

**First Congregational Church United Church of Christ (FCCUCC) of Colorado Springs  
Minutes of Special Council Meeting**

**May 30, 2021, Gregg Library**

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Council Members in Attendance:

Bill Kemp (Moderator)  
Paul McNeill (Vice Moderator)  
Jane Ridings (Secretary)  
Margaret Reiber (Care & Fellowship)  
Laura Pfender (Education)  
Sarah Lund (Worship & Spiritual Life)

Ex Officio in Attendance:

None

Ex Officio Absent:

Rev. Longbottom  
Rev. Franklin

Council Members Absent:

Polly Strovink  
John Felps

Guests:

None

**Meeting called to order:** Approximately 11:00 am

**NEW BUSINESS:**

This special meeting was convened specifically to discuss and vote upon returning to indoor in-person worship. The last indoor worship service prior to today was in March 2020, when the COVID-19 pandemic reached the US.

Recently the Reopening Committee completed a survey of the congregation relative to vaccination status. This committee subsequently advised Council that there was no medical justification to not return to indoor services, as > 98% of eligible persons in our congregation have been vaccinated against the SARS-CoV-2 virus. The congregation had the opportunity to participate in a congregational Town Hall via Zoom on May 16 to express feelings about returning to in-person services. A formal decision by Council was expected to follow in due course.

Unexpectedly, Council was asked on May 27, 2021 to informally vote by email on allowing today's service to be held indoors (due to the prediction of inclement weather). The Council approved that and the indoor service today, with everyone wearing masks, was successful and well received.

After discussion today, we voted on the following motion:

**MOTION (Laura):** Laura moved that we officially resume indoor services effective immediately, without social distancing in the sanctuary, offering a socially distanced option in the Founders' Room for those who wish it, and everyone wearing masks until

the June 27 Folk Sunday service, at which time vaccinated people may be unmasked.  
Jane seconded. **MOTION APPROVED, 6-0.**

In a separate discussion, Council decided to continue to conduct our monthly meetings by Zoom through August, to accommodate members wishing to join from afar during summer travel. We will resume meeting in person in September 2021.

Adjourned by consensus at: Approximately 11:30 am.

Respectfully submitted by Jane Ridings, Council Secretary

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Jane Ridings, Council Secretary

Bill Kemp, Council Moderator