

Notes from Annual Congregational Meeting

January 28, 2024

1. Welcome (Gayle Dee)

Gayle Dee, Executive Co-Chair, on behalf of herself and Co-Chair Graham Kislingbury, welcomed a filled Fellowship Hall following a soup and salad lunch.

2. Financial Report (Cam Schuck)

Cam called for a celebration as we ended the year with a positive balance of \$5,000.

3. Pastors Report (Jared Ruari)

Pastor Jared reported on an Albany Non-profit Networking Event (ANNE) that he and Graham attended at the Boys and Girls Club. He said that most other organizations at the meeting knew about FCC, many saying they were familiar with individuals in our FCC community as well as work we do as FCC. Everyone seemed to know about our porta-potty.

Pastor Jared thanked the congregation for their support, prayers and dreams as a congregation.

4. Recognition of officers, board and committee members (Allison Ruari)

Pastor Allison praised FCC and acknowledged members for their leadership and serving on our many high functioning committees.

5. Commissioning liturgy for incoming officers, board and committee members (Pastors)

Pastor Allison installed members taking on a church role in 2024. They were asked to pledge their support to the church and its goals. Pastor Allison prayed for the success of those being installed into positions.

6. Open Mic

Ethel thanked everyone who volunteers for Community Meal. She invited everyone to come on Thursdays, from 5:00 to 6:00 and help or just come and eat with community members on that day. "The food is excellent."

Allison brought our attention to a compilation of end-of-year committee reports on biggest accomplishments and important information.

Graham announced that Sunday, February 11th will be our Valentine's Craft Fair. We need coffee hour hosts for that day.

Graham reported that the City of Albany asked us to be a warming center during the recent days of extreme cold. The executive team decided to open the church from 8:00 to 5:00 on those days and to give transport to warm places at the end of the day where people could spend the night. He thanked the eight people who came and assisted on those days. The Program Committee will be looking into the possibility of offering warming and cooling sanctuary for those in need in the future.

7. Honored Member Announcement (Gayle and Graham)

Dick Busic, who served as Co-Chair of FCC for the last two years was acknowledged as our honored member for 2023. Dick's history with Albany FCC goes back to 1971. He was here as Associate Pastor and Pastor until

1986 when he left to work at then North West Christian College. Dick moved back to Albany in 2021. After 35 years away, he rejoined FCC. Many memories of times spent with Dick were shared and the acknowledgment that we are all thrilled to have him back with us.

Dick thanked the congregation and said he was blessed to be back at FCC. "You are my family."

Dick was presented with a plaque honoring his service.

8. Closing (Gayle Dee)

Gayle said that she is thrilled to have Graham as her Co-Chair. "He is a logistical master."

Gayle closed the meeting:

Go in peace,

Go in confidence,

Live fully,

Live courageously,

For our God goes with you always.