

Metropolitan Community Church of Northern Virginia

**Congregational Forum
December 4 2022**

1:30 PM

Opening Prayer

Frank Vance

Nominating Committee Report

Rev. Emma Chattin

Treasurer's Report

Kate Gilligan

Proposed Budget

Kate Gilligan

Adjournment

Genevieve Walker

Closing Prayer

Rev. Emma Chattin

Metropolitan Community Church of Northern Virginia

Congregational Meeting December 18th 2022

Roll Call and Establish Quorum	Genevieve Walker
Opening Prayer	Frank Vance
Approval of 2021 Minutes	Genevieve Walker
Reports	
Lay Delegate Report	Patti Sparenberg
Nominating Committee Report	Rev. Emma Chattin
Clerk's Report	Genevieve Walker
Vice Moderator's Report	Frank Vance
Pastor's Report	Rev. Emma Chattin
Treasurer's Report	Kate Gilligan
Elections	Frank Vance
Proposed Budget	Kate Gilligan
Budget Vote	Genevieve Walker
Adjournment	Frank Vance
Closing Prayer	Rev. Emma Chattin

Congregational Meeting Minutes

December 19, 2021

- I. The Congregational meeting was called to order at 1:32pm on December 19, 2021. Due to the on-going Pandemic, the meeting was held virtually on Zoom. All members were previously provided a Congregational Meeting Packet that included each of the reports and the officer and Lay Delegate election information.

II. Roll Call:

A Roll call was taken by Genevieve Walker with each member identifying themselves by either raising their hand or stating they were present. Two non-members also attended, but did not vote. Twelve people were present out of a membership of 41. Quorum was established (nine members). The following individuals were present:

Sue Biggs	Vicki Bowman	Emma Chattin
Kate Gilligan	Kurt Jaeger	Heather James
Lori McPherson	Gail Minnick	Margaret Rood
Patti Sparenberg	Frank Vance	Genevieve Walker

III. Opening Prayer:

Frank Vance offered the opening prayer.

IV. Minutes of 2020 Congregational Meeting

Minutes from the December 2020 Congregational meeting were presented for approval.

Heather James made the motion to accept, Sue Biggs seconded the motion.

The Minutes of the 2020 Congregational Meeting were unanimously approved.

V. Bylaw Amendment

Genevieve Walker read aloud the current bylaw regarding the number of Board Members (relevant section associated with the proposed bylaw amendment is as follows):

“The Board of Directors shall consist of five Members and the Pastor, who shall act as the Moderator. “

The proposed by law change would be:

“The Board of Directors shall consist of at least four Members and no more than six Members (the number to be determined by the current sitting Board at the time), and the Pastor, who shall act as Moderator.”

Genevieve Walker proposed a motion to accept the Amendment, Heather James seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Rev. Emma presented the Nominating Committee Report.

VII. Heather James proposed a motion to combine all five of the reports (Nominating Committee, Clerk’s, Treasurer’s, Vice Moderator, and Pastor’s Reports) under one vote after all were presented. The motion was seconded by Gail Minnick. The motion to combine all of the reports under one vote was unanimously accepted.

VIII. Genevieve Walker presented the Clerk’s report.

IX. Sue Biggs presented the Treasurer’s Report.

X. Frank Vance presented the Vice Moderator’s Report.

XI. Rev. Emma presented the Pastor’s Report

XII. Kurt proposed a motion to accept all five Reports. The motion was seconded by Heather James. The motion passed unanimously.

XIII. Genevieve Walker presented the two proposed Board Members (Frank Vance and Kate Gillian) and the proposed new Lay Delegate (Patti Sparenberg).

Genevieve Walker read the Bylaw regarding election Ballots: "Elections shall be by secret or written ballot. Where there are no nominees in excess of the available positions, a motion from the floor to vote for the slate of candidates in its entirety, may be offered".

Said motion to accept the slate of nominees was presented by Kurt Jaeger and seconded by Gail Minnick.

The nominees were elected unanimously by the membership.

XIV. Sue Biggs presented the proposed 2022 Budget.

The motion to accept the 2022 Budget was made by Frank Vance and seconded by Lori McPherson.

The motion to accept the proposed 2022 Budget passed unanimously.

XV. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn was made by Frank Vance and seconded by Genevieve Walker.

The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 2:09pm.

XVI. Closing Prayer

Rev. Emma Chattin offered the closing prayer.

