

THE CHURCH OF THE RED ROCKS

Minutes of Council Meeting on August 23, 2023

Council Member	Present
Congregational Care Ministry (CCM)	Maureen Zdimal (co-chair)
Finance, Endowment, Admin (FEAM)	Bonnie McKeon (co-chair)
Faith In Action Ministry (FIAM)	Sue Buffum
Growth, Outreach & Community Engagement Ministry (GOCOM)	Ed Bowersox (pro- tem) excused
	Jan Wells (co-chair) excused
	Gene Moore (co-chair)
	Karen Stupak (co-chair) excused
	Bonnie VanderMuellen (co-chair) excused
Member-at-Large	Debbie Wych excused
Property Management Ministry (PMM)	Michael Redhawk (co-chair) excused
	Bob Wych (co-chair) excused
Spiritual Growth and Education Min (SGEM)	Sara Johnson
Worship and Music Ministry (WMM)	Pam Moore (co-chair) Alice
	Paul (co-chair) excused
Pastor, Interim	Pastor Marvin Morgan excused
Finance Secretary, Ex-Officio	John McDougald
Clerk/Secretary	Lynn Schreiner
Treasurer	Penny Beers
Vice Moderator	Margaret Gramley
Moderator	Pam Stabenfeldt

- I. **Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order by the Moderator at 1:02 pm
- II. **Opening Prayer** – Margaret Gramley led the group in a devotional time.
- III. **Approval of the Minutes of the June 28, 2023 Council Meeting** was made with no corrections.
- IV. **Old/Continuing Business**
 1. Tech support. It was reported that Kathy Vetter is continuing an inventory of tech hardware and software.

2. Margaret Gramley reported that after Labor Day an effort will begin to educate the congregation on the future happenings of the SACS and to ask for donations to support the Friends of Music.
3. John McDougald reported that the updating of the giving units of the church has been completed and that the rolls have been changed from 600 to 203 giving units and that of those, 93 units have given and 73 pledged this year.
4. Margaret Gramley moved and Penny Beers seconded that John McDougald look into the best method to renew the current CDs as they come due. He will look into brokered CDs or any option that gives the best short term return available. [motion passed](#)

V. New Business

1. Sue Buffum moved and Pam Stabenfeldt seconded that \$25,000. be sent to the Hawaii Conference UCC for Maui wildfire relief fund. The money would be taken from the Payroll Protection Plan/ Employee Retention Credit that CRR received after partnering with ERCGO a division of Frandsen Accounting firm who helped CRR to receive \$123,000 from the Federal Government for payroll retention during the pandemic. [motion passed](#)
2. Margaret Gramley, Sarah Johnson and Betty Morgan, members of the Transition Team shared the preliminary report of the team and answered questions prior to sharing the document with the congregation.

VI. Highlights or New Business from Ministries and Member-at-Large

CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY – CMM – Maureen Zdimal/ Bonnie McKeon

1. No CCM August meeting
 2. CCM is helping Worship & Music with the August 20th Special Lunch recognition for Suzanne and John Moore
 3. Working on September 10th Second Sunday Potluck Lunch
 4. Working on resuming Game On in September
- Next meeting: 11 am Thursday September 21, 2023

FINANCIAL, ENDOWMENT, ADMINISTRATIVE MINISTRY (FEAM) – Sue Buffum/ Ed Bowersox

August 16, 2023 3:30 p.m.
(Hybrid Meeting)

Review and Approve minutes from last meeting: June 21, 2022 Minutes were approved as written by unanimous consent.

Endowment Committee Report: Sue Buffum reported that the balances in both Mission and Legacy have enjoyed slight improvement.

Donation for Maui: FEAM recommends to Council the donation of \$25,000 to the United Church of Christ, Hawaiian Conference for Maui Wildfire Relief. The funds for the donation are to come out of monies recently received by Church of the Red Rocks from the US Government's Payroll Protection Plan.

Review of Current Financial performance: John McDougald

Receipts: Revenues in July were \$7,000 under revenue forecast, with year to date revenues \$24,000 under budget.

Expenses: Expenditures in July were \$3,000 over budget, with year to date expenditures \$1,500 under budget.

Old Business: John reported that the list of entities in the CRR Active Participation List (in Church Windows) has been reduced from 600 to 203.

NEXT MEETING: September 20, 2023 at 3:30 pm.

