

# Fall 2019 Congregational Meeting Reports & Updates

## I. Agenda

### Fall Congregational Meeting - October 13, 2019

- I. Call to Order with Prayer.
- II. Establishment of Quorum.
- III. Adoption of Agenda.
- IV. Minutes from Spring Congregational Meeting 2019.
- V. Pastor's Report.
- VI. Associate Pastor's Report.
- VII. Treasurer's Financial Reports.
- VIII. Proposed Budget for FY 2020.
- IX. Proposed Amendments to By-Laws.
  - A. Election of Board Members.
  - B. Election of Lay Delegates.
- X. Board Reports.
- XI. Lay Delegate Report.
- XII. Ministry Reports.
- XIII. Adjournment with Prayer.

## II. Minutes from Spring Congregational Meeting

### Spring Congregational Meeting Minutes

Sunday, April 28, 2019

1. Opening Prayer: Rev. Keith Mozingo (12:00 pm)
2. Quorum: FMCC Members: 179/ Quorum: 36 (20% needed)/ Attendees: 45  
(Verified by the BOD Clerk: Roger Owens)
3. Approval of Agenda:  
Motion to approve: Rev. Steve Pieters                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Corena Montoya  
**Yea: 43                      Nay: 0                      Abstentions: 1**
4. Approval of Minutes: Nov. 18, 2018 Fall Congregational Meeting (with corrections)  
Motion to approve: Rev. Onetta Brooks                      2<sup>nd</sup>: J. Michael Johnston  
**Yea: 44                      Nay: 0                      Abstentions: 0**
5. Treasurer's Report: January to March of 2019 (see attached)  
Motion to accept: Beverly Winters                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Rev. Onetta Brooks  
**Yea: 44                      Nay: 0                      Abstentions: 0**
6. Pastor's Report:  
Motion to accept: Corena Montoya                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Kim Doneche  
**Yea: 44                      Nay: 0                      Abstentions: 0**
7. Board of Directors Elections:
  - a. Board Members finishing their term  
Oyie Esguerra  
Art Fisher
  - b. Presentations of Candidates: 3 Minute introductions and 3 questions  
Oyie Esguerra  
Jenni Nichols
  - c. Casting of Ballots: Maximum vote for 2 Candidates/50% + 1 needed to elect
8. Board of Directors Election Results: 2 open seats  
Elected: Oyie Esguerra (1 term – 3 years)  
Elected: Jenni Nichols (1 term – 3 years/eligible for 2<sup>nd</sup> term)
9. La Iglesia Fundadora de Comunidad Metropolitana Los Angeles Report – Rev. Alex
10. Board Committees & Lay Delegate Reports/Updates  
Lee Te/Amy LaCoe/Corena Montoya – Lay Delegates  
Due to reduction in membership only Lee Te and Corena Montoya will attend General Conference in Orlando, Florida (July 1 – 5, 2019).
11. Closing Prayer with Adjournment – Rev. Keith Mozingo (1:50 pm)  
Move to Adjourn: Rev. Onetta Brooks                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Rev. Lori Dick  
**Yea: 44                      Nay: 0                      Abstentions: 0**

### III. Pastor's Report (Rev. Keith).

Dear Saints,

Each time I sit down to write these reports, I'm reminded of how much our church is really doing. Sometimes, we get stuck on the things we have yet to accomplish, and we forget how much really IS happening. Last year, at this time, I had only been with you for five months. I spent much of the year getting to know you better and trying to discern where your vision is for our future. I was overwhelmed recently, during our Stewardship Campaign, how much talent is sitting in front of me each Sunday, as well as how much Time, Talents, and Tithes you were willing to give of yourself. The theme of the Stewardship Campaign was ***Taking the Next Step***. I believe we have come to a point of taking the next step in our individual ministries, and I am praying that we, as a Community of Faith, as a Church, are ready to take the next step together.

As I reflected on the things we've done or been a part of over the last year, I wanted to share some of that with you.

