

STATED SESSION MEETING
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ORLANDO
May 26, 2020

The meeting was called to order by moderator David Swanson at 6:00 PM via Zoom Conference.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

ATTENDANCE:

Teaching Elders: David Swanson, Case Thorp, Becky Davis, Jack Peebles, and Tanner Fox

Senior Leadership Team: Dale van Gelder and Brett Allen

Ruling Elders: Barbara Clayton, Jim Hardy, Quino Martinez, Robbie Ball, Darrell Carpenter Sr., Erin Linblad, Melody Lynch, Katie Witter, Ellen Arnold, Greg Burden, John Caplan, Amanda Cowan, Bo Morgan, and Kurt Wood.

Excused: Rick Pullum and Allen Peacock

Absent: Becky Wilson and Bob Francis

Staff: Christine McDaniel

Other attendees: Bryan Knedgen

A quorum was declared.

David Swanson opened the meeting in prayer and shared from the article *The Original 2020 Is History. 7 New Disruptive Church Trends Every Church Leader Should Watch* by Carey Nieuwhof.

MINISTER REPORT

Discussion on reopening measures: David shared that an email would go out this week to the congregation with different aspects of the plans to reopen but will not put dates to the plan which will come at a later date once more information is available. We will continue to follow the lead of the Governor and Mayor as we proceed with reopening plans.

Motion: To approve a gift of \$304,000 distributed among 16 organizations and FPCO missionaries from the Arise & Build (\$100,000), Mission General (\$115,000), and Mission Support (\$89,000) funds. M/S/P

(12 of 18 teaching and ruling Elders voted for Orlando Philharmonic support)

(Cong at large member, Bryan Knedgen, and RE Melody Lynch (Vice President, & President Elect of the Orlando Philharmonic Board of Directors) were excused for this portion of the meeting)

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Tanner led a time on “Prayer of Discernment”.

There was no other business before the session and Tanner's prayer served as our closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 7:29 PM.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 PM with a closing prayer.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David S. Swanson".

David Swanson
Moderator

Greg Burden
Clerk

Gifts to Organizations from FPCO

As our community struggles through this season of COVID-19, the Lord has blessed FPCO that we might be a blessing to the community. There are currently 3 different funds from which FPCO can make sizable donations to organizations in the community who are in need as they serve sections of the community.

<p>Arise & Build: (100K) The Arise & Build Fund allocated 10% of the entire campaign to strategic mission organizations. The three organizations included our Ministry in Mercy Drive (which is no longer in operation), our partnership in Madagascar with the FJKM, and Mission Emmanuel in the Dominican Republic. We are able to give outside of those three intentions so long as the session approves the gifts.</p>	<p>Mission General: (200K) The Mission General Fund is a restricted account that is outside of the operating budget. It is restricted for the purposes of Mission work (vague).</p>	<p>Mission Support: (100K) The Mission Support money comes directly from the operating budget and is awarded annually through our Mission Support Process. The normal process occurs from October to January and then, depending on how the budget is tracking, we give away a final amount in April or May. This year, due to the virus, we waited longer to see how the budget would look, come May, and so far we are tracking ahead giving us plenty of room to make some large gifts to partners.</p>
--	---	--

Prioritization:

1. Current Partners who are Serving the Immediate Need
2. Who is helping the most vulnerable in the community in the current crisis? (The City)
3. How might generosity give us an opportunity to forge new/needed relationships within the Central FL community?
4. Other mission partners or missionaries.

