

**United Church of Christ Congregational
Wallace, ID 83873
Executive Board Meeting Minutes**

October 27, 2024 (approved November 10, 2024)

Benjamin Crosby, serving as Moderator, called the meeting to order at 10:45 AM. Katie Bauer, Gail Carlson, Ben Crosby, and Rick Ehram (via video conference) were present along with Alice Ling, our "Interim" Pastor. Christi Thielman was absent.

The meeting opened with a conversation about the Safe Church Policy template that had been distributed at the last meeting. After considerable discussion about what constitutes appropriate policy for a church our size and with our level of activity, we agreed to adopt the first three (3) sections as our official policy and to reference the remainder of the template as a reference for leadership. We further agreed to share the policy with our membership and to encourage healthy discussion as a way to build consensus about the importance of having such policy.

Most of the remainder of the meeting dealt with the processing of an email dated October 21, 2024 authored by Christi Thielman.

There was a discussion about our Trust Fund, its history and purpose. There was discussion about appropriate and inappropriate uses for the funds without making any decisions.

There was considerable discussion about the upstairs rest rooms. General consensus was that they are adequate with a couple of areas of concern. We agreed that we should explore ADA guidelines for the restroom currently designated as handicapped. Rick agreed to do some research. We also agreed to take a careful look at signage for the two facilities. Ben agreed to pursue appropriate signs. Ben reminded the Board that all floors on the main level of the church are poured concrete. This fact makes for exceptionally stable floors and creates some challenges when remodeling.

Ben shared a document detailing the past six years of maintenance work on our building. The list highlighted the work done and identified whether professional or volunteer labor was utilized. There was general consensus that when considering future projects, we should be taking advantage of volunteer labor when feasible and using professional labor when necessary.

There was also lengthy discussion about other possible projects around the church. General consensus was that the building is in pretty good shape. The north side of the sanctuary roof was identified as an area of concern. The Board agreed that they would benefit from an interior and exterior tour in the near future.

In the context of discussion about our exterior doors (Cedar Street as well as 4th Street) we reminded ourselves that the building is designed for 200-300 occupants so careful consideration for ingress and egress needs to be included in any design changes.

The Board spent considerable time talking about Board dynamics and generally affirmed the ways we are working together. At one point the Moderator offered to step back from his duties and was unanimously discouraged from doing so. Members spoke about the importance of open communication and the need for differences of opinion to be settled promptly and amicably. Everyone agreed that personal grievances should not get in the way of Board dynamics and all present agreed to work to that end.

The Board reviewed the draft church brochure and made a few minor editorial changes. They also examined both glossy and matte brochure paper and decided to print it in-house on the matte paper. They did not see that there would be a substantive difference in professional versus in-house printing and liked the flexibility to be able to print copies as they are needed and make editorial adjustments as necessary.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:45 PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 10, 2024 after worship and coffee hour.

Respectfully submitted,
Benjamin Crosby