Report Respectfully Submitted,


Genevieve Walker, Clerk

NCC NOVA Board of Directors

I have the privilege to serve as the MCC NoVa Lay Delegate (short for non-clergy church member voting representative) for MCC first ever online Global General Conference 2022. I had no idea what to expect considering it has been almost 2 decades since I've been to a large conference and this conference was held virtually. Although most "attendees" watched on-line, some attended in-person locations around the world including Houston, TX, Brazil, Manila, Philippines, Europe, and Africa, while some congregations had "watch parties". The general conference was broadcast twice daily in two time zones to reach its worldwide audience. Even with this accommodation, some participants were either up in the wee hours of the morning or were attending late in the evening from July 1-3rd for the General Conference, half-day on the 7th for business forum, the business meeting 15-16th, and voting of MCC worldwide governing board nominees was on July 18-20th.

General Conference (GC)

I attended opening worship, keynote addresses, and workshops offered each day.

My main take away from day #1 was from Dr. Kwok Pui Lan.

"Hope must be embodied in practice and in community. ... a defiant spirit. A defiant community must teach each other hope as a daily practice."

Exercise goodness

Endangered world – we help the tribe to come along .. keep on struggling .. move through chaos into a better world.

GC day #2

Rev. Dr. Claudio Carvalhas (sp?):

[MCC is] a community who loves me .. mutual belonging, sharing, and care.

When the offering plate comes by, put in an empty envelope because you are here.

Detachment keeps us disconnected. We belong to each other.

Rev. Dr. Vennece Fowlkes – Be Holy: Holy Reclamation of Black Identity

Re-learn what Ohm is .. what that cord does

Rev. Colleen Darraugh -I have extensive notes from her Online Church Hybrid Workshop.

On-line is not a 2nd class citizen

GC day #3

I learned just how broad MCC is and how critical it is to have MCCs in some of the most remote places. There were 5 clergy and 4 lay person nominees for the denomination's

governing board and this is where they are from: Los Angeles, CA; Capetown, South Africa; Maine; Philippines; North Highlands, CA; Wallaford, MI; Tampa, FL; Rio, Brazil; and Sao Paulo, Brazil where they can still kill people for being gay.

Business Forum and Meeting

Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston highlighted the work of staff, elders, and volunteers. -the joys and challenges of having things on-line. We are fortunate to have our MCC NoVa Minister of Social Justice, Rev. Lori McPherson, serving as a key member of the General Conference Core Team. Thanks Lori and congrats on your shout-out by big cheese.

- Spoke of the Moderator's Report and MCC Vision Statement available on-line.
- Discussion of church disaffiliation from MCC moving out of the by-laws into an addendum to the by-laws. How much of cash assets should be given to MCC when closing a church: 5%, 50%, or 0?
- Governing Board nominees each spoke briefly. The board looks at by-laws, charter, website, and timelines.
- Current board is all new. 6-year commitment.
- Endowment fund to provide funds for racial justice work.

I greatly enjoyed GC'22 and it was an eye-opening experience on not only how big a denomination MCC is but how critically important the mission and the vision of MCC going forward is. I look forward to attending some in-person network gatherings in the future as your member representative.

Your humble servant,

Patti Sparenberg

MCC NoVA Board Nominating Committee Report

Final Report November 28, 2022

The Board terms of Leigh Ann Arnold and Genevieve Walker conclude at the end of this year. Genevieve indicated her interest and willingness to complete another term of service and to seek reelection. She completed an application accordingly. Leigh Ann Arnold declined to seek reelection. Consequently, in accordance with the bylaw amendment passed last year allowing the Board to proceed with at least four members and Pastor, versus five members and Pastor, the Board then voted unanimously not to fill the vacancy.

The Nominating sub-Committee consisted of Frank Vance, Kate Gilligan, and Rev. Emma Chattin. As there were no uncontested seats, and in consultation with the Board at large, they determined not to actively solicit individuals for service, and made the open announcement for individuals to complete a Board application if interested. No additional applications were received.

As a result, the Nominating Committee would like to nominate Genevieve Walker for service on the Board of Directors.



