Little River United Church of Christ  
Governance Board Meeting Minutes 
July 13, 2016

Present:  
Rob Peters, Moderator 
Carolyn Yocom, Moderator-Elect 
Cici Thompson, Past- Moderator  
Ann Lingo, Clerk 
Mary Summers, Treasurer 
Dave Curtis, Comptroller 
Robin Petrusak & Ben Northrup, Board of Trustees 
Bruce Douglas, at large 
John Mingus, at large 
David Lindsey, Senior Pastor 

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Rob who invited David to open the meeting with a prayer and thanked participants for their notes and cards of sympathy.

Treasurer’s report: Mary distributed copies of the mid-year budget report. She noted that income is within 2% of budget and expenses are currently under budget. Pledge income is lagging about 6% which is probably better than last year. Fewer than 10 pledge units haven’t given this year to date and among them may be some who usually give late in the year. The rental payment which was behind has been brought up to date as promised and will be reflected in the July financial reports.

Money continues to come into the Endowment Fund with contributions of nearly $30,000 received this year. David asked for information about where the designated funds can be used. Dave Curtis said in previous years the information has been sent to the relevant committees and that he believes it will be posted on the web site.

Pastor’s report: Continuing our work with Gil Rendle’s article, “Behavioral Covenants in Congregations,” David named some unhealthy behaviors, and asked Council members to identify any unhealthy behaviors they may have experienced at LRUCC. Discussion centered on the need to continue working to improve communications among board members and with the congregation.

David noted that a July 17th Congregational Meeting was originally planned for Claire Bamberg, our consultant, to report the outcome of her study. She discovered that a number of members will be out of town on July 17th and suggested moving the Congregational Meeting to September or October. Carolyn said Claire’s report will be distributed to the congregation 10 days before the Congregational Meeting. The report will include five recommendations for pastoral models we could adopt. At the meeting, which Claire will facilitate, she expects the congregation to vote to adopt one of the five models.

On July 17th we will have a Congregational Gathering to review our budget, receive an update from Trustees, and review the process for calling an associate pastor. David would also like to have a discussion about the current violence around policing and race that we have been experiencing.
In preparation for the time when he is the only pastor on staff, David has increased some of Donna Jones’s responsibilities as Church Business Administrator. She will begin offering some support to the Stewardship, Finance, Nominations and Appointments and Personnel committees. David will teach a confirmation class, as well as work with Social Justice and Christian Education Committees in addition to those committees he already supports.

**Trustees:** Robin asked for time at the Congregational Gathering to share information about some of the work that the Trustees are doing and to request help. She reports the Trustees are prioritizing maintenance based on the following criteria: 1. Safety, 2. Security, 3. Comfort, and 4. Aesthetics.

In consultation with our insurance company, the Trustees discovered that we are currently under insured. Our present policy covers building and contents. Current recommended practice is to insure the building and contents separately. To do that Trustees are undertaking an inventory of the contents of the church. Volunteers will be needed to complete the inventory.

Two rooms in the basement have been cleaned out giving the Historians a work space and providing additional meeting space. On September 1 the preschool is having CPR and defibrillator training at a cost of $60/person. Members are welcome to participate. Josh Clark, a new member, is a Landscape Architect with a background in environmental management of grounds. He has volunteered to provide the Trustees with a report including maps and drawings of our property at their September meeting.

**Finance Committee:** Dave Curtis requested a few minutes at the Congregational Gathering on Sunday, July 17 to inform the congregation of a draft policy that is currently circulating regarding compensation for services rendered by members of the congregation. The Finance Committee is soliciting input prior to the policy being voted on by the Governance Board.

**New Business:** Rob reported that we have recently received a couple of unpledged gifts. In one case the donor wants to know what was done with the gift. Dave said per the by-laws the Stewardship has dealt with special gifts, and Rob said he would pass the request on.

David said we will need a new Safe Church Administrator once Hank leaves. **Bruce moved that David be appointed Safe Church Administrator.** After discussion **Bruce asked that the motion be tabled until the next meeting** so that it can be determined if best practice is to have a lay person or pastor serve as Safe Church Administrator. Ben volunteered to serve as Safe Church Administrator if it is determined that a lay member can fill the position.

David reported the Deacons voted to move to one Sunday service starting in September. They will review this decision in the spring of 2017.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m. with a closing prayer by David.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Lingo, Clerk

The next meeting will be a Church Council meeting on September 14th at 7:30 p.m.