#### **In our church:**

- Re-started our "**Glen Payne Card Ministry.**" (Thanks, Pam Fairbanks, Betty Weaver, and Art Fisher!)
- Re-started our **Wednesday Evening Bible Studies**, re-formatting to an online class. (Thanks, Lucia Chappelle and Garrett Klindt!)
- Started a monthly **Interfaith Worship Service called Saturday Night Spiritual**, being led by Rev. Sheena Metal (local LA Talk Radio host).
- Hosted a **Thanksgiving and Christmas Day Banquet of Love** to feed the homeless.
- Hosted **Dr. Joyce Turner-Keller** for Black History Month as well as our Juneteenth service.
- Hosted the **Trans\*Unity Film and Arts Festival**.
- Hosted youth from the **Urban Summer Internship Program at USC**.
- Held multiple **yard sales**.
- Carried Imposition of Ashes to the streets on **Ash Wednesday**.
- Continued our **Hope-Net ministry** of weekly food distribution.
- Continued our monthly **Laundry Love ministry**.
- Continued our annual **Back Pack/School Supplies** drive.
- Continued our annual **Beach Party**.
- Hosted an **Active Shooter Training session**. (Thanks, Don Mueller!)
- Continued our **Creative Worship Team** meetings. (Thanks, Larry Rodriguez!)
- Made multiple **hospital and home visits**.
- Officiated weddings, baby dedications, house blessings, baptisms, membership classes, graduation recognitions, and funerals.

#### **In our denomination:**

- Attended **General Conference** in Orlando, FL.
- Raised money to **send our band to General Conference**. (And they represented us well!!!)

- Participated in the **fundraising efforts for Puerto Rico** after Hurricane Maria.
- Worked with Rev. Wanda Floyd in initiating a **partnership with the MCC churches/works in the Philippines**.

**In our community:**

- Connected with Carlos Sosa to volunteer with **City X events**.
- Connected with **My Friend's Place to minister to homeless youth**.
- Participated in an **Interfaith March at the US/Mexico border** to protest current US immigration policy.
- Volunteered to host the quarterly **Los Angeles Queer Interfaith Clergy Council (LAQuICC)** meetings.
- Attended the **Northeast Division Clergy Council** for the Los Angeles Police Department.
- Was **guest on multiple radio talk shows** (The Sheena Metal Experience, The MENTality Show, The Alison Arngrim Show, and John Duran's Sidebar).
- Attended the monthly **Los Angeles County Mental Health Faith-based Advocacy meetings**.
- Attended the **LGBT Community Forum** by the Los Angeles Police Department.

That's a long list, and one of which we should be proud. I share it, though, not to brag on what all we have done (although it's easy for me to brag on THIS church!), but to encourage you and build our Faith as well as Works. (As the Apostle Paul taught us: one without the other is dead!)

As we look to 2020, several things come to mind after much prayer. You know, we have a lot going on IN our building. We have a lot of work going on ON our building. We have even started a BUILDING FUND, which our denomination so graciously doesn't assess, leaving us more money on the local level. As I was discussing our Building Fund with our Board of Directors Vice Moderator, Dean Coffey, he mentioned how the Spirit woke him up and brought to his attention a book entitled, ***Born to Build***. The gist of it is this: while the building itself is important, it's more important for us to **BECOME BUILDERS**. The book defines a builder as "someone who closes the gap between what is (actual reality) and what should be." We all know that we have several gaps: office staffing, sound system, broadcasting, security, air conditioning in our theater, etc, yet, as Dean pointed out to me, our church was "born to build -- look what God did in the first 50 years!" At the first of the year, my goal is to have a congregation-wide retreat to **Focus Our Vision**, indeed, our collective vision for "taking the next step." We will likely do a book study on the aforementioned book and have group discussions about how we can become better builders.

Before I close, I want to acknowledge those we have lost over the last year. Two members, Estella (E.T.) Beaver-Thomas and Margaret (Maggie) Ferrell passed away, and we've had several members who lost family and friends over the last year. They will forever live in our hearts.

God bless you all as we take on the challenges, suffer the losses, and shout for our victories coming in 2020.

Pastor Keith

#### IV. Spanish Ministry / ICM (Rev Alex).

##### Fall Report, Oct 2019

##### La Iglesia Fundadora de la Comunidad Metropolitana Los Ángeles

La Iglesia Fundadora de la Comunidad Metropolitana Los Ángeles (ICMF Los Ángeles) a culturally relevant and spiritually enriched Faith Community will celebrate 28 years of outreach to the Hispanic/Latinx Community in June of 2020.

For many years, I was stipulated as the Pastor of ICM Fundadora and rightly so; however, as an Associate Pastor of Founders MCC, it is necessary that I continue to use my talents and knowledge so that the church as a whole can continue to thrive. One reality is that volunteers need to step up if we expect our ministries to continue.

