

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Congregation
The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago
February 12, 2017**

The 147th Annual Meeting of the Congregation of the Fourth Presbyterian Church was convened by the Moderator, the Rev. Shannon Kershner, at 12:15 p.m. on Sunday, February 12, 2017 in the sanctuary of the Fourth Presbyterian Church. Rev. Kershner opened the meeting with prayer.

Report of the Clerk of Session and Approval of the Minutes

Elder Andy McGaan, Clerk of Session, determined that a quorum was present. Mr. McGaan announced that the minutes of the 146th Annual Meeting of the Congregation, held on February 14, 2016, were available for review on the website or by calling the Pastor's Office. A motion was made, seconded and **adopted** to approve the minutes of the 146th Annual Congregational Meeting of the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago.

Report of the Pastor

Rev. Shannon Kershner reviewed the past year which included the work of our mission and ministry, which is vital to our community. Rev. Kershner stated that it was an honor to be the Pastor of Fourth Presbyterian Church and to work with a talented group of colleagues. In the past year, Fourth Presbyterian Church was voted as one of the Chicago area's best places to work, through a survey conducted by the Chicago Tribune. Rev. Kershner stated that at the June 2016 Session retreat, the Session set discipleship as a priority, including through the shared values and through building a budget to make faithful financial decisions. Strategic planning will begin in 2017 and Rev. Kershner asked the congregation to reflect on the following questions in preparation for this planning: 1) What do you like most about Fourth Church? 2) What worries you most about Fourth Church? and 3) If you could change one thing at the drop of a hat, what would it be?

Rev. Kershner stated that transparency is a core value for the leadership and the congregation will be updated on our communal discernment.

Rev. Kershner recognized and thanked Marilee Hopkins, who will be retiring as Treasurer of Fourth Presbyterian Church after 11 ½ years of volunteer service. We are very grateful for her contributions.

Rev. Kershner introduced and called on Elder Alison Blaser, Session representative from the Nominating Committee, to present the committee's report.

Nominating Committee Report

Elder Blaser reviewed the process for the Nominating Committee to select individuals for election as lay leaders in positions of leadership. The Nominating Committee reviews gender, age, diversity, membership length and worship services attended as well as other factors to find individuals who are committed to the work of God, the Church and who are already in service to the community. Elder Blaser thanked her Nominating Committee for their hard work and perseverance.

On behalf of the Committee, she then moved the following candidates for election as Elders:

Class of 2020

*Joy Anderson
Michelle Becker
Joe Fong
Lisa Garay
Gary Graham
Carol Lobbes
Mark Meyer*

*Betsy Morgan
Howard Morgan
Christiane Knapp-Andrews
Dawn Vanderveen
Jeff Weber
Grace Turner (Youth – one year term)*

The Moderator asked for nominations from the floor. There being none, the motion to close the nominations and elect the candidates as Elders was **adopted**.

Elder Blaser moved the election of the following candidates to the Board of Deacons:

Class of 2020

*Harlean Barth
Laureen Cleary
John Crim
Nikki Dekker
Kim Douglass
Jean Joslyn
Shelly Hennig-Keller
Lindsey Kozlowski
Mary Lenox
Jane Nerison*

*Eric Olson
Sarah "Samme" Forbes Orwig
Alice Perry
Tyler Reimer
Marcela Ruiz
Sally Scott
Leslie Whittet
Claire Calkins (Youth – one year term)
Carly Shields (Youth – one year term)*

The Moderator asked for nominations from the floor. There being none, the motion to close the nominations and elect the candidates as members of the Board of Deacons was **adopted**.

Elder Blaser moved the election of the following candidates to represent the congregation as members-at-large of the 2017 Nominating Committee:

*W. Gordon Addington
Kat Evans
Judy Kerch
Ned Morley*

*Anne Stelle
Ken Walker
Nora Wiltse*

The Moderator asked for nominations from the floor. There being none, the motion to close the nominations and elect the candidates as members-at-large of the 2017 Nominating Committee was **adopted**.

Rev. Kershner welcomed all candidates elected to their offices for the coming term and thanked Elder Blaser and the members of the Nominating Committee for their work.

Recognition of the Chicago Lights Board

The Moderator called on Elder Debbie Frisch, Chair of the Chicago Lights Board, who reviewed the various programs and the success stories over the past year that are committed to mission outreach and serving our brothers and sisters in need. These programs include the Tutoring program, the Summer Day program, the Urban Farm, Farm Camp, Elam Davies Social Service Center and Chicago Lights Dance Academy. Some of the highlights of these programs were that 96% of high school seniors in the Tutoring Program applied for and were accepted into college; 25 chronically homeless people were housed through the EDSSC program; and over 4,000 people were served through all the programs in the last year. These successes are due to the generous donations of donors and this congregation, strong leadership of the Board and the Executive Director, Stacy Jackson, and the program directors and staff. An overriding reason for these successful programs is because of the Chicago Lights discipleship agenda, which is also the agenda of Fourth Presbyterian Church and of our faith. Fourth Presbyterian Church does not exist without Chicago Lights or Chicago Lights without Fourth Presbyterian Church. Elder Frisch stated that Chicago Lights gratefully acknowledges the ongoing support of Fourth Presbyterian Church, the outstanding generosity of our congregants, our beautiful facilities and the staff support. Chicago Lights operates as best in class with transparency and by complying to 501(c)3 regulations. With our current economy and many social service centers closing, the work of Chicago Lights is even more important.

