

Quarterly Congregational Meeting – December 8, 2024

Motions Passed

The bylaw changes previously agreed upon by the Board were passed.

All nominees for leadership positions in the church for 2025 were accepted.

The proposed 2025 budget was approved.

1. Convening and opening remarks

Gayle Dee opened our fourth quarterly congregational meeting of the year, She offered prayer asking God to be present during our meeting.

2. Reports and Updates

a. Pastor's Report

Jared thanked the congregation for the ways they care for one another and how members take their faith out into the wider community. He expressed pride in being a part of FCC Albany..

b. Financial Report

Cam reported that as of the end of November, we had a balance of \$5,000

c. Stewardship update

Charlotte Houser reminded people to fill out pledge cards. About 67% of the congregation has pledged for 2025.

3. Congregational Votes

a. Bylaw revisions

Allison presented the proposed changes to the bylaws. One change will create the sharing of the work of the treasurer with several people along with coordinating more with the office.

The Finance Committee is now the Budget Committee.

We will officially have a stewardship committee.

It will be a standing committee in charge of money raising events.

Bylaw revisions will be every other year. If there is a need for change prior to the two-year review, concerns will be taken to the Board.

Motion: Paula Moore moved and Jeff Taylor seconded the proposed by-law revisions be accepted. The motion carried with one no vote.

a. Nominations

Graham gave a thank you to Kathwren Hayes and Linda Morse for their work on the nominating committee. They both agreed to be on the committee again next year.

Dianne Hargrove will be Board Co-Chair next year.

Graham announced that all positions had nominees except two, an at-large member of the Board and Board Secretary.

Logan Isaac volunteered to fill the at-large position.

Motion: Bob Moore moved and Rick Staggenborg seconded that by acclamation we accept the nominations.

An actual hand vote was taken to avoid any question of proper voting procedure. The motion passed unanimously.

b. 2025 Proposed budget

Cam reported that we are moving reserve fund items into the general budget. You can still give additional money to the mission funds.

Motion: Rick Staggenborg moved and Jay Grenard seconded to approve the proposed 2025 budget. There was unanimous approval of the motion.

c. Israel/Palestine Discernment

Gayle Dee explained that the Board voted 7-4 in the November meeting to forward the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Resolution 2339 and the March 2024 pastoral letter, "A pastoral letter for a time of crisis and suffering" for a vote at the congregational meeting. The Board also passed a motion that the yes votes needed to reach a threshold of 75 percent to endorse as a congregation the resolution and the pastoral letter.

Gayle Dee moved and Bob Moore seconded the motion that the Albany FCC endorse the general assembly of the Christian Disciples of Christ Resolution 2339 (Compelled to Witness: Answering the cries of our Palestinian Siblings.) and the March 2024 pastoral letter (A pastoral letter for a time of crisis and suffering.)

Fourteen people spoke for two minutes either in favor or against the resolution:

Rick Staggenborg

Kris McLaughlin

Jeff Taylor

Nadine Wood

Bob Moore

Frank Morse

Paula Moore

Bob Ross

Logan Isaac

Edie Koenig

Dave McCorkle

Anne Peltier

Bert Guptill

Stacey Bartholomew

Fifty-three people voted by paper ballot, thirty for the resolution and twenty-three against, 56% voted for the resolution, not reaching the 75% threshold necessary. The motion failed.

Closing Circle

All present formed a circle, locked arms and sang "Let there be Peace on Earth."

Gayle Dee closed the meeting with prayer.

Ellen Carlson, Secretary