Therefore, in respect to ICM Fundadora, the highlights of our labor of love as of April 2019 and beyond are noted below:

- **“Voces de Alabanza”, The ICM Fundadora Choir, directed by Peter Kirkpatrick** continues to bring a vibrancy to Sunday worship as well as other events which is a way of promoting the church.
- **Altar for Día de los Fieles Difuntos/Day of the Dead and All Saints Day** will once again be on display the first weekend of November as an expression of Hispanic Culture.
- **Service honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe, December 12th** is scheduled and El Mariachi ArcoIris has already been contracted.
- **Service honoring el Cristo Negro de Esquipulas/The Black Christ of Esquipulas, Guatemala** in January will feature a live marimba band.
- **Tempo Night Club Outreach** continues as we enter our 5<sup>th</sup> year of outreach. This outreach program was started by Gef Aviles and Martin Covarrubias as a way of taking the church to where the people are. Most recently those attending the club have applauded Rev. Alejandro and the accompanying members and friends of ICMF/FMCC
- **Liturgical, Pastoral and Eucharistic Lay Ministers Training** continues to prepare individuals to serve within the context of Sunday Worship Services as well as reaching out to those who require pastoral care.
- **Grupo LOVE, Lesbianas Obteniendo Vidas Exitosas** (Group LOVE, Lesbians obtaining successful lives). A Spanish language support group facilitated by Gloria Torres. Held every Monday at the Bienestar South Los Angeles location
- **Trangeneros Unidas** (Transgeners United) is a Spanish language support group co-facilitated by Natasha Santillan, a member of ICM Fundadora/Founders MCC.
- **Amigos del Tiempo** (Friends of Time) is a Spanish language support group facilitated by Adolfo Contreras every Monday at ICMF/FMCC.
- **“Reflexiones Espirituales”** (Spiritual Reflections) is a Spanish Speaking Bible Study facilitated by

Corena Montoya and Louie Jimenez continues every Wednesday evening.

- **Spiritual sponsorship of LGBTQ+ Immigrants**, Rev. Alejandro often writes letters of support, accompanies individuals and on occasion provides translation services at their immigration hearing.
- **Sensitivity and LGBTQ+ Acceptance Training prepared and presented by Rev. Alejandro** at various locations such as at Bienestar Hollywood, Planned Parenthood, CalState Northridge Sociology classes, UCLA Future Educators and Chaffey College.
- **The Second Annual Thanksgiving Banquet of Love** an outreach event to our city's LGBTQ+ youth (ages 14-25) sponsored by FMCC/ICMF and held at Founders MCC's fellowship hall and theater is currently being organized. This year we are working to collaborate with other faith communities.
- **Las Memorias El Albergue/Las Memorias**, Tijuana, Mexico Outreach will begin in late October and early November as we collect toys along with food and deliver them to their residents.
- **MCC's General Conference**, which was held in Orlando, Florida
- **Radio Interviews**, was invited along with Rev. Keith and others, to be a guest on Sheena Metal's LA Talk Radio station.
- **Interfaith Trip to the U.S. Mexican Border**, along with Rev. Keith, Pastor Lucia Chappelle, Laura Law and many other faith based leaders, we chanted and prayed at the U.S. Mexican Border.
- **Attended various interfaith meetings and forums**, such as the Los Angeles Police Department Northeast Division Clergy Council, the Los Angeles County Mental Health Faith-based Advocacy meetings, LGBT Community Forum, Los Angeles Queer Clergy Council (LaQuICC)

Next year holds many promises and I along with Rev. Keith and others are excited for what's ahead. I'm blessed to be a part of a spiritual movement that continues to transform lives.

Paz y bendiciones,

Reverend Alejandro Escoto, Associate Pastor, Founders MCC Los Angeles  
Pastor, ICM Fundadora Los Angeles, Minister of Spanish Speaking Ministries

V. **Treasurer's Report Jan-Sept 2019 (Oyie) - See uploaded reports on church website.**  
See attached documents.

VI. **Proposed Bylaws Changes**

**Article VI – Congregational Meetings**

E. Term of Office – The term of office for members of the Board of Directors, except the Pastor, shall be three-year staggered terms, with ~~half~~ **(at least two members)** being elected at each Spring Congregational Meeting.

1. Members of the Board of Directors may not serve more than two (2) terms consecutively. Once a member of the Board of Directors completes two (2) consecutive terms she or he is not eligible to serve on the Board of Directors again until the ~~third~~ **(second)** Spring congregational meeting after the end of his or her final term. **(This constitutes one year between the end of two consecutive terms).**

2. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Member may not serve on the Board of Directors for more than six (6) consecutive Congregational Years. There must be a minimum of ~~three (3)~~ **(one (1) year after a six year term before a member becomes eligible to serve again on the BOD).**

**Rationale:**

Allows talented/needed congregants the opportunity for a one year break from BOD ministry rather than a three year hiatus.

Allows other talented/needed congregants the opportunity to come forward to serve.

**Article IX – Lay Delegates**

The church shall elect one (1) lay person for every one hundred (100) Members in good standing, or part thereof, to serve as Lay Delegate. The Lay Delegate shall be a Member in good standing of this church.