Level	Organization:	Mission Partner	Gift Size?	Fund:	Reasoning
1	Mission Emmanuel	Yes - Strategic Partner	\$50,000.00	A&B	Mission Emanuel has suffered the loss of income in reaction to all of the normal summer trips at approximately \$80,000.00. They have prioritized the salaries of their dominican workers in this season and continue to operate their water plant in Cielo.
1	FJKM/Madagascar Partnership	Yes - Strategic Partner	\$25,000.00	A&B	Our partners in Madagascar have also been dealing with the difficulties of the COVID-19 season. In order to continue the work of the church and the seminary in Mada, they are requesting additional financial assistance.
1	Jobs Partnership	yes - Strategic Partner	\$5,000.00	MS	JP is working with individuals and organizations to target job opportunities in our city as well as connect people with the training they need to get a job in these needed fields. They are transitioning some of their curriculum and training to online resources as possible and necessary.
1	Christian Service Center	yes	\$5,000.00	MS	CSC has recently acquired Eric Grey (former CEO of UP Orlando) as their new leader. He has done an incredible job with UP as it stands out as one of the best models for lifting people out of poverty in Orlando and even in the country. CSC is continuing to provide food assistance to families in need and the need has grown tremendously in this season.
1	Samaritan's Village	yes - Strategic Partner	\$50,000.00	A&B - Already Paid	This gift was voted on a month ago to provide for SV in their expansion plan to serve more women in the central Florida area.
1	Grace Medical Home	yes - Strategic Partner	\$15,000.00	MS	Grace Medical Home has continued to see patients and has received more patients due to the current crisis.
2	Polis Institute (Central Florida United)	yes	\$25,000.00	MG	Polis is a long time partner of ours and has done incredible work to pivot their time and resources to CentralFloridaUnited.org . This site is multifaceted offering information, service connections, volunteer options for the people of central Florida. We would give this gift to Polis and direct it specifically to the CFU efforts.
2	Second Harvest Food Bank	no	\$25,000.00	MG	Second Harvest has been designated as the primary food distribution source in Central FL through COVID-19. They have received grants in various amounts and yet the need continues to grow as people are furloughed and lost jobs.
2	United Against Poverty - (UP Orlando)	no	\$25,000.00	MG	UP Orlando - located at Michigan and Orange, they are a grocery for those in poverty and their numbers are soaring. They also do job training and job searching, health screenings, mental health, etc. Their model is among the best in the nation.
2	LIFT Orlando	No	\$25,000.00	A&B	LIFT serve a community that has been deeply affected by the economic difficulties of this season. They are focusing on two initiatives. First, Healthy Food Access and Support Services. Second, Housing Stabilization & Homelessness Protection. More details to come in the attached proposal.
2	Harbor House	no	\$10,000.00	MG	Harbor House is caring for those experiencing domestic abuse in Orlando. They are the primary Christian shelter in Orlando and the department of family services reported an increase in domestic violence cases as a result of quarantine.
3	iDignity	yes - Strategic Partner	\$25,000.00	MS	This money would be going towards a capital campaign. We were planning on making a gift in this direction before COVID and we want to make good on our commitment to their ongoing work!
3	RTS	yes	\$15,000.00	MG	RTS had its worst giving month (April) in a number of years. They are in need of raising 1.2 million in the month of May to break even. This is substantial because of the number of students that receive scholarships at RTS. If these scholarships are not available, many of the students will not be able to continue in their studies at RTS. FPCO has been committed to seminary training as a part of our conviction to invest in the next generation of pastors.
3	Orlando Philharmonic - Some Sort of Arts Organization?	no	\$15,000.00	MG	The arts are very important in how we understand God's call to "be creative/productive" - a huge part of The Collaborative - and one of the places where our city is hurting the worst: no shows, performances, or opportunities. Giving to the Phil, where elder Melody Lynch is chair of the board, makes an important statement to our community about how the church views the arts.
4	Choices Women's Clinic	Yes	\$10,000.00	MS	Choices is continuing to serve the community through offering care to pregnant women in the community. They are a pro-life organization and are expanding their efforts to the UCF area with a new clinic.
4	Timothy Two Project	yes	\$5,000.00	MS	Timothy Two has missionaries all over the world with a focus on training indigenous pastors. They have had to scramble to get missionaries home/or in safer places during this season. They have created a general fund for their missionaries with extra needs. We would be contributing to this fund.
4	Current FPCO Missionaries	Yes	\$24,000.00	MS	This gift would be an extra \$1,000.00 to each of our missionaries in our current portfolio. We have heard that some of our missionaries are losing donors and are unsure of the next season of fundraising and ministry. We would like to bless them with an extra \$1000.00 for this year and send them a note reminding them about the Good Sam Process if they find themselves in greater need.
			Total:		
			\$354,000.00		
			\$89,000.00	Mission Support	
			\$115,000.00	Mission General	
			\$150,000.00	Arise & Build	*50K has already been given from A&B to Samaritan Village