

MCC Knoxville Congregational Meeting

November 16, 2025

Guidelines for Meetings

1. We are to be open to the winds of the Spirit of God. We will spend time listening for God's Word.
2. Every person is a valuable asset. Everyone has something to offer. Position and longevity do not give a person more rights.
3. The process needs our sharing in honesty, openness, and respect.
 - A. "I" messages should be used whenever possible.
 - B. We need to seek clarity before debate.
 - C. Care should be taken to not use loaded words.
 - D. While sharing is important, no one should feel they can monopolize. The less we use our tongues the less chance of offending.
4. We need to be listeners.
 - A. Always attempt to restate what you hear, so that it can be clarified.
 - B. Calm your inner voices to hear instead of trying to form a response.

Board: Rev. Colleen Darraugh, Steve D., Sherry K., Doug K., Sharon U., Vicki V., and Linda Y.

Agenda

Member check-in and determination of quorum (20% of Membership)

Opening prayer

Amend/Approve Agenda

Approval of Congregational Meeting minutes of May 4, 2025

Treasurer's Report

Approval of the 2026 Budget

Local Bylaw Amendment to Article VII – Pastor

- Updating terminology (Changing “Elder serving the Network” to “Denomination”)
- Updating terminology (Changing “Pastor’s Contract” to “Pastor’s Covenant”)
- Clarifying that lodging is included as part of the travel expenses paid for the Pastor to attend General Conferences.

Local Bylaw Amendment to Article VIII – Conflict Resolution

- Updating terminology (Changing “Elder serving the Network” to “Denomination”)

Local Bylaw Amendment to Article X – Church Finances

- Reorganizing the headings to show that the Board of Pensions assessments and Tithe assessments are both paid to the Denomination

Local Bylaw Amendment to Article XI – Adoption and Amendments

- Updating terminology (Changing “Elder serving the Network” to “Denomination”)

Reception of Reports as a Group From: The Pastor, Board of Directors, Lay Delegate, and Food Pantry

Motions of Appreciation

Closing Prayer

Minutes of MCC Knoxville Congregational Meeting May 4, 2025 (Draft 2)

Board Members Present: Rev. Colleen Darraugh, Steve D., Donna K., Doug K., Sharon U., and Linda Y.

Rev. Colleen Darraugh convened the meeting at 12:26 p.m.

After recording members checked in it was determined a quorum had been met (20% of Membership: 12.2 is a quorum of 61 members, 26 voting members were present,).

Opening prayer

Amend/Approve Agenda

Moved: Donna K
Seconded: Vicki V.
Approved

Approval of Congregational Meeting minutes of November 17, 2024

Moved: Sandy T.
Seconded: Kathy H.
Approved

Board election

Thanks were given to Cassi and Donna for their years of service on the Board.

Steve D, Sherry K. and Vicky V. are standing for election. All were elected.

Treasurer's Report

Linda referenced the Treasurer's Report which was posted online.

Moved: Cathy H.
Seconded: Beth P.
Approved

Local Bylaw Amendment to Article V and VI

Colleen reviewed the sections and summarized the changes.

Local Bylaw Amendment to Article V – Congregational Meetings

Item B – Notification: Updating to current practice. Removing the requirement that notices be in writing and sent by postal mail. Email, website and public announcements are substituted.

Robert W. wondered why the choices were narrowed. Colleen stated that the language is changed to represent current language usage.

Moved: Kathy H.
Seconded: Carrie R.
Approved

Local Bylaw Amendment to Article VI – Local Administrative Body

Item B – Responsibilities: Replacing the outdated terminology and simplifying

Moved: Vicki V.
Seconded: Sandy T.
Approved

Item K – Limitation of Liability: Correcting grammar

Moved: Steve D.
Seconded: Cathy H.
Approved

Reception of Reports as a Group

Moved: Sandy T.
Seconded: Carrie R.
Approved

Motions of Appreciation

Vicki V. thanked Donna K. and Cassi W. for their Board service.

Seconded: Lois W.
Approved

Steve thanked Sharon for her work in our video booth and digital ministry.

Seconded: Joyce C.
Approved

Colleen thanked Cathy H. for all her work with the Food Pantry..

Seconded: Sandy T.
Approved.