A. Election – The Lay Delegate shall be elected at the ~~next-regular~~ **(Spring)** Congregational Meeting following each General Conference. A majority of the votes cast shall be required to elect.

B. Term of Office - The term of office of a Lay Delegate shall be determined by General Conference. A Delegates' term ends at the **(Spring Congregational Meeting following the triennial)** General Conference.

**Rationale:**

Keeps all regular elections at the Spring Congregational Meeting

## **VII. Board Updates.**

### **A . Stewardship Committee (Tony)**

For the current 2020 Stewardship Campaign, "Taking The Next Step," we have received 35 estimates of giving so far for a total of \$174,508. Compared to our previous campaign, "We're On A Mission," we had a total of 34 estimates of giving for a grand total of \$161,244 for the year. Year to date we have collected \$124,663.89—that Puts us at 77% of our goal what the remaining balance of \$36,580.11 for the fourth quarter. This represents an 8% increase so far in dollar amount of pledges. We want to thank those of you who made estimates of giving for the coming year and encourage those who have not yet completed an estimate of giving to do so. We are hoping to exceed \$200,000 in estimates of giving for the coming year.

### **C.Property & Facilities Committee (Dean & Bob)**

Our combined committees completed three quarterly work days to clean and spruce up our facilities (Ryland Room, Kitchen, Anniversary).

This has been a year with major repairs to our building and facilities. These repairs included a rooftop air conditioner, which caused a leak damaging one sanctuary ceiling panel; replacement of damaged jalousie windows on the north and west sides of the second floor administrative offices; and replacement of roofs currently in progress for the preschool and the apartment above. Minor repairs included ice machine service, refrigerator repair, replacement of a broken backflow valve on basement drain to sewer, and replacement of a broken exterior hose bib.

### **Nonprofit Security Grant - 3 years, \$101,200.**

Year 1 - September 2018 to September 2019

This is a Homeland Security Grant that is dispersed through the California Office for Emergency Services. Grant funding includes construction materials and professional installation. Planned security upgrades include replacement of 10 exterior doors-Heavy Panel with hinge sets; Attic-Roof bulkhead door-steel; Panic hardware-rim series; Door closers commercial grade; Replacement of 12 ground floor R&R Aluminum window, horiz. slider 12-23 sf (2 pane shatter resistant); Install Window Guards-steel grates; Security system control panel with police call function, motion detectors, in high risk room areas; 110-volt commercial wiring; independent cell phone alarm caller; panic alarm button. Exterior spotlights with motion sensors. Remote entry system - side door and gate; Lockset-passage-commercial grade; Push-pad keyless entry units. Intercom - Master station - Premium grade with entry system; Intercom - Remote station. CCTV panel & equipment; CCTV camera & brackets: 4-sides, sanctuary, side doors, preschool entries.

Consultation with the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) was completed in early 2019 with a determination that the church would be treated as an historic building and required to submit plans for upgrades of doors, windows, and cameras to FEMA for approval before work could start to preserve the historic architecture and appearance of the church building. The Board of Directors approved the recommendation of our grant team



administrators to designate KB Construction as our general contractor to supervise the bidding and subcontracting for the work to be done. Subcontractors have toured our facility and are preparing bids.

Lead and asbestos testing was completed, and we are awaiting the full report. This testing is required to obtain building permits for the work to be done and was not covered by the grant.

Special thanks to Los Angeles County Lieutenant Sheriff Don Mueller for completing the first of six active shooter and safety trainings that are a part of the grant.

