

**First Church Congregational Council Meeting**  
**April 30, 2024; 7:30 pm – Hybrid (Sanctuary Lobby/Zoom)**

Agenda

Call to Order

Invocation from Vanessa

In attendance:

- Vanessa Rose
- Todd Sample
- Patty Bilotto
- Jacque Paige
- Michelle Velez
- Kim Stevens
- Rita Skog
- Elizabeth Hayes
- Wendy Williams

Approval of minutes from February 27 Council Meeting; Minutes were accepted unanimously

**Board Reports**

- **Pastor's Report: Rev. Vanessa**
  - Asha Yoganandan, Social Media Coordinator, has begun
  - Alana, a Temp worker, has ended her employment, and Beth Fitzpatrick, the Congregational Life Coordinator, has started working
  - David Robinson, Sextant, has begun
  - We received great feedback regarding the recent presentation on the History of Slavery in Fairfield as part of the Remembrance Stones initiative led by the Working for Racial Justice Committee
  - Kitchen Budget of \$350,000 was presented by Vanessa
  - Feed Truck, owned by the Council of Churches will be parked in the lot for now
  
- **Resource Development: Michelle Velez**
  - Memorial Day is next significant event; Re/Max balloon is confirmed; will see if we can enter a Jeep
  - Looking into pop-ups for Christmas / Three Kings; should have more baked goods and indoor vendors; count of people walking through
  
- **Finance: Jacque Paige**
  - Good shape
  - Pledge statements are going out via email
  - \$101,154 is still available for social justice projects from Roland Road; \$10k per month
    - Jacque, Rita and Vanessa will discuss ideas for proposals for the funding

- **Facilities:** **Craig Way**
  - Report attached
  
- **Worship:** **Wendy Williams Brown**
  - Nothing to report
  
- **Outreach:** **Rita Skog**
  - CONECT has been helping to raise awareness around the slowdown of the erasure of the Clean Slate initiative
  - CONECT has an Affordable Housing Committee
  - Greater Bridgeport Council of Churches plan to continue some activities; we have pledged \$12,000, and we have paid \$3,000; we leave it for discussion for May meeting
  
- **In-reach:** **Elizabeth Hayes**
  - June 9th picnic; working with David McKinnis
  - Meals for members
  
- **Faith Formation:** **Kate Brown**
  - Kate was unable to attend but has shared with Vanessa that Kim's doing great with the children.

**New Business**

- Slate of candidates for 2024-2025 Year / Annual Election Meeting in May
  - Moved to June 9

**Future Meetings:**

Council Meetings are the 4th Tuesday of the Month

Next Council Meetings: May 28, June 25 and July 23

Need Devotional Leader for May

Benediction from Wendy

Adjourn