct their activities and carry out their responsibilities pursuant to and in accordance with written bylaws for each commission, council committees, or boards approved by the Governing Board.~~

[Changes to reflect the use of the word "entity" to describe councils, etc. and identify the purpose thereof and to clarify language.]

Section 7: Implementation of Business Responsibilities; Property

The Governing Board, in its fiduciary capacity, may buy, sell, lease, rent or mortgage all Church property, real and personal, including intangibles; provided, however, that the Governing Board shall sell and cease operations at 1320 Cambridge Blvd Columbus (South), 3777 Dublin Road Columbus (North), 29746 Logan Hornsmill Rd, Logan (Camp Akita) or mortgage real property of the Church only after first obtaining approval of such sale or mortgage at an annual meeting or at a special meeting of the members of this Church. The Governing Board shall control the use of Church property for all purposes and shall keep it insured and maintained.

[No change to Section 7.]

Section 8: Implementation of Business Responsibilities; Fiscal

The Governing Board shall oversee the control and accounting for the collection, management, and disbursement of all funds of the Church. Disbursements shall be made by the Executive Director of Operations, or ~~its equivalent, acting in accordance with authority specifically granted by the Governing Board~~ **their direct delegate**. The financial statements of the Church shall be audited annually **by an independent auditor**, and a report thereof shall be made to the Governing Board.

The Governing Board shall ensure that a budget for the ensuing year is presented at each annual meeting. Pursuant to this responsibility, the Governing Board shall consult with the Senior Minister, ~~the staff, and such commissions, councils, committees, teams and boards, and committees, as it shall deem necessary~~ and the Executive Director of Operations. No indebtedness or obligation shall be incurred on behalf of the Church except under procedures overseen by the Governing Board.

The Governing Board shall oversee the funding of the operation of the Church and its programs. Pursuant to this responsibility, the Governing Board shall make such arrangements, as it shall deem necessary to secure endowments, gifts and commitments.

[Changes to provide for independent audit, and to streamline GB consultation.]

Article V

THE MINISTERIAL STAFF

Section 1: The Senior Minister

The Senior Minister shall be responsible for the spiritual life and leadership of the Church including its overall operations. The Senior Minister shall be the head of the Staff and shall have the responsibility and the necessary authority to guide, administer, direct and oversee the programs and business of the Church with and through the members of the Staff as deemed necessary.

It shall be the duty and responsibility of the Senior Minister to exercise pastoral oversight of the congregation, to teach and preach the Word of God, to administer the sacraments, to cultivate in the congregation the life of stewardship and service and to display the ministry of Jesus Christ in the Senior Minister's own life and work. The Senior Minister shall be a pastoral member in good standing of a Protestant Christian denomination. ~~The Senior Minister shall be the head of the Staff and shall have the responsibility and the necessary authority pursuant to the directions of the Governing Board in carrying out the mission of the Church. The Senior Minister is responsible to administer, direct, and oversee the programs and business of the Church with and through the members of the Staff as deemed necessary.~~ The Senior Minister shall be an ex-officio member of the Governing Board, all entities boards, councils, and committees of the Church and may consult with them in furtherance of the purpose, government, programs, and business of the Church.

The Senior Minister shall employ and dismiss or delegate authority to employ or dismiss employees of the Church. In carrying out these responsibilities, the Senior Minister shall consult with the Chairperson of the Governing Board or the Executive Committee with respect to the hiring or dismissal of any ordained person or the Executive Director of Operations. ~~, as defined in Article V, Section 2. or~~ With respect to the hiring or dismissal of any non-clergy staff, the Senior Minister shall consult with the Executive Director of Operations. ~~, as defined in Article V, Section 1.~~

The Senior Minister shall employ an Executive Director of Operations, or its equivalent to serve under the Senior Minister in the administration of all routine business and operations of the Church, and to serve as Secretary to the Governing Board. The Secretary will be an ex-officio member of the Governing Board, as defined in Article IV, Section 3 of this Constitution.