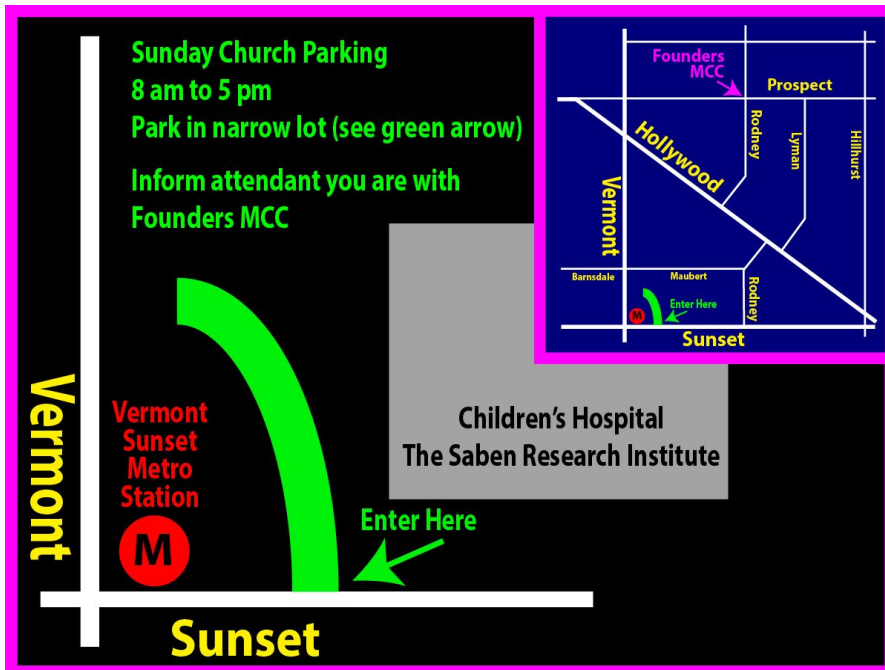
### Lease and Rental Agreements

A three-year lease agreement was updated and signed by Pinwheels Preschool. We were unable to raise the rent on the property due to a renewal option within the previous lease agreement. The new lease does not have an option to renew so that rent may be increased to a market rate at the next renewal in June 2022.

Special thanks to Jenni Nichols for updating contacts for all of the groups that use our facilities. We are preparing to bring each group into conformity with rental rates that were set in 2017 but not uniformly implemented.

### Parking

Children's Hospital Los Angeles offered to allow Founders MCC to use an area behind the Sunset/Vermont Redline Station that the hospital leases from Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transit Authority (LACMTA) for church parking in May 2018 without charge. After approximately 18 months, LACMTA has approved a sublease of the parking lot for Founders to use on Sundays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for 8 to 10 cars at a time.



## V. Lay Delegates (Lee, Amy & Corena)

Our Congregation did a survey for the General Conference 2019

Results are the following:

45 People joined the survey

Results are as follows:

- Governing board Clergy
  - Alberto Najera - 36/45 - 80%
  - Diane Fisher - 25/45 - 56%
  - Kenny Callahan - 17/45 - 38%
  - Marie Alford-Harkey - 32/45 - 71%
  - Paul Whiting - 18/45 - 40%
  
- Lay delegates voted for the 4 highest clergy
  - Governing board clergy
  - Chad Hobbs- 24/45 - 53%
  - Claire Coughlin- 29/45 - 64%
  - James Chavis- 28/45 - 49%
  - Mark Godette - 22/45 - 49%
  - Stan Kilmer - 16/45 - 26%

Lay delegates voted for the 4 highest.

- Moderator
  - Tony Freeman - 8/45 - 18%
  - Liz Bisorde - 3/45 - 9%
  - Cecilia Eggleston - 32/45 - 71%
  - Both votes of the lay delegates went to Cecilia

And the congregation voted yes to all the By-Law Changes

(not sure if I still have the data)

Results during the Business Meetings at Gen Conference: Here are some highlights.

The General Conference XXVII business meeting was convened by Rev. Elder Don Eastman, Interim Moderator of MCC for the Business Meeting, at 10:15 a.m. (EDT) on Tuesday, 02 July 2019. Declaration of Quorum The total number of active MCC clergy eligible to participate in General Conference was 357; the number required to achieve quorum (20%) was 71. The number of active MCC clergy present was 166. The Clerk declared that a quorum was achieved in the Clergy House. The total number of laity eligible to participate in General Conference was 160; the number required to achieve quorum (20%) was 32. The number of laity present was 146. The Clerk declared that a quorum was achieved in the Lay House. Declaration of quorum in both Lay House and Clerk House was achieved by Clerk, Rev. Onetta Brooks.

ELIGIBILITY DISCUSSION: Floor discussion on churches present that were ineligible to vote due to eligibility requirements on assessments for 2019 General Conference participation. Eventually the decision by the general conference delegates present to grant all church lay delegates who were present at this general conference to have “VOICE AND VOTE” by waiving the 2019 eligibility requirements during this season of JUBILEE for MCC. MOTION from the floor to grant “voice and vote” status to delegates present. Motion from the floor by clergy member, and was seconded; Motion PASSED by the will of the people.

UPDATED DECLARATION OF CLERGY AND LAY HOUSE MEMBERS PRESENT TO VOTE: LAY HOUSE PRESENT TO VOTE = 163 CLERGY HOUSE PRESENT TO VOTE = 178 1 GENERAL CONFERENCE

REGISTERED VIRTUAL VOTERS LAY HOUSE = 8 CLERGY HOUSE = 13

With quorums declared, we voted for the governing board and here are the results.

