

Bethlehem United Church of Christ
Congregational Annual Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2019

Attendance for this meeting was 56 members. According to the by-laws, "A quorum shall consist of 25 members."

President John Samford called the meeting to order and asked Pastor John Kennedy to lead us in prayer. After the prayer we were reminded to consider throughout this meeting, "May the Holy Spirit guide our speaking. May the Holy Spirit guide our listening."

President John Samford outlined the items which would be covered on our agenda. He also thanked elected officers; both those stepping down and new officers.

Agenda

1. Remarks from Vice President, Ron Dechert
2. Election of officers
3. Budget recommendations and vote
4. Brief Annual Reports from groups
5. Pastor John's report
6. Minor amendment to the by-laws
7. Any other business

1. Vice-President Remarks – Ron Dechert

- a. Leadership Council has a responsibility to create the vision and strategic plan for the church. Self-assessment is essential to growth and development so Ron has developed a survey for each member of the church to fill out and submit. Each survey will be anonymous. There are paper copies of the survey available at today's meeting. Please return your completed survey to Ron by the end of June. Results will be shared with the congregation later this year.

2. Election of Officers – Cresson Slotton, on behalf of the Nominating Committee

- a. Cress presented the slate which was also handed out in paper
- b. There were no additional nominations from the floor
- c. A motion was made and seconded to accept and approve the ballot for this next year as proposed by the Nominating Committee. A vote on this motion was approved by the Governing Body

3. Budget Recommendation for 2020 fiscal year and vote
 - a. Jeff Wortman, past Finance Ministry chair gave an overview of our past fiscal year
 - b. Karen Samford, new Finance Ministry chair presented the 2020 fiscal year
 - c. A motion was made and seconded to approve the budget for fiscal year 2020 as presented. A vote of the Governing Body approved this motion.

4. Each Ministry Team Chair, ONA Standing Committee, Stephen Ministry, and Cemetery Board gave a brief synopsis of their accomplishments as published in the latest Annual Report.

5. Pastoral Report by Pastor John Kennedy
 - a. Included report on Stephen Ministries
 - b. Thanks to those working behind the scenes for the church
 - c. He is looking forward to a new year of working with the members of Bethlehem

6. Amendment to the by-laws
 - a. Because of our new fiscal year and Leadership Council's change in the date of their monthly meetings from the second Tuesday of the month to the fourth Thursday of the month it will not be possible to conform with the current by-laws which state:

[Leadership Council] "Shall meet within two weeks of the Annual Meeting of the Governing Body and shall meet regularly thereafter." - (By-laws: Article VI, Section 2, Leadership Council, Part B, Roles and Responsibilities, number 7)
 - b. A motion was made to change the word "two" to "four", thereby allowing Leadership Council the ability to have their first meeting of the new fiscal year on June 27, 2019. This amendment passed by a vote of the Governing Body.

7. A call was made for any additional business for this meeting. No additions were requested.

8. John Samford adjourned the meeting after the Governing Body joined together in saying the Lord's Prayer

Minutes submitted by Sue Wortman, Church Secretary