CB thanked Cathy H. for her services and Robert W. for his financial work

Seconded: Donna K.
Approved

Doug thanked Revs. Bodhi and Marie for their help with the digital ministry.

Seconded: Kathy H.
Approved

Carrie thanked Artha W. for all of her work helping in many ways.

Seconded: Kathy H.
Approved

Lois W. thanked Carrie R., Vicki V. , Linda Y., and Joyce C. and everyone on the worship arts team for help with the decorating.

Seconded: Kathy H.
Approved

Closing Prayer

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Linda Y.
Seconded: Artha W.
Approved

Closing Prayer

The meeting adjourned at 12:52 p.m.

MCC Knoxville Year-To-Date Treasurer's Report

As of September 30, 2025

General Fund Summary of Receipts & Disbursements

	Undesignated	Budget	Designated
Receipts	89,560.85	90,083.00	44,214.57
Disbursements	75,599.09		34,125.93
Increase/Decrease	13,961.76		10,088.64

1. Year-to-Date:
 - a. YTD receipts of \$89,560.85 were favorable to disbursements of \$75,599.09 by \$13,961.76.
 - b. YTD receipts of \$89,560.85 were unfavorable to budget of \$90,083.00 by (\$522.15). While giving for the year is close to budget, we have fallen short of monthly budget income 5 of the past 8 months.
 - i. Giving is almost exactly on budget for the year at 99.42%, largely due to a one-time gift of \$9,000.
 - ii. The current giving trends indicate that we will not meet the annual budget unless giving increases within the next three months.
2. In planning for 2026, we are proposing a budget decrease of \$9,325 for the following reasons:
 - a. Life changes for some significant donors will affect their level of giving.
 - b. There are no major expenditures planned for the year.
 - c. Note: In October, the Food Pantry received \$1,500 from Food City on a gift card.

2025 Designated (Non-Budgeted) Giving Results

Balance On Hand as of 1/1/2025		2025 Receipts	2025 Spent	Balance On Hand as of 9/30/2025	
Beginning Designated	11,819.00	44,214.57	34,125.93	21,907.64	Ending Designated
Building Fund	0.00	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00	Building Fund
Chair Fund	(4,072.65)	4,072.65	0.00	0.00	Chair Fund
Children's Ministry	1,815.45	0.00	108.96	1,706.49	Children's Ministry
Benevolence	7,863.47	600.00	3,588.24	4,875.23	Benevolence
Food Pantry	4,842.95	15,729.79	20,255.62	317.12	Food Pantry
FC Gift Cards	683.79	0.00	665.55	18.24	FC Gift Cards
Homeless Ministries	0.00	330.00	330.00	0.00	Homeless Ministries
Medical Support Fund	685.99	482.13	283.38	884.74	Medical Support Fund
Pastor Travel	0.00	20,000.00	8,894.18	11,105.82	Pastor Travel

Note that this category of funds should be self-sustaining. Disbursements should not exceed each fund's balance on a year-to-date basis without prior Board discussion and approval.

Total Current Balances

Total Current Liquid Assets	102,045.98
Cash on hand	102,064.22
General Fund	17,897.28
General Conference	196.90
Reserve Fund	62,062.40
<i>6 Months Emergency Reserve</i>	<i>58,875.00</i>
<i>Discretionary Reserve</i>	<i>3,187.40</i>
Designated Cash on hand	21,907.64
Non-monetary Liquid Assets (FC Gift Card)	18.24

1. *Note that the Reserve Fund has been redistributed into 6 Months Emergency Reserve (equal to one half of the annual budget of \$117,750) with the balance in Discretionary Reserve.*
2. *\$50,000 of the Emergency Reserve is held in a CD that will mature in January 2026. We will net approximately \$1,158 over 7 months (\$165 monthly).*

