

**First Congregational United Church of Christ (FCUCC) of Colorado Springs**  
**Minutes of the Annual Meeting**  
**January 31, 2016**  
**Sanctuary**

Council Members in Attendance:

**Lee Lehmkuhl** (Moderator), **Lisa Mason** (Secretary), **Gloria Latimer** (Education), **Chris Reimer** (Worship & Spiritual Life), **Judy Kort** (Care & Fellowship), **Julia Nace** (Treasurer), **Alyce Morgan** (Outreach)

Council Members Absent:

Vice Moderator- position not yet filled

Ex Officio in Attendance:

Rev. Benjamin Broadbent (Lead Minister), Rev. Jacque Franklin (Minister of Pastoral Care), Ruth Roland (Director of Financial Ministries)

Ex Officio Absent: None

Parliamentarian: **Jon Vigne.**

**Gathering Song:** *At the Font We Start Our Journey*, Hymn #308, accompanied by Scott Christiansen, FCUCC organist

**Meeting Called to Order:** 9:50 a.m.

**Establish Quorum:** 72 needed and exceeded

**Opening Prayer:** Offered by member Claudia De La Cruz

**Welcome:** Offered by Lee Lehmkuhl, Church Moderator

**Honoring the Saints** (FCUCC members and friends who have died since the January 2015 Annual Meeting): Led by Rev. Jacque Franklin, Minister of Pastoral Care. Saints honored were:

Sidney Dean Skirvin, June 27, 1930 – February 16, 2015  
Shannon Jean Dehart, May 8, 1985 – February 23, 2015  
Sharon Avery, November 3, 1969 – March 3, 2015  
Mark Eager, October 9, 1953 – April 5, 2015  
Patricia Maxine (Darrin) Patzer, August 28, 1940 – July 31, 2015  
Joel Anthonie Kort, May 6, 1971 – August 13, 2015  
Sharon Stine, May 10, 1952 – September 29, 2015  
Evelyn Elaine Brown Howard, July 2, 1931 – November 2, 2015  
Marilyn Johnson, June 28, 1928 – December 18, 2015

**Approval of Minutes of the January 25, 2015 Annual Meeting:**

**Motion:** To approve the Minutes of the 2015 Annual Meeting. Presented by **Lee Lehmkuhl**, Moderator. No second required. Discussion invited for corrections or amendments. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

**Ministry & Mission Highlights - A Council's Perspective:**

- **Chris Reimer**, Council Member for Worship & Spiritual Life: Synergy, Themes, Sounds, Sights, Movement, Spiritual styles
- **Gloria Latimer**, Council Member for Education: 5 teams growing well- Faith Formation, Our Whole Lives, Gregg Library, Church History, and James W White Lecture Series
- **Judy Kort**, Council Member for Care & Fellowship: Care Ministries- Visitation/Care for Caregivers/U Care Casseroles and Fellowship Ministries-Nine to Dine/ Young Families Fellowship/Young Adult Fellowship
- **Alyce Morgan**, Council Member for Outreach: God gives the growth as we learn, serve and give/Surveyed direction for mission/Follow your money/ Justice, Peace, and Just Peace, Seminary and Seminarians/Grateful for the vision
- **Lee Lehmkuhl**, for open Vice-Moderator position (Facility Core Resource): Facility Manager, Facility Improvement Team, Grounds Team, Audio/Visual Team, Kitchen Witches, Access Corridor/Elevator Addition
- **Lisa Mason**, Secretary (Human Resource Core Resource): Nominating Committee, Risk Reduction Team, CCRC, HR, Minutes and Policy Book

**Ministry and Mission Highlights - A Congregation's Perspective:**

- **Don Allred** thanked the congregation for our support of a new family that has emigrated from Afghanistan.
- **Jill Robinson** gave testimonial about the rewards of her service on church committees.

