



MINUTES OF THE 2019 ANNUAL MEETING

Columbia District Church Extension Society

February 19, 2019, 12:00 pm

Christ United Methodist Church

Present: Randy Adams, DJ Antlitz, Sherrie Atherly, Joy Atkinson, Faith Bennett, Allen Buck, Jefferson Chao, Lauri Davis, Sho Dozono, Greg Dufault, Jayde Dunkerley, Norm Dyer, Becca Farrester, Robin Franklin, Andy Goebel, Lowell Greathouse, Patti Guptill, Dave Henry, Lydia Henry, Melody Hesseltine, Laura Jaquith Bartlett, Adam Jenkins, LaVerne Lewis, Ken Loyd, Erin Martin, Scott Overton, Jackie Paul, Trudy Pollard, Gwenda Richards Oshiro, Heather Riggs, Stephan Ross, John Schwiebert, Joyce Sluss, Brett Stuvland, Fungalei Taufouu, Richard Tautuaa, Jeff Tyrrell, Donna Ward, David White, Dan Wilson-Fey, Elizabeth Winslea, Tim Winslea, Christy Dirren, Marshall Wattman-Turner, Sean Crews.

Absent: Ric Shewell, Sandy Lofy

Churches represented: Aloha, Beaverton First, Epworth, Fremont, Great Spirit, Gresham First, Hughes Memorial, Lake Oswego, Lents Tongan Fellowship, Lincoln Street, Metanoia Peace Community, Oak Grove, Pioneer (Portland), Portland First, Portsmouth Union, Rose City Park, Sellwood Faith Community, St. Paul's (Milwaukie), Tigard, Trinity (Portland), Vermont Hills, West Portland.

Prayer

Laura Jaquith Bartlett offered an opening prayer, on behalf of our host pastor, Ric Shewell.

Lunch

Words of Welcome

Becca welcomed the gathering and had each person state his/her name and church.

Investment Report

Norm Dyer, chair of the Investments Committee, introduced Greg Dufault and Sherrie Atherly, our financial advisors. Greg gave a summary of 2018's stock market. The bad news is that it was not a good year! But the good news is that as of today, we have already recovered all that

we lost last year, plus more. Greg is happy to be finding good bargains for us. Greg then took questions from the floor:

- How do politics impact investing? The political climate actually has very little impact on the market.
- Do the CDCES investments adhere to socially responsible values? Greg is required to follow Book of Discipline-mandated ethics around socially responsible investing; he also follows the OR-ID strictures.
- What's your advice for churches that are no longer invested in the CDCES? One advantage of investing with CDCES is that you're supporting and being supported by entities that are part of your "ethos." CDCES doesn't charge anything extra to invest with us, so churches pay lower fees than they would with outside agencies.
- Do you still visit investing churches? Yes, we (including Greg) are happy to come to talk with churches about their CDCES investments. Make arrangements through Norm, who is also willing to come talk with non-invested churches.
- What's the relationship between the Northwest Foundation and CDCES? We have similar values, but there is no formal relationship.

CDCES "Askings"

Certificates of appreciation were distributed to those churches who paid 100% of their askings for 2018: Christ UMC, Faith UMC, Great Spirit UMC, Gresham UMC, Heppner UMC, Korean UMC, Lincoln Street UMC, Metanoia Peace House, Montavilla UMC, Portland First UMC, Portsmouth Union Church, Rainier UMC, St. Helens UMC, St. Paul's UMC (Milwaukie), Trinity UMC (Portland), Wesley UMC (Milton-Freewater), West Portland UMC, Westside UMC.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved that the minutes of the 2018 Annual Meeting be approved as printed. Seconded.
Passed.

Nominating Report

It was moved to adopt the nominations report for the Board Officers and Members. Seconded.
Passed.

Recognition of those who have served

Becca thanked all those who have served on the Board, as well as those newly elected and those continuing!

Reports

Laura highlighted the contents of the reports packet, especially the last page, which includes links to the website, where members can find contact information for the Board, meeting schedules and minutes, applications for grants and loans, and a digital copy of our new brochure.

Celebration: our ministry together!

Lydia Henry, Columbia District Lay Leader, offered a summary of the results of the 2018 Laity Development grant of \$15,000.

Heather Riggs shared a testimony about the grant that Oak Grove UMC received in the fall of 2018, which has enabled the congregation to partner with New Urban High School, an alternative school just down the street from Oak Grove UMC. The school's ethos of compassion and nonviolence is wonderfully in synch with the gospel. The irony is that the original grant program failed, but the church is more vibrant and their work with the school is even more successful than what was originally envisioned!

Becca encouraged all attendees to take the new CDCES brochure back home and use it as inspiration to

Treasurer's Report/Budget

Scott Overton, CDCES treasurer, announced that the Rose Balcomb grant will by the end of this week. Application forms are on the webpage; deadline for applying will be April 1. This grant is focused on music-related ministry.

It was moved that the 2019 budget be adopted as printed. Seconded.

Passed.

Dan Wilson-Fey, the conference treasurer, asked Scott if the CDCES has had an audit yet. Scott answered that it's been difficult to find someone, but he is in conversation with Gary McGee, whose firm does the audit for the annual conference.

District Superintendent's Report

Erin Martin reported that she loves the opportunity to see the big picture—what the Spirit is up to! The CDCES gets to act as God's prevenient grace, going on ahead to smooth the way for exciting new movement and growth. She told the story of churches who are turning their parsonages into settings for missional wisdom covenants, where persons live together in intentional community. The extension society grants over \$100,000 annually so that the dreams of our people can turn into reality.

Grant Drawing: Each church that was represented at the Annual Meeting by both laity and clergy was entered into a drawing for a \$500 ministry grant. Lydia Henry, as our district lay leader, reached into the basket and pulled out . . . Lincoln Street UMC! Congratulations!

Becca adjourned the meeting at 1:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Jaquith Bartlett, secretary