Submitted by Ed Bowersox

FAITH IN ACTION - (FIAM) Gene Moore/Jan Wells

We did not meet this month. Our next meeting is scheduled for September 20, at 10 am.

GROWTH, OUTREACH, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (GOCOM) - Bonnie VanderMuellen/Karen Stupak

GOCOM Meeting Notes

August 1, 2023

Attendance : Pam, Karen, Marsha, Margaret, Sue and Wendell

OLD Business:

Discussion RE Time and talent cards
Discussion RE Prayer Cards and Prayer Wall on website
Discussion RE stickers and welcome bags

NEW Business:

Discussion RE Church Directory - Online with printed option to be handled by a special team

Discussion RE transportation of residents for Sedona Winds. Wendell clarified the issues

Discussion RE having joint meeting with Congregational Care and GOCOM in Mid October

Discussion RE Art work in Narthex. Michael and Judith from Property Management Ministry responsible

Discussion RE reminding people who signed up to be greeters/welcome desk

Marsha will call/email with weekly reminders

Question RE Luncheon for John and Suzanne Aug 20th. All questions please call Pam Moore

Next Meeting September 5th 2023

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT MINISTRY (PMM- Michael Redhawk/Bob Wych

Work done since last report:

Since August 1st:

- Had brush removal done on west and north sides of the building
- Discussed bids from two asphalt re-paving companies for resurfacing both parking lots. Final decision is still pending however we are favoring having the work done by Copperstate but need to finalize this at next PMM meeting in Sept.
- Irrigation monitoring, repairs. and improvement are ongoing.

Several members have been or will be gone on vacation during some or all of August and September

-Judith Glen will be looking into getting exterior double basement doors replaced with steel doors like the entry door.

Next meeting: Wednesday, September 6 at 9:00 a.m.

Submitted by Bob Wych and Michael Redhawk

SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND EDUCATION (SGEM) – Sara Johnson

A congregational study is being planned to discuss the book Multi- the Chemistry of Church Diversity by Paul Nixon.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC MINISTRY (WMM) – Pam Moore/Alice Paul

WMM has not met during the summer.

However, we have been busy.....

On May 31st we met with Dr Ryan to consider his request for \$12,500 from the Jack Harris Bequest for the trip to Carnegie Hall.

We granted that trip and presented it to Council. Then, in August, Dr Holder decided that August 20th would be the date for the performance of “Lionteeth” at CRR.

Many of our members were not here, but 3 of us, spent time organizing with Congregational Care, and Keli Piscopol, a time to honor John and Suzanne Moore during the coffee hour on August 20.

TREASURERS REPORT – Penny Beers

Review of Current Financial performance:

Receipts: Revenues through July were \$225,900, which is \$24,400 under budget. Pledge receipts through July were under by \$26,700 from the budget and loose offering was under by \$700. Expenses: Expenditures through July total \$263,400 which is under budget by \$1,600, year to date.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY – John McDougald

2nd Quarter Giving Statements were sent out the last week of July.

Based on the feedback that was received from seven church volunteers, the list of families/individuals who will receive Giving Statements going forward has been reduced substantially and much more closely represents the active church membership.

MEMBER-AT-LARGE – Debbie Wych

No report.

CLERK/SECRETARY – Lynn Schreiner

No report.

VII INTERIM PASTOR REPORT – Dr. Marvin Morgan

To: Members of the Church Council

Church of the Red Rocks UCC

Interim Pastor's Report to Church Council for July-August 23, 2023

[An Adjusted Report]

NARRATIVE:

The final week of June and the first week of July were scheduled to include a trip to NYC to hear some members of our Church Choir and members of the Sedona Academy of Chamber Singers perform (with Dr. Ryan Holder) at Carnegie Hall, on Tuesday, June 26th, followed by a continuing trip down to Indianapolis, IN, to attend the UCC's General Synod. This two-part trip was completed, with an emergency interruption and a couple of detours to a hospital in Indianapolis, to have blood clots removed from my lungs and some therapy to correct vertigo, caused by a fall, at the Condo, here in Sedona. The worst portion of the health crisis appears to be over, even as additional precautions are ongoing just to assure that I do myself no personal harm, as I seek to fulfill the pastoral needs of The Church of the Red Rocks. Although I will miss the August meeting of the Church Council, because of a "follow-up to the follow-up" visit with my Internist, in Atlanta, my personal sense is that I am and will be just fine, as we continue the interim journey we began 18 months ago. If, at any point, I feel the previous statement is no longer true, you will be the first to know. Prior to our September Council meeting, I will prepare a document for the Personnel Committee and Moderators, related to "sick leave, family leave and vacation, so all may be reassured that we are compliant with our ministry covenant.