Chicago Lights Treasurer Report

The Chicago Lights Treasurer, Ken Walker, reviewed the revenue, expenses and investments of the past year. There are three areas of revenue: corporate, fundraising events and individual contributions. A significant portion of Chicago Light's annual operating budget is derived from the support of Fourth Presbyterian Church members.

The Moderator asked for a motion to recess the Meeting of the Congregation to convene a meeting of the Corporation. A motion was made, seconded, and **approved** to do so.

The Moderator introduced Rebecca Dixon, Vice President of the Board of Trustees.

Meeting of the Corporation

Ms. Rebecca Dixon, Vice President the Board of Trustees, convened the meeting of the Corporation. A motion to approve the minutes of the annual meeting of the corporation held on February 14, 2016 was made, seconded, and **approved**.

Church Treasurer Marilee Hopkins reviewed the 2016 financial report and the Capital Projects Financial Summary, which were distributed to the congregation. Ms. Hopkins reviewed the various types of revenue, fulfillment rate for pledges and current restricted and unrestricted investments. Fourth Presbyterian Church had strong year-end giving with a net surplus of \$198,000 of which 60% were from individual contributions. Pledge fulfillment was at 94.5%. Ms. Hopkins encouraged those individuals who pledge and are unable to fulfill their pledge to confidentially reach out to a Pastor as we are here to support each other as a community and not the bottom line.

Ms. Hopkins reviewed the policy for unrestricted bequests which are deposited into the investment account with the income from the investments used for the spending formula draw. Ms. Hopkins reviewed the expenses, which were under budget. Ms. Hopkins reviewed the mission donations.

This past year the investment draw was 4.9%. As our endowment/invested funds result mostly from bequests, we are standing on the shoulders of those who came before us. Average return on investment was 10 years at 6.4% and 5 years at 5.81%. Ms. Hopkins pointed out that donor donations are directly used for employee wages and programs expenses and the spending formula from investments are used for facilities costs.

The 2017 budget was reviewed and approved by the Board of Trustees and Session at their most recent meeting.

Ms. Hopkins reviewed the work of the Resource Development Committee and the use of the Alford Group Report. Better understanding, resources, allocation and growth are underway. As part of the Alford Group Report, we have clarified the financial resources between Fourth Presbyterian Church and Chicago Lights. On behalf of the officers, Ms. Hopkins thanked everyone for their donations.

Ms. Dixon thanked Ms. Hopkins for her volunteer work as Church Treasurer. Ms. Dixon introduced Elder Alison Blaser, member of the Nominating Committee.

Ms. Blaser was invited to report on behalf of the Nominating Committee and placed in nomination the following persons for the Board of Trustees:

Class of 2020

*Jan Wilch Feldman
Tony Gambell
Deb Kinzer
Janet Love*

*Linden Moot
Kim Reome
Seth Tuscher*

Ms. Dixon asked for nominations from the floor. There being none, a motion to close the nominations and elect the present slate was **approved**.

With no further business, Ms. Dixon asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Corporation and reconvene the meeting of the Congregation. A motion was made, seconded, and **approved** to do so. The meeting of the Corporation was adjourned.

The Moderator, Rev. Shannon Kershner, reconvened the meeting of the Congregation of Fourth Presbyterian Church, and called on Elder Arlene Faulk for a report from the Personnel Committee.

Report of the Personnel Committee

Elder Arlene Faulk, Co-Chair of the Personnel Committee, thanked the committee for the work over the past year. Fourth Presbyterian Church currently has 149 full and part-time staff members who work to develop, nurture and direct all aspects of our worship and mission outreach life. Elder Faulk, on behalf of the Personnel Committee, thanked Rev. Shannon Kershner for her leadership, sense of humor and her challenge to all of us to answer to God's call. Elder Faulk reviewed the personnel changes over the past year, including the departure of Rev. Layton

Williams and the arrival of a new Pastoral Resident, Rev. Abbi Heimach-Snipes, the departure of Mark Eldred as Worship Coordinator and the arrival soon of Shawn Fiedler as a replacement. The Senior Associate Pastor Nominating Committee is at work actively reviewing Personal Information Forms. Elder Faulk listed that names of those on the SAPNC and thanked them for their work.

Elder Faulk recognized the staff members who reached a milestone of service at Fourth Presbyterian Church, including many from the facilities associates team.

There being no further business, a motion was made, seconded and **adopted** to adjourn the meeting, which was closed at 1:15 p.m. with the singing of “The Church’s One Foundation” and with prayer by Rev. Kershner.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew McGaan, Clerk of Session

Shannon J. Kershner, Moderator