**Clergy Election Results, total votes cast**

<b>CLERGY POSITIONS</b>	<b>Final</b>	<b>CLERGY HOUSE</b>	<b>Final</b>	<b>LAY HOUSE</b>	<b>Term</b>
Rev. Marie Alford-Harkey	140	78.6	134	82.2	6 years
Rev. Kenny Callaghan	92	51.6	104	63.8	N/A
Rev. Elder Diane Fisher	122	68.5	115	70.5	3 years
Rev. Alberto Najera	143	80.3	139	85.2	6 years
Rev. Paul Whiting	124	68.6	120	73.6	3 years

**RESULTS OF ELECTION OF Governing Board – Clergy Persons**

**There are FIVE candidates to fill FOUR vacant seats:**

**To be elected, each Clergy person must receive at least a simple majority in both the Clergy House and the Lay House**

**CLERGY persons with the first and second highest count fill the**

**Two (2) - 6 years term of office seats through GC2025**

**CLERGY persons with the third and fourth highest count fill**

**Two (2) –3 years term of office seats through GC2022)**

We have Rev Marie Alford-Harkey and Rev. Alberto Najera with 6 year terms and Rev Diane Fisher and Rev. Paul Whiting with 3 year terms, respectively. We thank Rev Kenny Callaghan for his willingness to serve the board.

Then, we voted for governing board Lay House. The Results are as follows:

**LAY Election Results, total votes cast**

<b>LAY POSITIONS</b>	<b>Final</b>	<b>CLERGY HOUSE</b>	<b>Final</b>	<b>LAY HOUSE</b>	<b>Term</b>
James Chavis	141	79.2	131	80.3	6 years
Clare Coughlin	128	71.9	127	77.9	3 years
Mark Godette	135	75.8	131	80.3	6 years
Chad Hobbs	125	70.2	116	71.1	3 years
Stan Kimer	100	56.1	107	65.6	N/A

**RESULTS OF ELECTION OF Governing Board – Lay Persons**

There are FIVE candidates to fill FOUR vacant seats:

To be elected, each LAY person must receive at least a simple majority in both the Clergy House and the Lay House

LAY persons with the first and second highest count fill the

*Two (2) - 6 years term of office seats through GC2025*

LAY persons with the third and fourth highest count fill

*Two (2) –3 years term of office seats through GC2022*

We have James Chavis and Mark Godette with 6 year terms and Clare Coughlin & Chad Hobbs with 3 year terms respectively. We thanked Stan Kilmer for his willingness to serve the board.

We then voted for the moderator. In order to be voted in for the Moderator position, they need a simple majority vote which is 50% plus one, in both the Clergy and Lay House.

The results of the first vote are as follows:

**MODERATOR ROUND 1- Election Results, total votes cast**

<b>MODERATOR POSITION</b>	<b>Final</b>	<b>CLERGY HOUSE</b>	<b>Final</b>	<b>LAY HOUSE</b>	<b>Term</b>
Ms. Elizabeth Bisordi	45	27.11	52	32.7	
Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston	77	46.39	69	43.4	
Rev. Elder Tony Freeman	44	26.57	38	23.9	

After this first round, Rev Elder Tony Freeman decided to withdraw his candidacy for moderator. We were gracious for Rev Elder Tony Freeman’s humility and kindness.

The results of the second round of voting for the moderator are as follows:

**MODERATOR ROUND 2- Election Results, total votes cast**

<b>MODERATOR POSITION</b>	<b>Final</b>	<b>CLERGY HOUSE</b>	<b>Final</b>	<b>LAY HOUSE</b>	<b>Term</b>
Ms.Elizabeth Bisordi	51	30.72	50	31.45	N/A
Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston	115	69.28	109	68.55	6 years

We were able to vote in a Moderator and Rev Cecilia Eggleston is the third moderator of UFMCC. She has a term of 6 years.

**VI. Ministry Reports.**

**A. Food Bank / Hope Net (Martin)**

FMCC’s Hope Net Food Bank serves 80 to 100 people each Saturday. We have about 12 volunteers each Saturday to give out Food Items that are canned and packaged and fresh produce, and frozen and sometimes refrigerator Items.

Our Food is delivered from the Food Bank on Friday's on Wooden Pallets.

We have 2 volunteers (and can always use more) to help receive the Food. The Delivery time is between 7:30am & 9:00am. It takes about a half an hour to unload the food items and verify the orders.and put them in the Pantry Room With only these 2 volunteers, it can be a challenge, especially if one is not available.

What we really need is someone who can take the lead on Fridays and make sure the food is handled correctly, and make sure items marked for the freezer are put in the freezer. One Freezer is in the pantry room and the 2nd is in the Kitchen. We do at times get items for the Refrigerator.