Candidates for the position of Senior Minister shall be considered according to procedures devised by the Governing Board. Recommendation of a nominee for the

position of Senior Minister shall be made by the Governing Board at a special meeting of the members of the Church called specifically for that purpose. The nominee shall be issued a call if affirmed by the vote of three-fourths of the members of the Church in attendance **physically or by another approved electronic means** at such special meeting.

If the Senior Minister wishes to dissolve the pastoral relationship with the Church, the Senior Minister shall tender a written request for dissolution to the Governing Board, and the Governing Board shall act thereon as soon as practicable thereafter.

Proceedings for the removal of the Senior Minister may be instituted either by the Governing Board on its own motion or by petition to the Governing Board signed by not less than ten percent of the members **in good standing**, as defined by Article II, Section 2 of this Constitution. In the event such proceedings are instituted by petition, the Governing Board shall first hear the evidence in support of the claim made and the defenses offered and shall formulate a recommendation for submission to the members regarding the ~~proposed~~ removal. Regardless of how initiated, the question shall be submitted to the members at a special meeting called pursuant to Article III for the purpose of voting on the recommendation of the Governing Board. At such a meeting, said recommendation shall be for full discussion. Removal shall require the affirmative vote of three-fourths of the members of the Church present **physically or by another approved electronic means** at such meeting.

[Changes to make it clear that only members in good standing are meant and to allow for approved electronic attendance.]

Section 2: Ordained Persons

The Senior Minister and all other ordained persons who serve as members of the clergy of the Church shall be pastoral members in good standing of a Protestant Christian denomination. Such persons will be expected to preach the Word of God, administer the sacraments, and share in general pastoral responsibilities in addition to areas of specific assignment. They shall maintain their ordination credentials.

The Senior Minister may establish and confer designations of ordained persons (such as Associate Minister, Assistant Minister, or similar designations) to the extent such designations are not inconsistent with the denominational orders of the ordained persons. The Governing Board may, under such terms and conditions as it deems appropriate, confer upon retired staff ministers the title of Minister Emeritus.

[No change to Section 2.]

Article VI

DIACONATE

There shall be a Diaconate responsible for the ecclesiastical and spiritual life of the Church working in cooperation with the Ministerial Staff. The Diaconate shall be structured and shall operate under ~~bylaws~~ **procedures** approved by the Governing Board.

[Change “bylaws” to “procedures.”]

DRAFT

Article VII

CHURCH TREASURER

Section 1: Authority and Duties

The Church Treasurer shall represent the members of the Church in all fiscal matters of the Church. The financial accounts and financial accounting of the Church shall be overseen by the Finance Committee, which is defined in the By-Laws of the Governing Board. The Treasurer or their delegate shall report on income and expenditures of the Church at each meeting of the Governing Board and shall perform such other duties as are normally incumbent upon a treasurer or designated by the Governing Board. The Treasurer shall be the Chairperson of the Finance Committee.

[No changes to Section 1.]

Section 2: Nomination; Election; Term of Office

A member of the Governing Board shall be elected by a majority of the Governing Board to serve as Treasurer. The Treasurer shall be a voting member of the Governing Board. The Treasurer shall consult with the Governing Board, the Senior Minister, the Executive Director of Operations, or its equivalent, and others employed in the business office on matters of fiscal policy of the Church.

Candidates for Treasurer shall be selected from members of the Governing Board. The Treasurer shall be elected by a majority of the members of the Governing Board present at the first meeting of the Governing Board after the annual meeting of the Church.

The term of office of the Treasurer shall be one year, commencing immediately after election. The Treasurer shall not serve more than three successive terms.

[No changes to Section 2.]

Section 3: Vacancy

In the event the position of Treasurer should become vacant during a term of office, the Governing Board shall elect a new Treasurer, in accordance with Article VII, Section 2 of this Constitution.

