**Minutes of the 82nd OCC Annual Meeting
Sunday, January 31, 2021**

We started the meeting with 45 participants who met via Zoom for the Annual Meeting. Moderator Kurt Sunderbruch called the meeting to order at 11:05 am.

The minutes of the 81st Annual Meeting, January 26, 2020, were moved and approved unanimously.

**Stewardship Report:** Per Bill Abriel, 75% of church revenue comes from pledges. We’ve raised $345,000 in pledges so far for 2021 so a big congratulations to all who pledged. Bill also thanked the stewardship committee for their hard work.

**Budget Review and Approval:** Lani Shepp indicated we came out the end of 2020 positive. We had a PPP loan that was forgiven so we didn’t have to pay it back. That, plus everyone’s generosity, got us though 2020. The 2021 budget is almost balanced with only a slight deficit projected right now. Lani reviewed the revenue items: pledges are at $345,000; rental income and loose offerings items are down due to continuing Covid restrictions; we received a large donation; we will do more fundraising.

Responses to Zoom audience questions revealed the following information. The large drop in budget money for Children and Youth is due to just trying to predict what is needed in 2021. The drop in staffing is based on having one full time pastor and increasing Leslie to half time as of 1/1/21. Chris Mead and Kurt Sunderbruch thanked Lani for her work year-round on the church budget and for quickly applying for the 2020 PPP loan. Thanks were also expressed for Gail Mead’s and Kathy Kling’s financial efforts. Provisions have been made to compensate Elizabeth for her long hours on the job. She received a raise and will be able to take time off throughout the year via additional vacation time and guest preachers. Lani will send a copy of the budget information to anyone interested. The 2021 budget was moved and approved unanimously as presented.

**Moderator’s Comments and Report:**  Per Kurt Sunderbruch, 2020 has been quite a year. With Covid we were not able to be together for services, fellowship hours, events, or fundraisers. We had to find a way to do something else and we did a remarkable job. There were many disruptions and challenges. Kurt thanked the Council for helping him navigate through the unprecedented times. He thanked the PRC for their patience and vision on how to best support our new pastor. He thanked Roger Samuelsen, who led the Search Committee for Elizabeth Robinson, for his advice. He thanked the congregation for being steady through the challenging times and willing to help. He is grateful for so much including our music program and those who maintain our buildings and grounds. We keep coming together and being the church. We are blessed on multiple levels. Leslie O’Brien mentioned Kurt has always been there for the church and presented him with a Bev Mo gift certificate. Anne Barr and Tom Norris also thanked Kurt for his work.

**Pastor’s Comments and Report:** Rev. Elizabeth Robinson thanked Kurt Sunderbruch for all his work behind the scenes and for his friendship and leadership. She has relied on him and welcomed his theological discussions. She sees all the love and effort everyone has put in over the past year. We have deepened in faith and are entering the new year with hope. She has watched us care for each other, pitch in, and be all the things the church should be. There’s a lot of grief and loss on so many dimensions and we want to address that this year. There will be time to mourn with each other and maybe have some memorial services. Thanks for our care for each other. Technology has been a useful tool and we may want to continue with it even after we are able to meet again in person. The campus is looking better as we care for it. We are finding ways to be the church inside and out, e.g. to make beautiful music; to have meaningful conversations; to become a Creation Justice church. Elizabeth is impressed by the dynamism of what we’ve done. Let her know if you have questions or ideas. She sends love and congratulations to all for their generosity and creativity. She is glad we found each other and that we have welcomed her into our family.

Elizabeth will do an installation in March to welcome Mitch Breitwieser and Mary Volmer as new members to the congregation; recognize the lay ministry of Leslie O’Brien, and recognize the music ministry of David Milnes. Based on an audience suggestion, she will extend recognition to all those on the ministries so we can celebrate all their contributions.

**Nomination and Election of Church Leaders:** Per Anne Barr, most of our elected officials’ terms aren’t up this year; the transition is next year. However, Mitch Breitwieser has agreed to join the Council and we need to renew Gail Mead’s Council term. We moved and approved unanimously to accept Mitch and Gail as at-large positions on the Council. Anne indicated the Pastoral Relations Committee now includes John Thursby (the Annual Report will be updated) and that we still need someone to join Anne on the Engagement Committee. She thanked everyone serving on committees for their participation, talents, friendship, and spirit. Lani Shepp pointed out that in 2022 there will be a lot of vacancies to be filled on our committees as terms expire. Kurt Sunderbruch mentioned anyone interested in joining committees/ministries in 2022, should contact Anne Barr. He also explained that today’s meeting didn’t cover everything laid out in the Annual Report so please refer to it for additional information on ministries, committees, boards, etc.

**Installation of Church Leaders:**  Rev. Elizabeth Robinson installed and blessed the church leaders and thanked all for their involvement and for accepting the challenges.

**Green Team Update:** Nancy Thursby thanked everyone who voted to become a Creation Justice (CJ) church. She is checking to see if our application has been received and approved by National and that they send us our CJ banner. Green Team met in January and adopted an online program called Cleaner Contra Costa Challenge. OCC will have an account, but individuals can set up one too. There will be a presentation on this at the 2/14 Zoom Fellowship Hour. Nancy will provide a link to the online welcome page so anyone can set up an individual account.

**Other:** Joy Elkinton-Walker is very impressed with all we’ve accomplished this year. She recommends we write an article to let the community know OCC is alive and functioning and has a lot to offer.

Kurt Sunderbruch adjourned the meeting at 12:10 pm.

Kathleen Wiegand, Clerk