The Freezer and Refrigerators are located in the Kitchen which is locked and will require Torrey to unlock it.

## **B. Social Justice (Lucia)**

FMCC's social action and social welfare ministries go hand and hand as we follow the call to be "the hands, feet, and heart of Christ here at Home, in our Community, and our World" – so much so that they all could easily fall under the rubric of Social Justice. Reports for the social welfare ministries have been submitted separately, but viewing these efforts as a whole adds to the understanding of our congregation's Mission and Purpose.

Our social action work has continued with our participation in a number of human rights and civil rights demonstrations, especially standing with faith organizations to protest the current immigration crisis at the US/Mexico border. We have promoted several petition campaigns regarding issues like transgender employment rights, racial justice, the environment and economic matters.

Our Sanctuary Task Force (led by Corena Sills-Montoya) has supported our involvement in immigration crisis actions, and has continued to meet to define how FMCC can best play a role in the Sanctuary movement. We made an effort to join in an Episcopal Church "pen pal" program writing to people (especially LGBTQs) in immigration detention, but that program was terminated before we could get started. We are looking for similar programs and other ways to connect with the movement. We also recognize the need to educate the congregation about the immigration crisis and the needs of our migrant siblings. The Task Force is seriously in need of volunteers, including tech support to help us facilitate virtual meetings.

Indeed, volunteer recruitment is vitally needed for all of our social action aspirations to be realized! In the coming year, the Social Justice Ministry will be calling on FMCC members to come forward to be leaders in the areas they are passionate about. We plan to form teams to address a variety of issue areas, including the environment, gun violence and reproductive health. The first effort of this kind is already launching: a team to work on voter registration and access (e.g., organizing rides to the polls), led by Kim Doneche.

Respectfully submitted by Pastor Lucia Chappelle, Minister of Social Justice

### **C. Creative Team (Larry R.)**

#### **Major Accomplishments In The Past 12 Months:**

Planned and implemented: Celebratory 50th Anniversary Worship Service, Christmas Through The Classics (Advent Series 2018), Celebrating Black History (February 2019), The Examen Series (Lent 2019), Palm Sunday Grand Processional, Holy Week (The Last Supper and Good Friday Service), Easter Sunday Services (including Sunrise at Griffith Park), Special Pentecost and Pride Services, Taking The Next Step Series (Stewardship 2019), Step Close In Series (Recovery 2019), 51st Anniversary Celebration Services.

#### **Major Goals For The Next 12 Months:**

Plan and implement: Coming Out Series (October 2019), All Saints Day / Dia de los Muertos Service (November 3), Thankful, Grateful, Blessed Series (November 2019), Songs For The Ages (Advent 2019), and continuing on for Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, Pride 2020.

#### **Needs and Challenges:**

Our most critical volunteer need is for people interested in assisting with the execution of designs for the Sanctuary. This would involve hanging fabrics, creating sets, and other types of craft skills.

One challenge the Creative Team has is that we operate without a church budget. All the work we do is funded out-of-pocket. This amount to about \$4,000 to \$5,000 a year. In the coming 12 months, we hope to find a more dependable source of funds.

### **D. Trans\*Unity (Ina & Amy)**

The Trans\*Unity Ministry (TUM) continued with pastoral care, business and social activities over this year. Chairperson and treasurer were Ina Serene and Amy LaCoe. Amy also functioned as one of the Lay Delegates. We recognized the Annual Transgender Day of Remembrance (20 Nov, 2018) with church services on 18<sup>th</sup> Nov. We are also designing a Trans\*Unity 'help-page' on Founders website.

To assist FMCC fund-raising, we organized yard-sales in Dec-2018 and Mar-2019. For fund-raising towards our student Awards-2019, TMU held yard-sales in June and July and hosted several FMCC Hospitality Hours. We are very grateful to FMCC congregation for all their support in these activities.

We participated in LA Trans Pride weekend at the LGBT Center (June 2019), they were hosting an exhibit (Resource Fair) with MCC Church of Christ in Valley. We followed this with attendance at Santa Ana's Trans Pride weekend (July 2019).

A major milestone in 2019 was our 10<sup>th</sup>-year anniversary of awards to LGBT and GNC college students. This year (Aug 25, 2019) we recognized student achievers LV. Maldonado (CSU), R. Paredes (CSU), R. Vojdani (CSU) and B. Hwang (UCLA).

Trans\*Unity's social events included Christmas party of 2018, a Senior Gala Evening at Burbank's Pickwick center (July 2019: 'Pretty in Pink', courtesy of LA-LGBT Center) morning walks along Manhattan Beach pier, Sunday Thai lunches, and weekly yoga classes at LA-LGBT Center.

