

# KEENE VALLEY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING

**OCTOBER 10, 2021**

**PRESENT: In Person:** Pastor John Sampson, Karen Glass, Deborah Mitchell, Elizabeth Davidson-Derr, Andrew Derr, III, Linda Bogardus, Anne Hurd, Merle Tanis, Roger Tanis, Jane Nigra, Charlotte Lichtenberg, Barbara Merls-Smith, Maggie Sheldon, Shawn Lamarche, Katharine Preston, John Bingham, Debby Rice, Dan Mason, Lyn Bussian, Ron Bussian, Liz Jaques, Naj Wikoff, Pam Gothner, Erica Swift, Paul Osenbaugh, Jenny Hoffman, Zephyr Larson, Daniel Larson, Ember Larson, Cedar Larson, Nancy McArthur, Lorraine Duvall, Dre Roebuck, Larry Shipp, Tad Zelski Martha Anne Zelski, and Henrietta Jordan. (All but six of the those present were members of KVCC)

**Via Zoom:** Tom and Alana Both, Betsey Serjak, Bernie and Ethel Webb, Jim Pugsley, Hope Stone, Jenifer Deming, Judy Caner, Annie Scavo, Susy Doolittle, Donna Austin, Nancy Freeman, Tim Robinson, and Elaine Taylor-Wilde.

**WELCOME AND CALLING THE MEETING TO ORDER:** Moderator Karen Glass called the meeting to 10:02 AM and welcomed the congregation and those on-line to the Annual Meeting. Karen explained that this year will be our first time conducting the Annual Meeting during the Sunday service. Karen invited all participants to share their ideas and concerns during this Meeting.

Presenting to the Community:

Rev. John Sampson presented the Tolling of the Bell and opened the meeting with a prayer.

Clerk Deborah Mitchell conducted roll call. Members of KVCC were asked to raise their hand and a quorum was declared.

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION:** Elizabeth Davidson Derr offered special recognition to Lynn Dewalt and David Craig for their dedication and hard work during the COVID pandemic to develop our ability to gather via Zoom and continue our worship. Elizabeth also recognized members of the Re-Opening Taskforce for their efforts to address the ever changing COVID protocols in order to continue to offer safe gatherings and activities at our church. Those members include Pastor John Sampson, Elizabeth Davidson Derr, Annie Scavo, Karen Glass, Susie Allen, and Chris Blaicher. The Council is grateful for their dedication.

**OFFERING OF THE MINUTES FROM THE 2020 ANNUAL MEETING:** A motion was made by Roger Tanis to accept the 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes. Liz Jaques seconded the motion. A discussion was held, and the motion passed.

**OFFERING OF THE 2022 OFFICERS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS:** Pastor John introduced members of the Council: Debby Rice, Moderator; Dre Roebuck, Vice Moderator, Nancy McArthur, Treasurer; Deborah Mitchell, Clerk; Susie Allen, Jimm Collin, Paul Osenbaugh, Fritz Sabbow, Members at Large; Barbara Merle-Smith, UCC Delegate; and Anne Hurd, UCC Delegate (Alternate). Paul Martin made a motion to accept the slate of officers and Council members for 2022. Liz Jaques seconded the motion. A discussion was held, and the motion was passed.

**OFFERING OF THE 2021 ANNUAL REPORTS:** Representatives from each of the following Committees presented their annual report: Minister's Report, Re-Opening Task Force, Essex Association New York Conference, Board of Directors for the New York Conference, Grounds, Building, Music, Mission and Social Action, Creation Justice, Worship and Sabbatical. Naj Wikoff made a motion to accept the Annual Reports and Elizabeth seconded the motion. A discussion was held, and the motion passed.

**OFFERING OF THE 2022 BUDGET:** Naj Wikoff made a motion to accept the 2022 Budget as presented. Barbara Merle-Smith seconded the motion. A discussion was held, and the motion passed.

**OFFERING OF THE CREATION JUSTICE CHURCH COVENANT STATEMENT:** Lorraine Duvall read the covenant statement and explained more about the mission of the Creation Justice Church. She went on to describe the process of KVCC becoming a Creation Justice Church. Deborah Mitchell made a motion to accept the covenant as written. Paul Osenbaugh seconded the motion. A discussion was held, and the motion was passed.

**OFFERING OF THE 2022 CHURCH BAZAAR:** The Council had voted previously to hold a Church Bazaar. Dre Roebuck made a motion that we have a church bazaar in 2022. Naj Wikoff seconded the motion. A discussion was made, and the motion was passed. Karen then asked the congregation for volunteers to be a part of the Church Bazaar Committee. The following individuals volunteered to help: Dre Roebuck, Nancy McArthur, Lorraine Duvall.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** Karen asked everyone attending this year's Annual Meeting to offer ideas for agenda items for the Council. The following ideas were offered: steps to have the choir back; identifying ways in which KVCC could be more visible in the community; ways in which we could tell our stories on social media so we could have more of a presence; placement of the sign in front of the church; plan to improve access to first aid kits and clarification around our disaster plan, and exploration of our spiritual life.

Pastor John moved that we adjourn. John ended the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Mitchell, Clerk