MCKK 2026 Proposed Budget

	2025 Approved Budget	2025 Extrapolated Actual*	2025 Extrapolated +/- to Budget	2026 Proposed Budget	2026 +/- to 2025 Budget	2026 +/- to 2025 Actual*
INCOME						
FUNDRAISERS	4,000	2,527	(1,473)	1,000	-75%	-60%
OTHER INCOME						
Interest Income CBBC checking & CD	2,550	3,402	852	2,000	-22%	-41%
Miscellaneous & Space Sharing	1,200	1,413	213	1,425	19%	1%
TOTAL OTHER INCOME	7,750	7,342	(408)	4,425	-43%	-40%
TITHES AND OFFERINGS	110,000	104,533	(5,467)	104,000	-5%	-1%
TOTAL INCOME	117,750	111,875	(5,875)	108,425	-8%	-3%
EXPENSES						
ADMINISTRATION						
Banking and online giving fees	-	794	(794)	800		1%
Computer Software - Breeze	700	864	(164)	900	29%	4%
Computer Software - Quickbooks	1,260	484	776	500	-60%	3%
Miscellaneous Expenses	200	-	200	-	-100%	#DIV/0!
Copier	370	420	(50)	405	9%	-4%
Office Supplies	300	113	187	120	-60%	6%
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	2,830	2,675	155	2,725	-4%	2%
COMMUNITY BUILDING						
Hospitality	200	162	38	200	0%	23%
Fundraising Expenses	1,500	291	1,209	-		-100%
TOTAL COMMUNITY BUILDING	1,700	453	1,247	200	-88%	-56%
CONFERENCES						
General Conference	2,400	803	1,597	-	-100%	-100%
Network Gatherings	-	-	-	-		100%
TOTAL CONFERENCES	2,400	803	1,597	-	-100%	-100%
DENOMINATIONAL SUPPORT						
Board of Pensions	1,200	1,302	(102)	1,365	14%	5%
UFMCC Assessment @ 10%	11,000	11,925	(925)	10,000	-9%	-16%
TOTAL DENOMINATIONAL SUPPORT	12,200	13,227	(1,027)	11,365	-7%	-14%
FACILITIES						
Alarm System	600	600	-	600	0%	0%
Building Maint./Improvements	1,992	3,560	(1,568)	2,500	26%	-30%
Cleaning Service	2,600	2,667	(67)	2,600	0%	-3%
Cleaning Supplies	408	512	(104)	500	23%	-2%
Insurance	5,275	6,878	(1,603)	6,900	31%	0%
Internet & Phone	1,900	1,911	(11)	1,900	0%	-1%
Lawn Care	1,500	1,280	220	1,300	-13%	2%
Pest Control	400	400	-	400	0%	0%
Utilities - Electric/Propane/Sewage	6,600	7,535	(935)	7,300	11%	-3%
TOTAL FACILITIES	21,275	25,343	(4,068)	24,000	13%	-5%
OUTREACH						
ACT Blanket Ministry	100	-	100	-	-100%	100%
Marketing, Advertising and other Outreach	500	208	292	300	-40%	44%
Pride	500	-	500	-	-100%	100%
Johannesburg Sister Church	1,600	1,612	(12)	1,600	100%	100%
TOTAL OUTREACH	2,700	1,820	880	1,900	-30%	4%

MCKK 2026 Proposed Budget

	2025 Approved Budget	2025 Extrapolated Actual*	2025 Extrapolated +/- to Budget	2026 Proposed Budget	2026 +/- to 2025 Budget	2026 +/- to 2025 Actual*
PASTOR						
Cell phone	1,600	1,600	-	1,600	0%	0%
Continuing Edu/Professional Exp	1,100	-	1,100	1,100	0%	100%
Housing	18,000	18,000	-	18,000	0%	0%
Salary	30,000	30,000	-	32,000	7%	7%
Travel	-	-	-	-		
UFMCC (License Renewal)	175		175	175	0%	0%
TOTAL PASTOR	50,875	49,600	1,275	52,875	4%	7%
STAFF						
Musicians	5,700	800	4,900	500	-91%	-38%
Associate Pastor/Intern	9,600	5,000	4,600	9,800	2%	96%
Gifts & Bonuses	1,500	-	1,500	1,000	-33%	
Payroll Taxes	850	102	748	250	-71%	145%
TOTAL STAFF	17,650	5,902	11,748	11,550	-35%	96%
TECHNOLOGY						
Computers & Equipment	2,500	-	2,500	-	-100%	
Zoom, GoDaddy, ReStream	600	486	114	490	-18%	1%
Web Hosting	300	300	-	300	0%	0%
TOTAL TECHNOLOGY	3,400	786	2,614	790	-77%	1%
TN STATE ANNUAL INCORPORATION FEE	20	20	-	20	0%	0%
WORSHIP						
Honorariums	1,000	1,533	(533)	1,500	50%	-2%
Music purchase	-	-	-	-		0%
Music licenses	400	257	143	300	-25%	17%
Worship Supplies & Resources	1,300	1,571	(271)	1,200	-8%	-24%
TOTAL WORSHIP	2,700	3,361	(661)	3,000	11%	-11%
TOTAL EXPENSES	117,750	103,990	13,760	108,425	-8%	4%
TOTAL INCOME	117,750	111,875	(5,875)	108,425	-8%	-3%
+/- TO BALANCE				-		