MCC
METROPOLITAN
COMMUNITY CHURCH
NORTHERN VIRGINIA

10383 Democracy Lane
Fairfax, VA 22030
(703) 691-0930

APPLICATION FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(Please type or print clearly)

The requirements for this position include: contributing your time, talent, and treasure to MCC NoVA, as well as a demonstrated interest and loyalty to the ministry, mission, and operation of the church. By submitting this application, you attest to your faithfulness to these requirements.

Name: Genevieve Walker Member of MCCNoVA since _____

Why are you interested in running for a board vacancy? _____

I want to support MCCNoVA and have
enjoyed being on the Board.

What skills, experience, and gifts(talents) do you bring to this position? _____

I have been a Board member for several years
and Clerk of the Board for most of that
time

How do you provide identifiable financial support? _____

I give monthly on-line (automatic)

How do you provide identifiable service contributions? _____

I have organized several fund raising activities,
participated in the choir (prior to Covid) and during
Weekly Services.

(Please continue to page 2)

How do you demonstrate interest and loyalty to the ministry, mission and operation of the church? _____

I believe serving on the Board demonstrates
a desire to assist MCCNOVA in each of
the above areas.

In your own words, what is the purpose of the church's Board of Directors? _____

To ensure the financial and ethical decisions
of our membership are addressed.

Are you willing to submit to a background check at the church's expense if required by future MCC NoVA policy? yes

If you are currently a Board member and are not re-elected to your position, will you to the best of your abilities, assist in the transition of your duties to the new Board members? _____

absolutely!

Thank you for your interest in running for a Board position.

This form will be distributed within the Congregational Meeting Information Packet to all voting members and to all congregants/friends of the church..

CLERK'S REPORT

December 4, 2022

MCC NoVA currently has 40 Active Members.

Below is a timeline per month detailing the membership count and any actions associated with any variance.

2022 Membership

January:	41	
February:	41	
March:	41	
April:	47	6 New Members Received
May:	47	
June:	47	
July:	47	
August:	47	
September:	46	1 Member Transferred
October:	46	
November:	40	Roll Review – 6 Members moved to Inactive Status
December	40	



METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH NORTHERN VIRGINIA
10383 Democracy Lane, Fairfax, VA 22030

**A spiritual community for ALL people.
NO EXCEPTIONS...NO KIDDING**

2022 Vice Moderator's Report

Dear Friends:

The COVID Pandemic continued during 2022. However, since a number of boosters have been introduced to the general public and infections have fallen, we have begun to rebuild in-person worship, all-be-it slowly. We still practice mask use, social distancing and improved ventilation.

The COVID pandemic has caused the closing of many churches nationwide, including MCC churches. Thankfully, under the leadership of our Pastor, Rev. Emma Chattin, we have continued to offer an online streaming version of our Sunday services via Facebook. We have slowly reintroduced in person worship with mask usage and social distancing. Additionally we have taken steps to increase ventilation throughout the facility. Attendance at morning worship continues to be steady and currently is in the low twenties, not to mention the online presence. Even with my compromised immune system, I have returned to morning worship because I feel safe.

Despite the continued pandemic, the church continues to minister to our community. We offer virtual 2nd Friday Meetings to our trans community, conducted other virtual meetings, performed weddings, and conducted funerals. Our Web presence continues to garner new people and generate interest in the ministries that we offer.

Our finances took a dip earlier this year, but they rebounded and remain stable. We met with the congregation and discussed this issue. Thankfully our congregants worked to reverse the trend and we seem to have turned a corner. We initiated a **MERRY CHRISTMAS MCC NoVA** and are excited to see how this boosts our financial standing by December 31, 2022.

Due to our installation of SQUARE three years ago, we have been able to continue to accept credit card and debit card payments. So, if you'd like to make a onetime generous donation via this simple way, feel free to do so. Contact a board member, or me, or the pastor and we can arrange to make the square available to you to donate. It's very simple to use. Thanks for your continued support. To also help with the finances, we have also turned to online fundraising features in Facebook which have proved to be quite successful.

Once again, this year, we sponsored the *Transgender Day of Remembrance* to remember victims of violence and murder for simply being who they are. The moving service was conducted in a hybrid format, which means that you could attend in person or virtually.

Once again, despite all the challenges that COVID has brought to us, we continue to be the "*Little church that could!*" We couldn't do it without all your faithful support.

You are loved,

FRANK D. VANCE, JR.
Vice-Moderator

Pastor's Report December 2022

Greetings Metropolitan Community Church of Northern Virginia!

