

# Governing Board Meeting Minutes

Location:	Room 101 - North Campus
Date:	June 18, 2025
Time:	7:00 PM - 9:00 pm
Attendees:	Dwayne, Ackley, Kristyn Anderson, Charlie Boltwood, Dan Davis, Chris Dusseau, Mark Hollinger, April Howe, Jim Hutchins, Rose Konrath, Mandy Levell, Martha Livingston, Randy Rocke, Jen Short, Lois Zook
Ex-officio attendees:	John Girard, Glen Miles
Guest(s):	Lynne Ayres
Absent:	N/A

## Agenda items

1. Call to Order - Rose Konrath
2. Devotion - Charlie Boltwood, sharing and reflections on the power of “coincidence” in God’s presence among us.
3. Community builder question, led by Rose Konrath: “What if?” (Reflections on the future at FC)
4. Consent Agenda
  - a. Operations Report
  - b. Chair Report
  - c. May 2025 Board Minutes
  - d. Lois Zook made a motion to accept the consent agenda
  - e. Martha Livingston seconded the motion.
  - f. An affirmative vote was unanimous.
5. Financial Report
  - a. John Girard shared Finish Strong campaign totals to date
  - b. Mark Hollinger shared Financial Updates from the Forecast and Dashboard in the agenda packets.

6. Financial Leadership Team

- a. Mark Hollinger, chair, gave a report updating the Board re ongoing work of the team.

7. April Howe gave an update on the upcoming South Open House (6/22/25), and a brief report on the success of the previous Open House on 6/11/25

8. Senior Minister Report - Glen Miles

- a. Highlights from Adam Grant's book *Hidden Potential: The Science of Achieving Greater Things*.

- i. Grant's primary thesis argues "the true measure of your potential is not the height of the peak you've reached, but how far you've climbed to get there."
- ii. This is true for clergy and laity alike, and we're stronger when we work together, rather than assume we must achieve perfection single-handedly.
- iii. The Finish Strong campaign is an example. We are making great progress, working as a team toward a common goal.
- iv. Preaching is another example Glen shared. Shifting the focus from being perfect in sermon preparation and delivery, to being better at having fun. Glen shared a theory: "the more the congregation is able to laugh, the more prepared they are for dealing with serious and sometimes difficult subjects. Somehow the opening up of the mouth and lungs to laugh out loud helps us to also open ourselves, our very hearts and minds, to the serious and sublime, the thoughtful and needful issues of the moment."
- v. We're also noticing a change in our approach to church finances. The Lead Team is working toward a more spiritual approach to stewardship in the coming months.

- b. Finish Strong update was reiterated. We are continuing to schedule meetings for asks from our high capacity donors and we will keep the campaign in front of the congregation through the month of July. We will take a break in August, although the quiet work of making asks will continue.

- i. First Merchants Bank has agreed to extend the interest-only payment period through January 31, 2026. This is very encouraging.

c. Fall Giving Campaign - Starting Strong: Small Seeds, Big Vision

- i. This will replace the previous theme "Finish Strong 2.0" which was not forward-looking enough. We desire a theme that points to the immediate future with a bold and bright vision for what is ahead.
- ii. Starting Strong campaign will focus on asking our congregation to make estimates of giving for the 2026 ministry year.
- iii. We will also continue with our dual goal approach as we continue to work on eliminating the debt.

d. Direction 2025 - FC South Assessment Team

- i. The first of two open houses was held at FC South. There were many good reports from members who attended the event. They were deeply appreciative of the information shared.

e. New Member Growth

- i. 18 new members joined in June, which puts us at 65 for the year.
- ii. If we maintain that pace we will have our highest new member number in several years

9. Rose presented Board Needs for 2026 document

10. Old Business

- a. Darkness to Light sexual abuse prevention training is being offered for all Governing Board members on Tuesday, Aug 19, 6:00 - 8:30 pm. Dinner is provided at 5:45. Sign up is available through Rose, for in-person or online training.
  - i. In-person training is free. Online training is \$16.

11. New Business

- a. Summer communication plan: Governing Board Packets will be sent via email on our regular schedule in lieu of meetings in July and August, unless otherwise notified.
- b. Martha Livingston shared about the history of FC Women's Guild
- c. Plans were shared about Rev. Mary Kate Buchanan's upcoming wedding celebration and Employee Appreciation

12. Prayer concerns and celebrations were shared

13. Closing

- a. Glen led a closing prayer.
- b. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm by Rose Konrath