Proposed Local Bylaw Amendments

Article VII – PASTOR

INTENT

Updating to current terminology.

CURRENT LANGUAGE

A. Role

- 1. Interim Pastoral Leader** – In the event that a UFMCC clergy person is not available to serve as Pastor, the Board may request **the Elder serving the Network** to appoint an Interim Pastoral Leader, who shall be subject to a background check. ...

D. Pastoral Vacancy – In the event of a vacancy in the position of Pastor, a Pastoral Search Committee shall be responsible for presenting a qualified candidate for election at a Congregational Meeting. The Pastoral Search Committee shall develop and implement the pastoral search process, in consultation with **an Elder**.

E. Termination of Relationship – The Pastor and congregation may choose at any time to terminate their relationship through mutual agreement. Unilateral failure to renew the Pastor's **contract** shall not constitute removal of the Pastor from office. No petition for removal of the Pastor based on irreconcilable differences is valid unless preceded by the process of conflict resolution, as referred to in Article VIII.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE

A. Role

- 1. Interim Pastoral Leader** – In the event that a UFMCC clergy person is not available to serve as Pastor, the Board may request **the Denomination** to appoint an Interim Pastoral Leader, who shall be subject to a background check. ...

D. Pastoral Vacancy – In the event of a vacancy in the position of Pastor, a Pastoral Search Committee shall be responsible for presenting a qualified candidate for election at a Congregational Meeting. The Pastoral Search Committee shall develop and implement the pastoral search process, in consultation with **the Denomination**.

E. Termination of Relationship – The Pastor and congregation may choose at any time to terminate their relationship through mutual agreement. Unilateral failure to renew the Pastor's **Covenant** shall not constitute removal of the Pastor from office. No petition for removal of the Pastor based on irreconcilable differences is valid unless preceded by the process of conflict resolution, as referred to in Article VIII.

Proposed Local Bylaw Amendments

INTENT

Clarifying that lodging is included as part of the travel expenses paid for the Pastor to attend General Conferences.

CURRENT LANGUAGE

C. Pastoral Covenant

- 1. Conference Expenses** – To the best of its ability, the congregation shall fund the Pastor's transportation, registration, and per diem at General Conferences.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE

C. Pastoral Covenant

- 1. Conference Expenses** – To the best of its ability, the congregation shall fund the Pastor's transportation, **lodging accommodation**, registration, and per diem at General Conferences.

Article VIII – CONFLICT RESOLUTION

INTENT

Updating to current terminology.

CURRENT LANGUAGE

A. Removing the Pastor from Office

3. The Clerk shall send a copy of the completed petition or motion of the Board to **the Elder serving the Network** within three (3) days.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE

A. Removing the Pastor from Office

3. The Clerk shall send a copy of the completed petition or motion of the Board to **the Denomination** within three (3) days.
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Proposed Local Bylaw Amendments

Article IX – LAY DELEGATE

No changes recommended.

Article X – CHURCH FINANCES

INTENT

Reorganizing the headings to clarify that assessments are paid to the Board of Pensions and to the Denomination.

CURRENT LANGUAGE

E. Assessments – The Board shall report quarterly to the UFMCC the number of members in good standing for each month within the quarter and shall remit the Board of Pensions assessments as set by General Conference. The report and remittance are due to the Board of Pensions on or before the tenth (10th) day of the month following the quarter reported.

F. Tithes – The Board shall report all church receipts each month to the UFMCC, and with that report shall remit a percentage of the funds reported. The percentage of funds to be remitted shall be determined by General Conference.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE

E. Assessments

1. Board of Pensions Assessments – The Board shall report quarterly to the UFMCC the number of members in good standing for each month within the quarter and shall remit the Board of Pensions assessments as set by General Conference. The report and remittance are due to the Board of Pensions on or before the tenth (10th) day of the month following the quarter reported.

