

Peace United Church of Christ – Duluth
Congregational Meeting
June 12, 2022

Call to order 11:45 a.m.

Opening Prayer - Interim Pastor Jim Mitulski

Voting logistics

- Voting for approval of minutes, acceptance of annual reports, and election of Coordinating Council members will be done in person, through email to Council@peaceucc.org or by the link provided in last Fridays Peace email update <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1lwnuQp6RVjA-p1MKmRuOX1cRQ24z6QmCLCyzJwA2K20/edit>.

Approval of Minutes -

- A motion is made and seconded to approve the minutes from the June 6, 2021 Congregational Meeting. The motion passes unanimously.

Acceptance of Annual Reports -

- A motion is made and seconded to accept the Annual Reports submitted for this Congregational Meeting. The motion passes unanimously.

Election of Coordinating Council members - The Nominating Committee presents the slate of members for the 2022-2023 Coordinating Council:

- Slate for voting new councilors:
 - Moderator: Joan Peterson
 - Vice Moderator: Jessica Olson
 - Representative of Stewardship: Geof Witrak
 - At Large: Susan Goltz
 - At Large: Nathan Langer
 - At Large: Steven Dando
 - At-Large Council: Melissa Boyle
- Continuing members:
 - Secretary: Diane Swanoski (second year of a two year term)
 - Treasurer: Dick Goese second two year term and can serve 4 terms)
 - Past Moderator: Tom Hystead 1 year remaining
 - Representative of Acting for Justice: Monica Liddle
 - Representative of Spiritual Life: Susan Larson Kidd
 - Representative of Education: Penny Cragun
- It is moved by Bill Hardesty and seconded by Betty Greene to approve the slate of Coordinating Council members as presented. Unanimously approved.

150th Anniversary Celebration Update - Marsha Hystead, Chair

- The 150th Anniversary Committee has interviewed and video recorded twenty-one long time members of Peace Church and. anticipate doing an additional eleven interviews. These stories will be archived as part of Peace Church's history. In September, anyone who would like to share about what they would like to see for the future of Peace Church.can do so on Sundays following worship. These will also be video recorded and archived.
- Three events are being planned as part of the 150th Anniversary Celebration:
 - Bell Tower Lighting Festival, Bud Trnka is chairing. The Tower will be lit permanently. Bud Trnka and Dave Courtrightare working with Duluth Lighting to add timed LED lights to our Bell Tower. There will be a festival on a Saturday in September with music, food trunks, and games. Worship the following Sunday will also be outdoors by the Bell Tower weather permitting.
 - We will host a community event featuring David Hogg, cofounder of March for our Lives as keynote speaker at Lief Erickson park. The League of Women Voters will also be present signing up youth to vote. The message of the event is that the way to enact change is to become engaged in your government. The message is directed especially to the young people of our community. There will be opportunities to financially contribute to this event.
 - There will be a Celebration Dinner at Peace Church on October 8th with a program.
 - Special 150th Anniversary pendants have been created by Gail Blum and are available for a donation to help fund the Anniversary events..

Recognition of Committee/Team members -

- Thank you to all those who have and are currently serving on any of Peace Church's many teams and committees.

Recognition of Coordinating Council Members who are leaving the Council -

- Thank you to those Coordinating Council members who have served and are coming off the Council:
 - Doug Bowen-Bailey - Past Moderator
 - Dave Courtright, Representative of Stewardship
 - Matt Ryan, At-Large
 - Mary Adams, At-large
 - Bud Trnka, At-Large

Pastoral Report – Rev. Jim Mitulski, Interim Minister

- Pastor Jim recognizes and appreciates the staff for all of their hard work and commitment to Peace Church, including the pastoral staff Charlotte Frantz, Nathan Holst, Jim Pospisil, and Gudrun Witrak, and the Administrative staff Nancy Nelson, Elise Courtright, Dan Shepard, and Rosemary Feriancek.
- Consider serving on Peace Church committees and teams. We especially need new participants on the Finance Committee, HR Committee, and Property Committees.We

deeply appreciate and recognize Leanne Ventrella for her dedicated service as chair of the HR Committee. Also appreciation for Joan Peterson for saying yes to serve as the new moderator and for Tom Hystead for his year leading the Council.

- Thank you to all of those who have participated in the Talk, Listen, and Pray sessions to address and work towards conflict resolution within the church. Peace Village (VBS) for the youth of Peace Church is a wonderful tool to teach conflict resolution skills to our young people..
- The Congregational Assessment Tool “Holy Cow” is upcoming this summer or fall.. This tool will help us define who we are (and who we want to be) in order to create a church profile needed during the search process. The rest of the timeline presented in January is still on track with the search team ready to post for the settled pastor position by January 1st. Then we see what happens.
- Other fall activities/events include “Meet the UCC” series, and a diversity, equity, and inclusion retreat,
- Question/Answer -
 - When will the Search Process begin? Council will appoint a Search Committee probably in October or November.

Closing Prayer - song by Nathan Holst

Rise up, Rise up, Can you see it?

Rise up, Rise up

Rise up, Rise up, Can you see it?

Rise up, Rise up

For the beauty, thank you, thank you

For the wonder, thank you, thank you

Respectfully submitted, Diane Swanoski, Secretary