

Quarterly Congregational Meeting Agenda June 30, 2024

Meeting Notes

1. Convening and Opening Remarks

Gayle Opened the meeting giving special thanks to the youth who participated in the morning service.

2. Reports

Pastors' Report

Jared thanked everyone for their involvement in the past program year, helping to make the church the wonderful place that it is.

If you have some ideas, talents, that you want to put into use this next year, tell Jared or Allison.

For the next program year there will be a carryover of initiatives from this past year. We have been working on the 9:00 faith formation hour. We will continue to have two options for the 9:00 hour. One will be "faith talk", an intergenerational opportunity to ask and answer questions that come out of a bin. The Cornerstone class will offer more opportunities for different relevant subjects to be studied and discussed, led by members of our church community.

A team has been formed to create a monthly Taizé service. If you want to join that group, reach out to the pastors.

We are looking to revamp faith formation for young people and families. A group is being formed to help put those ideas together. If you want to be involved, contact Jared or Allison.

Financial Report

Cam Shuck reported we are \$5,000 down on the general fund budget year to date. However, year to date giving is strong. Switching insurance companies has been responsible for some additional costs but our insurance costs will be less in the coming year. Utilities have doubled from last month.

Giving for the first five months is up about \$15,000 from this time last year. A "summer slump" is not unusual for giving.

3. Recognitions & Introductions

McCorkle Award

The McCorkle Award was presented to Ethel Ellingson.

Ethel's work with FCC becoming open and affirming was acknowledged. She extends hospitality to many who step through the church doors. She has started food drives twice. She accompanies church members to their doctor's appointments to be a second set of ears. She is open to new ways of thinking and is generous to friends and strangers. She embodies the spirit of our open and affirming commitments.

4. Updates and Information

Financial Secretaries Update

Charlotte Houser reported that we purchased new software for office processes and for finance. Learning the process for dealing with donations has taken time, but the next quarterly report will be sent out by email for the first time. We will be going online with giving when the process is in place. This should eliminate a lot of paperwork. We will be going online with giving in the near future.

Query: Does online giving take a percentage of the total? Yes, it will.

Query: Could we receive our reports via text instead of email?

Charlotte will investigate this question with our new church financial software, Shelby. We will continue to have different options for giving, including putting our offerings in the offering plate on Sundays. Charlotte asked members to be patient with the new system and if you have not received information by the end of July, let the financial secretaries know.

Summer Events

Graham Kislingbury reported on summer events. July 13th will be the grand opening celebrations for Hub City.

There was recently a hike at Luckiamute Landing.

July 24th, there will be an FCC group attending the Knights game in Corvallis. Thirty-five people have signed up for the event and there are still tickets available. If the remaining tickets are taken before you request yours, you can go to Wilson Motors for additional free tickets or buy tickets at the game.

Monday, July 29th, we will gather as a group for Summer Sounds at Monteith River Park. Michelle Lambert will be performing.

Random Gathering Generator: Participants will be randomly assigned to groups. Each group can then decide what kind of gatherings they wish to have.

An Ice Cream Social will happen on Wednesday, August 7th at Takena Park.

A Float Trip will be organized by Maura and Tony Wilson.

We will have a speaker on August 4th, Marin Ferrell. She is a Muslim convert with a Jewish mother and Catholic father who will talk about the Israel-Palestine conflict from her unique perspective.

The church will be a warming center for extreme cold and a cooling center for extreme heat. You can still sign up to help. Thirteen people have already signed up. With hot weather approaching, we may be opening our doors soon.

Updating Our Constitution/Bylaws

Every year we look at our constitution and bylaws and update as necessary. After any change proposals are approved by the Board in August, they will be brought to the congregational quarterly meeting in the Fall.

One area already planned to be changed is the Treasurer's role. To bring on new people to this role, it needs to be modified to lessen the amount of work/time necessary.

Term limits and vacancies for some of the members on the board will also be considered for updates.

If you have ideas for updates/changes, put them in writing and get them to Elysse, our Office Manager, by August 1st.

5. Time for Questions/Comments

Logan Isaac reminded us that July 2nd is the 60th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act. We need to continue to work on rights for people of color in the military. We need to work for consistent laws for protection of our military as active soldiers and veterans and make sure all are treated with human dignity.

July 4th Logan will be here at the church to organize people who want to help soldiers and veterans.

Logan announced that he is setting up a mini bookstore, "Little Books of Piety" at the church. These are books dealing with the military, politics and religion. It is currently just one row of books. He will have his books here every Sunday. If you are interested, you are welcome to purchase the books.

September 29th will be our next quarterly meeting.

6. Closing/Blessing

Gayle adjourned the meeting with a blessing.

Go in peace, Go in confidence, Live fully, Live courageously, For our God goes with you always.

-Ellen Carlson, Secretary