2. Denominational Assessments – The Board shall report all church receipts each month to the UFMCC, and with that report shall remit a percentage of the funds reported. The percentage of funds to be remitted shall be determined by General Conference.

Proposed Local Bylaw Amendments

Article XI – ADOPTION AND AMENDMENTS

INTENT

Updating to current terminology.

CURRENT LANGUAGE

A. Adoption – These Bylaws shall become effective immediately upon adoption by the Congregational Meeting and approval by **an Elder**.

B. Amendments – These Bylaws may be amended or repealed at any duly convened Congregational Meeting. Proposed amendments or repeals shall be submitted in writing to the Board no later than thirty (30) days prior to the Congregational Meeting the proposal is to be considered. Adoption of the amendment or the repeal shall require approval by a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote and is subject to approval by **an Elder**. Amendments that are necessitated by amendments made to the UFMCC Bylaws shall not require approval by the congregation.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE

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Pastor's Report – Fall Congregational Meeting 2025

It is my honor and privilege to serve as your Pastor. We have accomplished much together and there is so much more yet to do. The world is rapidly changing. The civil rights, religious freedoms, and safety of the LGBTQ+ community are under attack. The world, particularly the USA, needs MCC and our message, of God's inclusive love and justice, now more than ever. The next period of time may be even more challenging at many levels. We need to support one another and those who are most vulnerable. Let us celebrate our ministry together and pledge to keep on following the example of Jesus. May God bless our efforts and help us keep loving in the face of hate.

In this report, I am sharing with you a summary of my activities so far this calendar year. This will overlap a few things reported at the spring meeting however it seemed wise to look at the flow of the year. I am very grateful for every lay volunteer who serve in our various ministries and programs from leading and teaching to moving tables and doing dishes. I am grateful to be joined this year by Rev. Bodhi and Rev. Marie and the gifts they bring to our community. The work I do is dependent on the assistance and partnership of all of you. Together, we are the Church.

WORSHIP

- Since January – October, there have been 43 Sundays plus Ash Wednesday and Good Friday
 - o Rev. Bodhi has preached 6 Sundays and Rev. Marie 2 Sundays
 - o I have preached the rest.
- Prepared worship scripts, PowerPoints, communicated with worship participants and AV for all services
- Communicated with Worship Arts Team
- Communicated with Carrie on scheduling worship leaders
- Series included Six Stone Jars, Everything [in] Between, Resurrection Stories, Queer Faces of Faith, Faces of Faith, Experiential Worship
- Prepared Advent series and shared with denomination
- Obtained new banners which were placed for Easter plus banners that will be used this Advent
- Arranged for flowers for Mother's and Father's Day; arranged for the needed items for Experiential Worship series; sent items to regular online attenders
- Welcomed 2 new members and 1 transfer member

REGULAR MEETINGS

- Board Meeting

- Meetings with Rev. Bodhi
- Spring Congregational Meeting and Forum
- Weekly Clergy Support/Preaching Group (attended most weeks)

EVENTS

- Planned, promoted, and MC'd "A Jazzy Valentines" fundraiser (February)
- Planned, promoted, and MC'd "Bobby Jo Valentine" concert (March)
- Attended Oct 18, No Kings rally, and was interviewed by Knoxville News Sentinel
- SoKno Pride – handed out fliers
- Spoke to group of Chaplains at UT Medical about LGBTQ+ issues
- General Conference, in Scottsdale, Arizona
- Led workshop for MCC Cologne while on European trip
- Pasta with a Purpose for A Place at the Table
- Soup Supper fundraiser for Food Pantry
- Coordinated arrival of our new chairs (January) and various room setups

