

December 2023 Board Agenda

Adams Hall

December 19, 2023 6:30pm

Board members present: Sara Fleming (2024), Kalen Ponche (2024); Steve Swift (2024); Chuck Schuder (2024); Carole Glauser (2025); Sue Bell (2025); Bob Becker (2026); Rebecca Taylor (2026); Rev. Krista Taves (*by phone*)



Not Present:

Ministers, Volunteers & Guests: [Carl Serbell](#), [Janis Cox](#), [Tanya Hull](#)

Gather (5 min)

- Chalice lighting & Opening Reading Bob
- Welcome Board and Visitors and Introductory comments Sara

Check-ins of highs and lows (15 min)

Visitor Comments (2 minutes per visitor) (5 min)

Meeting Preparation (5 min)

- Finalize agenda
- Transparency Ombudsperson's Report
- Confirm meeting assignments:
 - Timekeeper - Rebecca
 - [Process & Transparency Observer](#) - Steve

Consent Agenda (5 min) [Chuck and Carole moved, voted yes by all.](#)

- Approve November 2023 Meeting Minutes
- Accept Ombudsman's Report
- Affirmation of New Eliot members (Bylaws, Article III, Part A):
- Accept Policy Monitoring Reports: ([See Policy Compliance Record](#))
 - Deferring to a future month once the policy review is complete

NomCom Update (5 min) [No one from NomCom present](#)

Search Team Update (10 min)

The search team offered a timeline for the announcement and recommendation to have Rev. Krista be the minister. They will announce the recommendation on Jan. 14 and hand out a two-page summary report. Several cottage meetings will be scheduled to allow feedback. The planned congregational meeting to vote on calling Rev. Krista will be March 3.

Treasurer's Report/Budget Discussion [Sue] (10 min)

The October expenses would be lower because we hadn't yet hired the new administrator. The mortgage balance has gone down to \$376,000. We currently have 252 pledging units. It was at 240 and then it dropped to 236 and now it has rebounded to 252. There are people who are pledging but are not currently members yet. Brian is

going to reach out to connect with them. Some might be returning members who might want to reactivate.

In looking at our numbers of people watching us online, the number of viewers multiplied by 2.5 people because we assume that each screen is watched by more than one person. This leads us to consider how we create a more dynamic online version of our service? How do we have a more intentional relationship with those folks?

New Business (20 min)

- Determine date for Annual Meeting - May 19 1pm
 - One thing could be a proposal to change the bylaws to allow a way to do in-person voting. The Board would need to propose such a change and it would be voted on during May 19.
- Strategic Planning Workshop Follow up
 - Who should be on the subcommittee? Carole should be the one leading the effort. Steve Mennerick, Rev. Krista, Kalen Ponche
 - What are the buckets? Step. 1 // brainstorm buckets
 - Use the suggestions from the search team mapped to the ends
 - Finalize our buckets to present to the board by the January board meeting.
 - Relate to Pledge Drive- let's use the strategic plan to the pledge drive. Tie some of the goals to the pledge- such as if we raise xx money then we will have to pay for xx.

Minister's Incidental Report

- Volunteers for the stewardship team. Mary Meihaus is going to provide support. Sue is going to be the chair.
- AED is going to be installed.
- Brian can explore additional revenue streams. Working on building a relationship with an event planner. How could Bergfried be a steady source of revenue? Ideas about 222 and how it could be used.
- For stability of the congregation we have to find more ways to diversify income.
- How do we have a more contemporary worship service? What kind of support would we need for that? Rev. Krista will build a team.

8:00 Unfinished Business

- Action Items from last meeting – Completed? Next Steps?
- Policy Changes Update?
- Future Minister Evaluation Process

8:20 Meeting Summary:

1. Process & Transparency Report

2. Decisions/Actions Taken/Follow Up

- Search team updated us on its progress. The team will offer an update to the congregation in mid-January.
- The annual meeting will be May 19 at 1pm. The board is considering proposing a change to the bylaws that will allow for online voting.
- The board had a strategic planning workshop. We have created a subcommittee to lead the charge. We are instituting a three year rolling plan.
- The board is forming a personnel committee which will ensure the church is following labor law and is in right relationship with the staff. The minister will rely on the committee when the church is in search for new staff members. The board is also forming a finance committee who will assist the treasurer with overseeing church finances.
- Winter retreat is scheduled for December 19.
- The ask raised more than \$26,030 with more anticipated.

3. Assignments for January Meeting

Chalice Lighter: Rebecca

Timekeeper: Kalen

Process Observer: Bob

4. Policy Monitoring Scheduled for January Meeting:

- *(Policy Monitoring is under review)*

(See [Policy Compliance Rec](#))

Upcoming Dates of Importance

Jan 16 - January Board Meeting

Jan 22 - Possibly MB Gov Wine & Cheese

8:30 Closing remarks, Adjourn, Social Time

Powerful Question: What are some ways 222 could help support our mission?