

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Congregation
The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago
February 10, 2019**

The 149th 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 10, 2019 in the sanctuary of the Fourth Presbyterian Church. Rev. Kershner opened the meeting with prayer.

Clerk of Session

Andrew McGaan, Clerk of Session presented remarks about history and hope. Clerk McGaan stated that it is the five year anniversary of the election of Rev. Shannon Kershner as our Pastor. Membership and contributions are growing with approximately 20% growth in budget in the past five years. We are looking at renewal as we look at our direction in the future. It is important for everyone to be involved and to give toward the mission of Fourth Church.

Approval of the Minutes

Clerk Andrew McGaan determined that a quorum was present. Clerk McGaan announced that the minutes of the 148th Annual Meeting of the Congregation, held on February 11, 2018, 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 148th Annual Congregational Meeting of the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago.

Report of the Pastor

Rev. Shannon Kershner reviewed the activities of the leadership of the congregation as we move into our 150th year. The Elders and Clergy are conducting one on one conversations to discover what motivates you, your passions and your hopes and dreams for Fourth Church and Chicago Lights. We believe that God plants the vision in the hearts of the people so, in order to discern God's vision, we need to listen to your hearts. Next month, the Elders, Trustees and Deacons will be gathering to begin strategic visioning and we will begin focus groups shortly afterward. The Readiness Project is at work looking at our organizational structure and is working with a consultant for this work. We continue to pray a strong emphasis on the anti-racism work with the Racial Equity Council. Our new officers will all undergo anti-racism training, which is important, vital Kingdom work for the church. These are a few of the new initiatives underway at Fourth Church as we move forward into the year and as we also begin to plan to celebrate 150 years.

Rev. Kershner introduced and called on Elder Alison Gerlach Blaser, Chair of the Nominating Committee, to present the committee's report.

Nominating Committee Report

Elder Alison Gerlach Blaser reviewed the process for the Nominating Committee to select individuals for election of lay leaders as officers. Elder Blaser thanked the Nominating Committee for their energy, care, collegiality and sensitivity. The Nominating Committee strove for balance and diversity with the officers in regards to gender, age, race, ethnicity, life stage, perspectives, skills, interests, newer and longer membership and gifts of spirit to find individuals who are committed to the work of God, the Church and who are already in service to the community.

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

Class of 2022

*Steve Block
Monica Brown
Tim Calkins
Ken Gaines
Jeanne Griffin
Tracy Koogler
Ji Inn Lee
Kelly Lynch*

*Craig Morrison
Tim Schellhardt
Emma Vis
Hee Sook (Toni) Yang

John Collins (Youth)
Clara Radtke (Youth)*

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 2022

*Taposhi Bentley
Caryn Borg-Breen
Rhonda Faulkner
Rachel Fisher (one year term)
Cathy Flaa
Austin Garfield
Caryn Hank
Elizabeth (Liz) Kurman
Bruce Leech
Colleen Joy Mraz
Mike Pankratz*

*Stefanie Schumann
Lisa Stracks
Betsy Storm (one year term)
Ashley Swidnicki
Elaine Tierney
David A. Wilson
Nora Wiltse

Luke Meyer (Youth)
Christian Yonan (Youth)*

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 2019 Nominating Committee:

*Linda Crane
Arlene Raine
Robert Sinclair*

*Patrick Spence
Alison Thomas
Stephanie VanDerSchie*

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 2019 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 Ken Walker, President of the Chicago Lights Board, who reviewed the work of Chicago Lights with boundless love and hope for thousands of people during their vulnerable times. Chicago Lights addresses hunger, nutrition and homework and getting kids and homeless off the streets which then transforms into self confidence, self discovery, grace, faith and love. Chicago Lights works through five programs: Tutoring, Summer Day School, the Dance Academy, the Urban Farm and the Elam Davies Social Service Center. These five programs served over 4,000 people in 2018. Mr. Walker reviewed the financial report for Chicago Lights and the increase in the budget for 2019. Mr. Walker thanked Stacy Jackson, the Executive Director of Chicago Lights for her leadership and thanked the congregation for their time, talent and treasure to support the programs that Chicago Lights offers. The Board of the Chicago Lights is leaning into a three year strategic plan including a new website and logo. Chicago Lights will continue to change lives every day with your support.