PARTNERSHIPS

- APATT – serve on the Board; attended meetings; hosted volunteer meetings; did some cooking; on Pasta with a Purpose planning team; 2 television interviews
- PRIDE INTERFAITH KNOX – serve as Co-Chair; attended meetings; drafted press statement; attended Clergy Day on the Hill
- UFMCC – coordinated team to plan a worship service for General Conference; preached at General Conference; volunteered with Worship Arts at Conference; led a digital ministry workshop at General Conference; represented MCC to FACT/EPIC for one three day Zoom meeting and one three day meeting in Louisville, KY; represented MCC to the Carpenter Consultation on the Welcoming Church Movement (survey, interview, attending retreat at end of October); consultation with Senior Leadership re church portal
- HOPE & UNITY MCC (Sister Church in Johannesburg, South Africa) – monthly zoom meetings; hospitality at General Conference; led a Board Training via Zoom
- JUSTICE KNOX – hosted informational house meeting; promoted Nehemiah Action to congregation (I was ill or would have attended – 9 MCCCK attended)
- RAINBOW LIBRARY – cleaned up our bookshelves and made room to welcome part of the Rainbow Library collection at MCC

EDUCATION

- Hosted Tuesday noon group which moved to Thursday noon; finished book study on Unleavened Faith; did four-part series “If Love Wins, Then What?”; selected “False White Gospel” by Jim Wallis for next book study starting Nov. 6
 - o Rev. Bodhi hosted when I was unavailable along with help from Kent, Rick, and Steve
- Hosted a few months of Movies and Spirituality
- Started Wednesday Lunch n Learn with a Bible Basics class, then studies in the Gospel of John, Haggai, and now the Minor Prophets
- Created online, on-demand class on Inclusive Language

PROGRAMS

- Food Pantry – multiple meetings with Food Pantry leadership
- Out and About – attended some of the events
- Hiking Group – attended some of the hikes
- Bowling Group – attended 2 of the events
- Game Night – attended once
- Children’s Church – held meeting with interested individuals to set up plans
 - o Arranged periodic activities or children’s bulletins for during worship
 - o Did many Children’s Moments in worship

PASTORAL CARE

- Launched Prayer Team
- Hosted Brave Space which came to an end this summer
- Pastoral care by phone, email, and person-to-person
- Home and hospital visits
- Pastoral letter to congregation on Inauguration Day
- Grief Group Workshop – communicated with Joy who led this
- Brought on Rev. Bodhi as Associate Pastor of Pastoral Care; Rev. Bodhi has made many contacts with people who were ill, homebound, hospitalized, or in need
- Conducted 2 weddings and 2 funerals

ADMINISTRATIVE

- Emails, phone calls, reports
- Set up Contact form in Breeze for online attendees
- Set up forms in Breeze for online ticket purchase for events
- Membership Covenant Renewals; update in Breeze

- Info to The Word weekly; covered preparation a few times when Kathy was unavailable
- Equipped Rev. Bodhi and Rev. Marie to do worship digital pastor role
- Did other weekly digital pastor duties (video editing, social media posting, invites to follow, respond to inquiries)
- Work on the Budget

PERSONAL

- Doctorate – finished classes and began doing my field research
 - o Have worked with a pilot church, a group of 5 churches, plus conducted 3 workshops for MCC
 - o Now working through the data of the surveys that have been completed and writing parts of the dissertation
- Sing for the Cure – served on the Executive Committee for the 25th anniversary of this choral symphony which will be performed on Nov. 23rd at Lincoln Center.
- Digital Ministry Senior Fellow with Convergence CoLab – attended week retreat; participate in bimonthly zoom meetings; filmed sections for November Digital Ministry Summit; was guest presenter for Digital Ministry Cohort; speaking to group of UCC churches in Berkley, CA Nov 1st

With gratitude for your partnership and support,

Rev. Colleen Darraugh

Lead Pastor.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT
Congregational Meeting
November 16, 2025

The Board of Directors works on behalf of the congregation as steward and administrator of the church's funds. The Board also supports both short and long term church plans and activities. Since the last Congregational Meeting on May 4, 2025, the Board has:

