

**Friends Congregational Church, United Church of Christ**

Congregational Meeting

December 5, 2021



**AGENDA**

1. Welcome and Call to Order – Cathy Hansen, Moderator
2. Opening Prayer – Pastor Dan De Leon
3. Review minutes from October 10, 2021, Congregational Meeting – Vice Moderator Jackie Womack\*
4. Pastoral, Leadership, and Personnel updates - Cathy Hansen and Pastor Trent Williams
  - a. AV Technician – Diego Rodriguez
  - b. Administrative Assistant – Michael Rangel
  - c. Church Council Secretary – Sue Ambrus
  - d. Associate Pastor to Executive Pastor – Trent Williams\*
5. Spending Plan for 2022\* – Pastor Trent Williams and Theresa Walker, Treasurer
6. Adjourn – Cathy Hansen

\* Supporting documents will be available in the narthex and on FCC website

# Friends Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

Congregational Meeting

December 5, 2021



## Congregational Meeting Minutes

October 10, 2021

1. The purpose of this meeting was to review the Dream Budget and prepare for the Stewardship Campaign.
2. Dan opened the meeting with a prayer.
3. Cathy Hansen introduced the ministry and leadership teams.
4. Jackie Womack presented the minutes from the last meeting and two corrections were made on the totals of building damage and insurance reimbursement. Under the section titled **Susan Fontaine, Property**, the amount \$44,000 should be changed to \$61,763. The amount \$25,000 should be changed to \$78,192. These are the expected reimbursements for the freeze damage and the hailstorm.
5. Dan gave an overview of our current context of in person services during the pandemic and the online participation that has continued. Our infrastructure is changing to meet our goals of being communal, relational, and hospitable. Dan shared an email from an online attendee to illustrate the impact we can have to a wider community.
6. The process of creating the Dream Budget was explained. The Finance Committee reviews the Treasurer's Reports. In September, various committee chairs make their requests for the next year. The Treasurer, with help from members of the finance committee, compiles that information into a budget, the Finance Committee reviews it, and the Council reviews it to present to the congregation.
7. Historical information was provided in the slide show that gave comparison of current projections with pre-covid times.
8. Trent Williams presented the Narrative Budget, which is the story of what we're doing as a congregation in ministry. Trent cast a vision for the theme of "For Everyone Born, A Place at the Table".
9. Questions and Answers included the following:
  - Why is the Gas and Electric category lower? It is a cost projection.
  - Are both pastors going on Sabbatical in 2022? No, we would like to prepare a fund for when it happens.
  - Can a visitor get a Stewardship Packet? Yes, email the office.
  - Is there an option to pledge online? Yes, on the website.

The meeting was adjourned.

Jackie Womack, Vice Moderator

# Friends Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

Congregational Meeting

December 5, 2021



## Executive Pastor Summary

The Executive Pastor serves Friends Congregational Church by partnering with the Senior Pastor, staff, and lay leadership to fulfill the mission, vision, and core values of the congregation. He will focus on operationalizing the overall vision and mission of the congregation, maximizing program effectiveness, and providing spiritual leadership to the congregation.

### Core Areas:

- Stewardship & Finance
- Communications
- Operations
- Technology & Digital Ministry
- Spiritual Life

Why this title and role change? Pastor Trent and the APR team focus on two primary reasons:

1. This title better reflects the evolving role that Pastor Trent has been and continues to take on; he has been leading the stewardship ministry now for a couple of years, led the initiative into the creation of the endowment fund and ultimately the Finance Committee; has overseen the congregation's technology needs, especially since Covid hit; has worked with the ad hoc Communications team, and continues to help lead the Spiritual Life ministry.
2. This title is also important as a marker of professional progress; because the title of Associate Pastor does not make any distinction between someone newly out of seminary and someone with more than 15 years experience, the APR team feels that this is an important delineation for Pastor Trent as he reaches mid-career, and having completed an important professional credential recently.

### What is an Executive Pastor?

The title, while not yet widely used in the UCC, has become more common in evangelical churches in recent years, and is increasingly being adopted in larger, multi-staff mainline settings for pastors performing the duties outlined above. We make the analogy to the business world: there is often a CEO, which is the role Dan occupies—providing vision, direction, and the “face” of the organization; and a COO (Chief Operating Officer) who functions as the one implementing the vision and direction of the CEO. An Executive Pastor helps to operationalize the vision, mission, and values of the congregation.