**Song:** "God Gives the Growth," led by Mandy Todd, Director of Music & Arts (piano) Candace Datz, Director of Youth & Adult Ministries and Rev. Benjamin Broadbent, Lead Minister

**2015 Financials, 2016 Budget:**

**Motion:** To adopt the recommended 2016 Annual budget as presented to the Congregation on January 31, 2016. Moved by **Lee Lehmkuhl**, Moderator. No second was required. **Julia Nace**, Church Treasurer, spoke to the motion. Discussion was invited for corrections or amendments. **Sue Scott** encouraged that we invest in education/develop children's ministry. Approved unanimously by voice vote.

**Leadership Cultivation Committee By Law Change:**

**Motion:** To adopt the recommended By-Law change creating the Leadership Cultivation Committee (LCC) replacing the Nominating Committee. Moved by **Lee Lehmkuhl**, Church Moderator. No second was required. **Nancy Henjum**, Chair of the Nominating Committee, spoke to the motion. **David Nath** voiced a concern that if resignations dropped the number of LCC members below the minimum of 5, the LCC would be in violation of the bylaws. Nancy Henjum responded that temporary members would fill in until the Congregation could vote on new members. A motion to amend the original motion was presented by **Janet Carpenter**. The Amendment to the motion passed unanimously by voice vote. The amended motion passed unanimously by show of hands.

**Approval of new members of Church Council and Leadership Cultivation Committee:**

**Motion:** To elect the following slate of candidates for the Church Council and Leadership Cultivation Committee:

Connie Brachtenbach - Vice Moderator

Mike Gemm - Treasurer

John Beavers - Council Member for Education

Jessica Gemm, Gloria Latimer, Blake Pelton, Beth Garrison-Kemp, Sue Taylor, Tom Francis, Jill Robinson, Deidre Schoolcraft, Nancy Henjum for the Leadership Cultivation Committee

No second was required. There were no nominations from the floor.

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Rev. Broadbent led ceremony of installation for lay leaders.

**Rev. Broadbent** thanked and gave accolades and a gift to **Gloria Latimer** for her service as Council Member for Education. **Ruth Roland** thanked and gave accolades and a gift to **Julia Nace** for her service as Treasurer.

#### **The Just Peace Initiative:**

**Rich Law** presented the intention to enter a year-long process of education toward voting at the next Annual Meeting on becoming a Just Peace Church.

#### **Honoring Wonderful Volunteers:**

**Emily Bond** presented to **Ardith Hanson** thanks, accolades and a plaque for being Communicator Editor for 5 years. **Rev. Jacque Franklin** presented to **Chris Hall** thanks, accolades, and a gift for 25 years leading the Good Mourning group.

#### **Final Thoughts:**

**Nancy Henjum** expressed concern about transitioning from mailed copies of meeting announcements and Annual Reports to electronic copies. She requested we be conscious of those who have little or no email or internet access and invited us to make additional efforts to connect with them.

**Jon Vigne**, Out Loud: The Colorado Springs Men's Chorus Council President, thanked **Mandy Todd** and **Rev. Broadbent** for FCUCC's support of Out Loud.

**Emily Bond**, Communications Coordinator, urged everyone to register with My Primo Congo, FCUCC's next-generation membership software package. She and her team members will help in any way possible, and can even come to your house to help you register. Those without computers should contact Emily to get into the database.

**Rev. Broadbent**, speaking as a member of FCUCC, described walking by *The Dwelling Place* where fifteen 8-9<sup>th</sup> graders were in Our Whole Lives: Sexuality & Our Faith class, beautifully engaged in healthy conversations. He thanked **Candace Datz** and **Tom Francis** for leading the class.

**Closing Song**, "Go Now in Peace," led by **Mandy Todd**, **Rev. Broadbent**, and **Candace Datz**.

**Parting Blessing** offered by **Rev. Franklin**

**Motion:** To adjourn, moved by **Steve Brown** and seconded by **Susan Marten**. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted- Lisa A. Mason, Secretary