- * Met seven times virtually via Zoom. Other business was handled by email.
- * Welcomed Sherry K., and Vicki V. as new Board members, and thanked Donna K. and Cassi W. for their long years of service on the Board. Steve D. was named Vice Moderator, Doug K. Clerk, Linda Y. Treasurer, and Vicki V. Assistant Treasurer. Robert W. continues as Bookkeeper.
- * Monitored income and expenses to ensure that the mission of the church continues. We are thankful for the generosity of our members and friends that has allowed us to continue to pay all our bills on time.
- * Approved Revs. Bodhi and Marie as Associate Pastor of Pastoral Care and Digital Pastor, respectively.
- * Reviewed the Church's insurance policy.
- * Worked with Pastor Colleen in development of an Emergency Preparedness Plan.
- * Supported Donna B. and the Rainbow Library's efforts to enable the church's LGBTQ book collection to be identified, categorized, cataloged and shelved. A bookdrop box for the Rainbow Library was placed outside the church entrance.
- * Reviewed Bylaws and made changes to present for approval at the November Congregational meeting.
- * Under Steve's guidance the AV Ministry continues to receive improvements. He provides oversight for equipment upgrades and Internet service changes, including network cabling and improved networking. Steve has been assisted by Sharon U, Shelly T., Vicki V. , and Sandy T. in delivering Sunday AV worship coverage onsite and on Zoom, Facebook and YouTube.
- * Ensured that the primary functions of the office remain covered with volunteers. We thank Robert for the hours he spends in the office each week. We also thank C.B., who remotely keeps up with office voicemail messages during the week.
- * Your Board worked closely with Pastor Colleen and Treasurer Linda Y. on the budget development process. We especially thank Vicki V. for her active assistance in helping Linda with reports.
- * Sharon U. has been overseeing church facilities and making many recommendations for repairs and improvements. She has been assisted greatly by Artha W., Linda Y., and Joyce C. for which the Board is very thankful.
- * We also thank Steve D. and Sharon U. for hosting our monthly Friday Game nights.
- * The church now has a Children's Ministry. The Board gives grateful thanks to Kathy H., Tina N., Ellen C., Linda and Lisa J., and Shelly T.

November 2025 LAY DELEGATE REPORT.....

Hello Church! There has been a lot going on at our global MCC this year. We voted for a new moderator at an important business meeting June 7th which was virtual. Our past moderator, Cecilia Eggleston from Bristol, England was re-elected! I was supposed to attend the general conference July 3-6 in Scottsdale, Arizona but due to family health issues, I had to attend virtually. It wasn't quite the same as being there but I heard the conference was a huge hit! Thanks to pastor Colleen and Shelly shared stories and brought me little items to help me feel included!

I give MCC and their Lay Delegate coordinator, Gisselle Blay, so many thanks for the work they did to help us prepare for the business meeting and conference with fantastic workshops!

I encourage you to sign up for Connect at ufmc.org. Connect is a bi-monthly newsletter that shares the workings of our global MCC.

Yours in Christ, Carrie Roller

Food Pantry Report

Congregational Meeting November 2025

Submitted by C.B. Morrison

The demand for food continues to grow as food prices increase and the food assistance programs have been cut and, in some cases, have even been eliminated. For the last 10 months we have given food to 837 households that includes 413 seniors, 347 children and 1005 non-senior adults for a total of 1,765 people. That is an average of 83.7 households per month. We have also supplied food to several group homes in Knoxville. The food we give out is only for a few days and a household can only receive food monthly. Each month we have to turn people away and ask them to call back next month. We encourage them to seek other resources in Knoxville and there is contact information for these food banks in each basket of food.

We had a very successful fund raiser in October that raised \$1,151. There will be another one planned next spring. There hasn't been word yet about receiving FEMA food from Community Action Committee this November. There was \$1,500 from Food City added to our corporate card in September through their Race for Hunger Program.

So far this year there has been \$17,559 in donations, \$1,000 from the benevolence fund, and \$1,151 from the fund raiser which gives a total of \$19,710 added to the pantry fund. There has been \$19,061 spent thus far for the year from the pantry fund. There is \$1,483 left on the Food City corporate card.

We are fortunate to be able to purchase food from Second Harvest which has prices much less than grocery stores but even Second Harvest food prices have increased. They sometimes have free items like snacks, drinks, fruit etc. which I order and share both with A Place at The Table and Knox Needs in South Knoxville.

Monthly reports are sent to Second Harvest and quarterly reports are sent to CAC. Cathy, the co-leader of the pantry, does the day-to-day activities with the help of other team members, by making baskets, doing inventory, picking up food from Second Harvest, purchasing needed food from Food City and making most of the deliveries. I extend a special thanks to Cathy for all her hard work and true devotion to this ministry.

Many thanks to the pantry team of Cathy, Joyce, Linda, Sandy and Shelly for all of their hard work. Much gratitude to the congregation for your financial support and your prayers on behalf of this important ministry of our church.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact C.B.