**Minutes of the 81st OCC Annual Meeting  
Sunday, January 26, 2020**

After refreshments in the narthex, 51 congregational members met in the sanctuary for the Annual Meeting. Moderator Fred Matteson called the meeting to order at 11:25 am.

The minutes of the 80th Annual Meeting, January 27, 2019, were moved and approved.

**Stewardship Report and Action on the 2020 Church Budget**—Lani Shepp: Lani thanked everyone for a very generous stewardship campaign. Current pledges of $370,728 exceed last year’s pledges of $355,000. The 2020 budget is a deficit budget with no salary increases or raises in expenses for anything except items like medical and property insurance that have to be covered. The budget shows a deficit of $12,104. We have $8,483 cash left over from last year so the deficit is really $3,621. We think we’ll be able to make up the deficit during the year.

Lani answered some questions: Several people moved their loose offerings to pledges and that accounts for the differences in loose offerings for 2019/2020. We may try to do a capital campaign at some point instead of trying to raise so much via pledges. We may need to do this to finance our facility expenses. About four percent of the interest from the Endowment Fund can be spent each year (without touching the principal). The Endowment Fund has approved spending up to $32,000 for 2020 with unused amounts going back into Endowment. The “cut” in M&J monies may be made up by asking Endowment to help fund certain M&J projects. Fred mentioned the budget separates out the core costs that keep us running. For any projects we want to do over the next few years we will need to find funding sources. We need to make sure we have an operating budget but also have an understanding of the costs of our physical plant and the costs of projects our member are passionate about. Those opportunities will always come up and we can’t really predict them. So we are looking at the core budget and it’s the same as last year’s. Tom Norris explained we are trying to repair the broken gas line ourselves to save money. We are also working to improve the sanctuary lights.

Fred offered some positive reflections: Elizabeth has joined us and we know how valuable she’s been to our spiritual life. We’ve kept our mission budgets intact and continue to be generous as a church. We’ve accomplished a lot with our music programs and with facility repairs. There’s still a lot to be done with our aging facility but we should never give up or get complacent with where we are. There are folks who are still considering increasing their pledges and there is a match of up to $5,000 from a member for every increased contribution. These extra funds may allow us to do more in 2020. Our TUTH funds are down to very little. Endowment has agreed to fund Leslie’s/Elizabeth’s extra weekly hours during Jim’s sabbatical. The attendees moved and approved the 2020 budget.

**Moderator’s Report**—Fred Matteson: Fred reflected on the year 1939 when the church was founded and what was happening in the world. It was a horrible time; a hard time to be optimistic. Yet God called a congregation to start a church and here we are, also in a very conflicted time in history. It’s a very complicated world out there and it’s a good time for us to be doing our missions to help the world. All of us are important and our church continues to be a place where people can come to recharge. The Church is a place of refuge allowing us to take a break from the complications of the world. We’ve managed to move this church forward despite everything. We’ve improved the Fellowship Hall and are looking to the future. Work on the upper hillside that is a project of Orinda Senior Housing Foundation continues. Helping provide affordable housing is a core part of our mission and will also provide an annuity for the church. We have bids from appraisers on what the likely church income will be. We’ll need to vote to move forward on this project so we can participate in the revenue stream. Fred will continue to be on the OSV Board. OSV has done a lot like repaving the parking lot so they are a very good partner for us. Fred thanked Jim and the Council Members. His time as Moderator was a wonderful experience.

**Pastoral Report**—Rev Jim Brommers Bergquist: The most exciting part of 2019 was having Elizabeth join us. We’re in a really good spot with the staff we have. Jim continues to listen to what folks want the church to be. He’s trying for a lot of variety so everyone has something. He cited some highlights of 2019: Women of Spirit offerings; Endowment funding, Christmas Eve and Easter services; adding midweek Contemplative Services; the work of Tom Norris and others on our church campus; and Jim’s weekly Wellness Drop-In at Miramonte High. Jim also cited some goals for the future: determining the best systems and ways to organize the church; honoring the interests, feedback, and styles of worship people bring to Sunday mornings; finding an optimal amount of church events; more support for Leslie, and Children and Youth; and offering a variety of options for members to participate in service opportunities. Jim thanked everyone he’s worked with. He’s excited and grateful to take his sabbatical.

**Nomination and Election of Church Leaders**—Kurt Sunderbruch: Kurt has great regard for the efforts of our paid staff as well as our volunteers. We can always use more volunteers and he encouraged everyone to reach out. We focus on things people feel called to do. Come to the Council with a proposal if there’s something you want to see the church do. Kurt reviewed the Council members for 2020. He thanked Pastoral Relations, Finance and Stewardship, Buildings and Grounds, and the Endowment Board for all their work. The attendees moved and approved the slate of nominees.

**Introduction of 2020/2021 Moderator**—Fred Matteson: Fred handed the Moderator job over to Kurt Sunderbruch.

**Installation of Church Leaders**—Rev. Jim Brommers Bergquist: Jim installed the church leaders and thanked all for their involvement.

Following the hymn, Kurt Sunderbruch adjourned the meeting at 12:28 pm.

Kathleen Wiegand, Clerk