Even with the recent, unanticipated interruptions, closely engaged work with the Transition Team (Please see the Team's Preliminary Report to the Church Council and my email dated 8/22/2-23), and Church's Ministries have remained consistent, except for reduced pastoral visitations. These have been offset, during these two months, by increased telephone calls and consultations with the spouses, other family members and close friends, who have kept me informed regarding the health of some church participants.

Thank you for all your prayers. Let us continue to pray for one another and for the overall interim process.

And, if you happen to encounter Suzanne and John Moore, please say "Thank you!" to them, once more, for all they have done for The Church of the Red Rocks and for its music program, over more than twenty years.

May the Peace of Christ be with you.

Respectfully submitted – Pastor Marvin L Morgan

XII. VICE-MODERATOR'S REPORT –Margaret Gramley

June 29 - wrote "A Letter from the Moderators" for mailchimp distribution to the congregation after June 28 Council meeting.

Website Training July 17, 24

Meeting with Interim Pastor July 19

Attended Congregational Care Ministries mtg July 20

Attended Growth & Outreach Ministry mtg Aug 1

Called and led meeting of Pop-Up Stewardship Team Aug 2

Met with team working on Church Directory Aug 9

Met with team working on Narrative Budget Aug 9

Met with small group working on database updates for directory Aug 14

Attended Finance Committee mg Aug 16

XI. MODERATOR'S REPORT – Pam Stabenfeldt

Since my last written report to the Council, I have:

Presided over the Special Congregational Meeting on 6/25/23 for the vote on the sale of Church of the Red Rocks lower parking lot to the City of Sedona

I along with Lynn Schreiner, met Monday, June 25, 2023, at Empire Title Company to sign the papers finalizing the sale of Church of the Red Rocks lower parking lot

After the Council meeting on June 28,2023, I met with Growth, Outreach and Community Ministry members and other interested parties to begin discussion and strategize for a new church pictorial directory.

Met with John McDougald re: updating and revision of giving units list on June 30, 2023

Planned, shopped for, prepared, and served for the Sedona Community Dinner July 3, 2023

In learning of Pastor Morgan's unexpected health issues that had occurred around and over the weekend of July 1, 2023, and not knowing when he would be able to return to Sedona, I along with Vice-Moderator, Margaret Gramley coordinated efforts to fill the pulpit with guest ministers for the next several weeks. Rev. Len Silvester was with us on July 9,2023 and the Rev. Dr. Sara Day graced us on July 16, 2023

Attended Property Management Ministry meeting July 12, 2023

Attended Knitting into the Mystery group July 17, 2023

Staffed the Welcome Desk July 30, 2024

Attended Knitting into the Mystery group July 31, 2023

Attended Growth, Outreach and Community Engagement Ministry meeting August 1, 2023

Attended Property Management Ministry meeting August 2, 2023

Attended Stewardship meeting August 2, 2023

Planned, shopped for, prepared, and served for the Sedona Community Dinner August 7, 2023

Attended Pictorial Directory meeting August 9, 2023

Attended Stewardship meeting August 9, 2023

Attended Knitting into the Mystery August 14, 2023

Attended Finance, Endowment, Administrative Ministry meeting August 16, 2023

Always here to attend to administrative issues when called upon and provide support where necessary

XII. Transition Team Report -Margaret Gramley

The Transition Team took three weeks off in early July but has met at least weekly the rest of the summer. A Preliminary Transition Team Report will be presented at the Council Meeting on August 23 and Council Members will receive it by email before the meeting.

Margaret Gramley, Chair; Marvin Morgan, Interim Pastor; Lawrence Byrd, Bob Johnson, Sara Johnson, Betty Morgan, Michael Redhawk.

XIII. Closing Prayer and Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by the Moderator at 2:47pm following a prayer by Pam Stabenfeldt.

Next Council Meeting: Wednesday, September 27, 2023 1:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Lynn Schreiner, Clerk/Secretary