

Christ United Methodist Church
ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MEETING SUMMARY
May 29, 2025

ATTENDING: Clara Fitzgerald, Kevin Fitzgerald, Lee Klinkenberg, Phil Lindberg, Kevin Swanson, Natalie Swirdovich, Rev. Angela Wells

Lee opened the meeting with prayer.

Pastor's Report

Rev. Angela discussed recent events, including a successful ending well event with 40 attendees and upcoming activities like funeral planning and legacy giving initiatives. The upcoming "Ending Well" fair is on June 7th. Rev. Angela also mentioned her involvement in the annual conference and her pastoral care responsibilities.

SPRC: Kevin Swanson provided a brief SPRC report, noting that he and Don had completed Lisa's evaluation. We reviewed and approved the sanctuary security policy without changes.

OBIC: Treasurer Clara Fitzgerald discussed the new executive director's financial management and plans for 2026 assessments. She highlighted the need to repair the sanctuary stage and parking lot, and mentioned a proposal for EV chargers that is pending grant approval and infrastructure assessment. The group also addressed a delayed reimbursement of \$655 from OBIC for carpet installation in Pastor Angela's office.

Financial Chair: Natalie Swirdovich discussed online giving through our new platform, Breeze.

Financial Review and Fundraising Plans

The group discussed financial matters, including a recent payment transaction and a monthly report. We discussed that revenues is below expectations, with outgoings exceeding monthly income. The team reviewed plans for a fundraising initiative called "Paint by Number," which will involve Mary Jo creating artwork with envelopes for different donation amounts, with the campaign to be promoted in June and July newsletters. Natalie noted concerns about the timing of fundraising requests, but Reverend Angela emphasized that the initiative is necessary to address the deficit.

Church Financial Progress and Strategies

The meeting focused on financial updates and strategies to improve church contributions. Natalie reported a strong Sunday collection, and Kevin F noted the need for consistent weekly counting to track progress. Lee shared that as of April, the church was at 81% of its annual financial goal, with 13 pledges behind schedule. Lee also mentioned that the church was considering a letter from Pastor Angela to encourage greater participation and accountability.

Legacy Giving and Endowment Plans

We are working on educational materials about legacy giving, including honor gifts, and legacy gifts. The committee will develop a gift acceptance policy and seek input from the congregation and Council of Ministries on how to use the endowment fund's interest for programs like youth activities, missions, and community initiatives. Natalie will continue leading the endowment fund initiative with additional materials being added to the website to encourage donations.

Tax Exempt Card: Lee confirmed that the state tax exempt card, which expires in 2027, is currently being managed by the conference. Kevin Fitzgerald will take over the responsibility of renewing the state tax exempt card when it expires, and Natalie will continue leading the endowment fund initiative with additional materials being added to the website to encourage donations.

Community Ministries Initiative Review

We discussed mission insights data showing the church's demographic alignment with the surrounding community, which Reverend Angela noted was better than at many other churches. The team also covered plans for a summer vacation photo shoot, a Pool party in August, and a new partnership with Cradlerock Elementary School. Kevin Fitzgerald has obtained a tax-free card number for school-related purchases.

Rev. Angela closed in prayer. Next meeting is scheduled for June 19th.

Phil Lindberg