The Moderator, Rev. Shannon Kershner asked for a motion to recess the Congregational Meeting and convene the Meeting of the Corporation. It was moved, seconded and **adopted**.

The Moderator introduced John Shonkwiler, President of the Board of Trustees.

Meeting of the Corporation

John Shonkwiler, President the Board of Trustees, convened the meeting of the Corporation. A motion to approve the minutes of the 148th annual meeting of the corporation held on February 11, 2018 was made, seconded and **adopted**.

Treasurer Robert Doak reviewed the 2018 financial report as approved by the Boards of Fourth Presbyterian Church, which were distributed to the congregation. Mr. Doak reviewed various revenue income which serves as the foundation of the budget, including; the use of a draw on investment funds, pledges given and received and other contributions. Mr. Doak reviewed the expenses including extensive maintenance costs which are not expected to reoccur, wages and benefits and program activities.

Mr. Doak discussed the importance of gifts to the endowment fund which will support the investment draw in years forward to support the church. Stuart Jamieson, Major and Planned Giving Officer, has been hired and is available to answer any questions you may have about the Legacy Program.

Mr. Doak thanked Mr. Marty Sherrod for his business and financial guidance and support.

Mr. Shonkwiler thanked Mr. Doak for his work as Treasurer over the past year.

Mr. Shonkwiler introduced Elder Alison Gerlach Blaser, Chair of the Nominating Committee.

Elder 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 2022

*Lynne Driver
Sam Evans
Jeanne Olofson
Anthony Ruger*

*Joe Sifferlen
Anne Voshel
Beverly Washington*

Elder Blaser 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, Trustee President Shonkwiler 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 Jim Kulich for a report from the Personnel Committee.

Report of the Personnel Committee

Elder Jim Kulich, Co-Chair of the Personnel Committee, thanked the committee for the work over the past year and include Arlene Faulk (Co-Chair), Larry Braskamp, Rebecca Dixon, Don Horvath, Patsy Habicht, Carl Lingenfelter, Marc Miller and Betsy Morgan.

Elder Kulich reviewed the work of the staff of Fourth Presbyterian Church in the daily activities of the Church. We currently have 156 staff members, 80 full time and 76 part time. In 2018, Fourth Church was named again as one of the top 100 places to work by the Chicago Tribune. Elder Kulich thanked Rev. Shannon Kershner for her leadership and support for all of us through her witness of faith, her sincere care of all of us and for her challenges to us “to become who God thinks we should become in the next 10 years.”

Elder Kulich reviewed the work of the Personnel Committee, including:

- The staff review process which is informed by the Session committee members and leadership
- Support Lucy Forster-Smith as Senior Associate Pastor for Leadership and Adult Education
- Support Nanette Sawyer as Associate Pastor for Discipleship and Small Group Ministry
- Welcomed Joe Morrow as Ministry for Evangelism
- Welcomed Shawn Fiedler in his new role as Ministerial Associate for Worship
- Recommendations for the personnel implications in the purchase of the new manse for our Pastor
- Beginning work on total compensation philosophy for Fourth Presbyterian Church

Elder Kulich reviewed some of the reflections from the review process this year including willingness to embrace change, professional growth and development.

Elder Kulich reviewed the list of anniversaries of staff members and especially Marty Sherrod who stepped into a temporary assignment to lead our capital campaign effort and then as our Business Manager, which then continued for the past ten years. Upon his departure, Elder Kulich thanked him for his skillful endeavors, dedication and commitment.

Elder Kulich thanked our receptionists, facilities associates, security personnel Leszek Pytka, Facility Manager and Doug Whitmer, Director of Human Resources, Office Administration and Security for their dedication and service to the congregation.

Rev. Shannon Kershner thanked the congregation for the purchase of the manse which will not only affect the ministry today but for years to come.

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 “Come Sing O Church in Joy” and with prayer by Rev. Kershner.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon J. Kershner, Moderator