Article VIII

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Section 1: Definition; Purpose

The Nominating Committee shall be a committee representing and elected by the members of the Church. The Committee's function shall be to select and nominate candidates for the Governing Board and the Diaconate. The number of nominees presented by the Committee shall be equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, unless the Governing Board shall direct that a greater number be nominated.

Section 2: Number; Qualification; Term of Office

The Nominating Committee shall be composed of ~~twenty-four~~ twelve (12) members of the Church ~~who are members in good standing in accordance with Article II, Section 2 and active for a sufficient length of time to know and appreciate the programs and the business of the Church.~~ The term of office ~~of~~ for Nominating Committee members ~~of the Nominating Committee~~ shall be two years, and no member shall serve two successive terms. Terms of one-half or ~~twelve~~ six (6) of the members of the Nominating Committee shall expire at each annual meeting.

[Change to reduce the size of nominating committee and to eliminate redundancy.]

Section 3: ~~Nomination~~ Nominating Committee Election

~~Each year at the annual meeting, the Governing Board shall report to the members assembled, a list of twenty-four candidates for the Nominating Committee selected by the Governing Board as qualified to serve on the Nominating Committee including up to twelve names submitted by the Church's current Boards, Councils and Committees, up to six submitted by the current Governing Board and up to six submitted by the current ordained clergy or by members in good standing, as described in Article II, Section 2.~~

The Governing Board, being duly elected by the members of the Church, shall select six (6) members of the Church to serve on the Nominating Committee based on their collective qualification to best represent the Church's membership.

Each year at the annual meeting, the Governing Board shall present to the members of the Church a slate of six candidates selected and qualified to serve on the Nominating Committee. Any member in good standing may nominate themselves or another member in good standing to serve on the Nominating Committee. Written notice to the Governing Board of this desire must be made thirty (30) days before the annual

meeting. In this event the notice of the annual meeting will list all qualified candidates and the voting procedure will reflect there are more candidates than positions open. The six candidates receiving the most votes at the annual meeting physically or by another approved means will be declared members of the Nominating Committee for the two year term ensuing.

~~The members of the Church present at the annual meeting shall vote by secret ballot for up to twelve of the said candidates. The twelve candidates receiving the most votes shall be declared elected as members of the Nominating Committee for the two-year term next ensuing.~~

[Changes to reduce the size of the Nominating Committee and streamline a cumbersome procedure while better aligning with our values.]

Section 4: Organization

The Nominating Committee shall hold its initial meeting no later than the fourth full month following the annual meeting. The Committee shall elect officers and may adopt its own rules of procedure not inconsistent with this Constitution.

[No changes to Section 4.]

Section 5: Duties

It shall be the duty of the Nominating Committee to select such nominees as may be required by this Constitution. In the performance of these duties, the Nominating Committee shall consult with the ~~Senior Minister and such other persons as it shall deem proper.~~ clergy staff and shall actively seek input from the congregation with respect to candidates for all positions. It also ~~The Nominating Committee~~ shall endeavor to assure that the nominees for the Governing Board and the Diaconate are generally representative of the makeup and interests of the congregation and ~~are knowledgeable about the office for which they are nominated~~ further the strategic mission and vision of the Church.

The Nominating Committee shall report its slate of nominees to the Governing Board and the Diaconate at ~~the~~ a Governing Board 's-regular meeting ~~held two months~~ at least sixty days prior to the annual meeting. It shall cause the slate of nominees to be included in writing by electronic means in ~~the regular~~ Church publications, on the Church website and with printed copies available at North and South campuses for at least two weeks prior to the annual meeting.

The Chair~~person~~ of the Nominating Committee shall present the names of the nominees at the annual meeting ~~and the Committee shall provide the proper ballots and supervise~~

~~the election.~~ The Governing Board shall provide a procedure for voting to include those physically present and those attending by another approved means.

[Changes to update and streamline procedures.]

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Article IX

POWER OF REPRESENTATION

No person shall have the power to in any way bind or otherwise obligate this Church to any policy, course of action or financial obligation unless such power is expressly granted herein or authorized by the Governing Board.

[No changes to Article IX.]

