

<b>Columbia Congregational Church Council Meeting</b>	<b>Meeting Date:</b>	Tuesday, March 22, 2016
<b>Attendees:</b>	Katie Christenson (Church Clerk), David Parmenter (Board of Finance), Pastor Betsey Polglase, Terry Tangerone (Stewardship/Nominating), Arnold Hinckley (Past President pro tem), Polly Hinckley (Music; Historian), Janice Knight (Deacons), Andrea Stannard (Member at Large), Mark Smith (Treasurer), Debby Smith (Christian Education), Tim Anderson (Trustees), Mark Parmenter (Finance), Henry Beck (Investments)	

### Discussion Items & Motions

Debby motioned that Arnold fills in for Kathy, Mark seconded; all in favor.

1. **Meeting called to order** at 7:02 by Arthur Hinckley.
2. **Pastor Betsey led the group in prayer.**
3. **Accept Minutes of Previous Meeting** – John motioned and Janice seconded; all in favor; none opposed; Tim, Debby and Mark abstain. (Typos and representations were requested to be corrected.)
4. **Treasurers Report** – Debby motioned to accept, John seconded. Report was reviewed, discussed and accepted. A reminder to utilize Amazon Smiles when shopping online at Amazon.
5. **Sabbatical Leave Preparation** – Pastor Betsey has prepared an Agreement for Services between the Church and Reverend Dr. James Harrison. This was reviewed and discussed by council.
  - a. 15 hours per week @ \$500.00 per week for compensation to be paid every 2 weeks for a total of 11 weeks; 1099 will need to be sent; Mileage to be paid, excluding to/from church.
  - b. Henry to work on language regarding salary, etc. – “employment at will” paragraph will need to be re-worded.
  - c. Accountability – Rev. Harris would be accountable to church council and council agrees that his attendance at Deacons meeting is sufficient. If Rev. Harris is having difficulties then he can reach out to the chair of pastoral relations.
  - d. Council President should be the one to sign agreement.
  - e. We will need someone to be on call for the 2 weeks that Rev. Harris will not be here. Pastor Betsey will reach out to contacts to find someone.
  - f. Once Henry rewords the agreement, agreement can be voted on
    1. April 17<sup>th</sup>
  - g. Leaving “room” for funerals or additional activities that may occur, excessively, while Pastor Betsey is away. He will be receiving a fee from the family that he is providing the funeral for.
6. **Committee reports**
  - a. **Finance** (Dave) – will be asking boards and committees to complete audits of funds. Finance needs to start planning the budget for next year.
  - b. **Deacons** (Janice) – Lenten mile will be promoted more next year to encourage attendance.
  - c. **Stewardship** (Terry) – will start handing out invitations for pledges
  - d. **Music/Historical Society** (Polly) – hopefully getting a copy of funeral services for Reverend Avery.
  - e. **Investments** (Henry) – we need to focus on using some of the money that we are receiving from endowment fund to highlight the benefits. Donation to support refugees for a year? Hire a youth

minister to lead a retreat? Guest speaker at Bible series? Many opportunities to be creative here. Janice suggested the possibility of renting a handicapped accessible van once a week to transport those in need to/from Church.

f. **Pastor Betsey –**

1. Baptism on 10<sup>th</sup> for Anna Mott.
2. Walt Woodward will be happy to work with us on our 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary;
3. The dedication of endowment plaque to lift up endowment fund before the congregation – perhaps this could take place on April 3<sup>rd</sup>? Coffee hour funds can be used to purchase a cake – Debby will take this on.

**7. Adjourn**

Arnold motioned to adjourn at 7:56pm; Mark seconded; all in favor.

Next Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Katie Christenson  
Clerk