This has been a interesting and complicated year. Even so, MCC of Northern Virginia has continued to fulfill its mission: to serve the needs of the community in spirit and action, with weddings, memorials, funerals, Bible Study, congregational care, and Weekly Hybrid Worship Services. In addition, as an extension of that outreach, I have worked on various ecumenical and interfaith religious services, preached in other communities, including St Margaret's Episcopal Church in Washington, DC, led a 2 hour+ "Queer Eye for the Bible" workshop for United Christian Parish in Reston, am meeting with representatives of the Fairfax County Police Department, have met with the Fairfax County Public School Superintendent, Dr. Reid, along with other faith leaders and am currently serving on a committee that seeks to integrate voices of faith communities into the concerns and priorities of the school system. In every instance, I have worked to provide a clear voice for LGBTIQ people of Faith. In fact, when I led the opening for Reston LGBTIQ Pride this Summer, I learned that I was the first out queer clergy to do so. It seems that while there may be LGBTIQ affirming houses of worship in Northern Virginia, LGBTIQ clergy are in short supply, and there is no shortage of work to be done. As a result, an MCC presence and voice is more important now than ever.

In addition to working as Senior Pastor of MCC of Northern Virginia, Executive Director of the TransGender Education Association, and taking an active role beyond our community, I also fill the roles of MCC NoVA Office Manager, Facility Manager, and Administrative Assistant. I could not hope to do all I do without a wonderful team of supportive folks. Worship Services come together with the hands of Patti Sparenberg, Dana Hill, Lee Shadwick, Dale Bradshaw, Heather James, and Vickie Bowman, as well as the musical leadership of Kurt Jaeger, and the supportive voices of Terri Luzadder and Heather James. Rev Lori McPherson continues to provide variety in the pulpit with her spirit, presence, and wonderfully thought provoking sermons. Rev. Gail Minnick continues to provide fulfilling and meaningful on-line Bible Study.

We have moved through 140+ weeks of living with COVID, and while we may be over it, we are not finished with it. Long term effects linger, both individually and socially, and one of the biggest challenges your community faces in the coming year is continuing to gather people together. Certainly this year, more than any previous, has taught the costs of owning a facility. In conversations with my colleagues, these are common concerns. We can't go back to what was, we must focus on what **is**. We must also maintain focus on our mission. I believe that our community, and community worship, is far more than the sum of its parts, and far more important than the vessel that contains it.

Next year promises to be equally challenging, if not more so. I remain excited about the community God is building, and all I can promise you is all that I promised when I took my first step on this journey~ by the grace of God I will continue to bring all of myself to the task at hand, and with your grace we will all work together to reach those in need, and to help make this world a better place.

Looking Forward!



Rev. Emma Chattin

Treasurer Report for 2022

MCC NOVA continues to have improved financials this year. Giving has gone up which is encouraging. Hopefully, this will continue to grow. We have been under our expense budget for 10 of 11 months thanks to Rev. Emma. Through October we are about 4K under expense budget for the year. I'm projecting yearly revenues will be about 10K less than expenses. I'm hopeful a strong December will cut into that deficit.

Do not hesitate to ask questions.

Yours in service,

Kate Gilligan

Item	2022 Budget	2022 Actual YTD OCT	2022 Year End Estimate	2023 Budget Proposed
Pastor salary 30 hours	50,400.00	42,000.00	50,400.00	50,400.00
Pianist salary	8,340.00	6,950.00	8,340.00	8,340.00
Payroll fees	1,368.00	1,210.00	1,368.00	900.00
Pension	1,008.00	840.00	1,008.00	1,008.00
Medicare	927.00	770.00	927.00	927.00
Social Security	4,017.00	3,374.00	4,049.00	4,049.00
Payroll Subtotal	66,060.00	55,144.00	66,092.00	65,624.00
Expenses Subtotal	36,964.00	23,417.00	29,000.00	30,000.00
Total Operational Costs	103,024.00	78,561.00	95,092.00	95,624.00
Revenue	115,868.00	68,535.00		99,500.00
Expenses	115,868.00	78,561.00	95,092.00	95,624.00
Pledged Amount	0.00			69,300.00
Deficit Subtotal				26,324.00
Unpledged Giving				14,000.00
Fundraising				3,000.00
Deficit				9,324.00
Bank Balance All Accounts	Beginning 2022	As of End of October 2022		
	76,636.00	70,648.00		