DRAFT

Article X

AMENDMENTS

Section 1: Proposal of Amendments

Any and all amendments to this Constitution or the Church's Articles of Incorporation may be proposed by the Governing Board or by petition signed by at least ~~one hundred~~ **3% of the** members **in good standing** setting forth in concise terms the proposed amendment. A meeting of the members of the Church to consider an amendment proposed by petition shall be held **within 45** ~~not more than ninety~~ days from the date of the receipt of such a petition. At such a meeting, the members of the Church shall be advised of the recommendation of the Governing Board.

[Change 100 to 3% to accommodate changes in size of congregation, to make it clear that signatories must be members in good standing and to hasten the timing of the meeting to 45, not 90 days.]

Section 2: Voting; Notice

Amendments proposed under Article X, Section 1 may be adopted at any annual meeting or special meeting of the members of the Church by a two-thirds vote of the members **in good standing** present **in accordance with Article III**. The full text of the proposed amendment ~~shall be posted in a conspicuous place in the Church and on the Church website during the entire meeting notice period, and a copy thereof shall be furnished to any member of the Church upon request.~~ **shall be made available in writing by electronic means, in church publications, on the Church website, and with printed copies available at North and South campuses for the entire meeting notice period or at least fourteen days in advance of the meeting.**

[Change to provide voting members must be in good standing and to update means of notice.]

Article XI

TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

Section 1: Purpose of Article

~~The provisions of this Article relate to the transition from the Constitution in effect as of January 30, 2021 (last revised on January 31, 2010) to the provisions of this amended Constitution. Where inconsistent with the foregoing Articles in this Constitution, the provisions of this Article shall constitute exceptions thereto.~~

[Change to delete obsolete transition provisions.]

Section 2¹: Effective Date of Amendment

Upon its adoption, this amended Constitution shall become effective on ~~the 30th day of January, 2021~~ 28th day of January, 2023 and shall supersede in its entirety the Constitution of the Church theretofore in effect, except as these transitional provisions require later implementation.

[Change to substitute date of new amendments.]

Section 3². Transition of Governing Board.

The provisions of Article IV, Section 2 of the Constitution reducing the number of Governing Board members from fifteen to twelve ~~shall be~~ was implemented beginning February 1, 2022; which was ~~shall be~~ the first year with respect to which the number of Governing Board members elected at the annual meeting shall be reduced from five to four.

Four candidates for Governing Board will continue to be chosen by the Nominating Committee each year, which will reduce the number of Governing Board members to 12 by February 1, 2024. In addition, the Chair and Past Chair are also voting members of the Governing Board. The position of Treasurer is held by one of the Governing Board members. ~~During the transition period from fifteen to twelve Governing Board members, there shall be fourteen Governing Board members for the twelve-month period beginning February 1, 2022, thirteen Governing Board members for the twelve-month period beginning February 1, 2023, and twelve Governing Board members for the twelve-month period beginning February 1, 2024 and thereafter.~~

[Changes to reflect amendments.]

~~Section 4. Transition of Treasurer.~~

~~The provisions of Article VII, Section 2 of the Constitution modifying the selection of the Treasurer shall take effect as of February 1, 2024. The Treasurer currently in office as of January 30, 2021 will complete the current term, which expires May 31, 2023. Additionally, for sake of continuity, this Treasurer in office will continue in this position until January 31, 2024. At the next regularly scheduled Governing Board meeting after January 31, 2024, the Governing Board will elect a Treasurer in accordance with Article VII, Section 2.~~

[Change deletes transition language as the then Treasurer resigned and a new Treasurer has been appointed pursuant to this Constitution.]

~~Section 5. Transition of Nominating Committee.~~

~~The provisions of Article VIII, Section 2 of the Constitution modifying the selection of the Nominating Committee shall apply to the twelve members of the Church elected to serve on the Nominating Committee at the annual meeting held in 2022 and thereafter.~~

[Section no longer applicable; amendments are subject to Section 2 Effective Date of Amendment.]