### **E. Bayanihan (Camille)**

Bayanihan is still going strong! We host a bi-monthly bible study in both Tagalog and English. We support each other daily with connections and relationship development. We provide ongoing support to our MCC's in the Philippines.

For the second year in a row, Bayanihan members participated in the Maundy Thursday Service, and took our ministry to the city, providing brown bag dinners to over 100 people who are living on the streets of Los Angeles.

This year, we are proud to host the soon-to-be Reverend Joseph Tiu as he travels to Los Angeles to be ordained in a ceremony at Founder's.

We look forward to more opportunities to reach out to our Filipino friends and family members, encouraging them to come join us at Founder's MCC!

### **F. Music Ministry Team (Jane Syftestad)**

The music ministry at Founder's continues to grow and change. We have been blessed this year to have new singers, and have provided consistent, quality music performance to enhance the worship services.

Peter Kirkpatrick and myself were honored to lead the music at our General Conference in Orlando, Florida. A special thanks to Peter for his countless hours of work arranging music, as well as coordinating the conference choir, the house choir (Resurrection MCC choir), and soloists. We launched a fundraiser to send our band (Garrett Wolfe, Susan Horn and Jeff Sorensen) to be the house band for the conference, and we sincerely thank all donors who made the trip possible. Our band was outstanding, and left a reputation of excellence in music with all attendees to the conference.

Larry Rodriguez has provided organ accompaniment and music selection for the 9am service for the last three years, on a completely volunteer basis. I wish to thank him for his vision, talent and contribution to the 9am service. He will conclude his volunteer playing as of December 31.

For the first time in the years since I have served as music director (11 years), we have established a formal music budget. It appears as a discrete line item in the budget proposal. Until now, except for musician salaries and stipends, all music related needs have come out of individual pockets. This is a long overdue and welcomed dedication to perpetuate the growth of the music program.

A special thank you goes to the anonymous donors who funded the stipend for our drummer for many months, and to Reece Jackson-Whitaker for her musical gifts when I have been on the road with 2gether Blessed.

We are always looking out for volunteers to sing, dance, play an instrument, and an organist for the 9am service. As always, we are blessed to be in the service of an amazing God!



### **G. Kids Club (Dean)**

Our Kids Club serves the Church of Tomorrow by ministering to our children and adolescents today. We have averaged one to three children in attendance during the past year and used the time during the 11 a.m. service to provide education in progressive spirituality that is fun and enjoyable for the children (and adults) who participate.

Sadly, during the past year, we lost our Kids Club Coordinator, Maggie Ferrell, who faithfully did the scheduling of teachers and used her gift of teaching to share the good news that God loves everyone just the way they are, especially our young children. We are in need of volunteers to teach or assist in Kids Club. If you have an interest in volunteering, please contact [DeanCoffey@mcccla.org](mailto:DeanCoffey@mcccla.org)

### **H. Media Team (Camille)**

Our multimedia ministry team has continued to dedicate their time to the service of providing quality, state of the art broadcasting of our weekly services, as well as sound production within our campus. Thank you to all the volunteers who contribute countless hours to this vital ministry. Our gratitude goes out to Beverly Winters, Sandra Contreras, Sara Hanson-Nicholl, Ernie Cornish, David Raybould, Gef Aviles, Enrique Hernandez, Jesse Ramon, Isaiah Bell-Syftestad, Gabriel and Jeremiah Burch-Rodriguez, Cesar Holguin, Andi Larios, Heilyn Osorio, Dirk Bolle, and even Roger Owens and Rev. Onetta Brooks!

This year will stretch us as we seek funds to update our equipment with newer and more efficient devices. We are working as a team with Rev. Keith, Rev. Alex and the Board of Directors to make this happen.

### **I. Altar Guild (Garrett Klindt)**

The Altar Guild is responsible for various “behind the scenes” duties such as (1) preparing/setting the communion table before each service, (2) cleaning up the communion table after each service, (3) maintaining stock of the altar supplies such as the communion wafers and grape juice, and (4) organizing and cleaning the chalices/cups and plates after each service. If you’d like to assist in this critical ministry, please contact Garret Klindt at [garret.j.klindt@gmail.com](mailto:garret.j.klindt@gmail.com) - Thank you!

### **J. Laundry Love (Garrett Klindt)**

Laundry Love is a national program that is offered by different churches. We are part of East Hollywood Laundry Love at 4371 Melrose Ave, on the corner of Edgemont, on the last Wednesday of each month. Just show up or sign up! Please feel free to speak to Garret Klindt.