Moderator Report for 2024

In drafting this report, I started looking back to remember when I started as Moderator of UCCPH. It was in 2022 and Olive Hinnant was the transitional pastor. We had started back meeting in the church the previous autumn and the H/V system was soon to be installed. A lot happens in just a few years right? Olive was our pastor through August 6, 2023, and Russ Kirby started as bridge pastor the first week of September and committed to 6 months which ended the first week of March, 2024. Pastor Quinn Gorges started on Easter, March 31, 2024.

The Montessori school signed an agreement to lease the basement space in 2022 and started making many changes to become licensed through the State of Colorado. The school was up and running by 2023 with licenses etc. and the wonderful changes that have been made are evident today.

In 2023, the Bylaws were amended to allow for the Moderator and Vice-Moderator to extend the term another year. This effort was to help the church transition to a full-time settled pastor. I'm very glad this was done as there were a lot of changes in the Rocky Mountain Conference as well, which included a change in the Assistant Conference Minister position. That position was assigned to help our church in the search for a settled pastor. Also at that time, the Conference Minister position was vacated. The result of these changes effected our church because the guidance we received regarding the search for a settled pastor became more tentative and delayed. The search Team persevered however, and eventually Erin Gilmore, who is now the acting Conference Minister, stepped in and offered the guidance needed to finish the task.

In 2024, the Council added two new members, and had one resign. With the resignation of another member in 2023, we were at 6 members. This number was fine because our congregation size had diminished somewhat, and the size of the Council was appropriate to the size of the Congregation. Mid-year of 2024, we started asking for volunteers to serve in leadership positions, namely Moderator and Vice-Moderator. Every month practically, there would be a plea for people to consider these roles. Because there was no response to this plea, we went back to the Bylaws and proposed an amendment again which is currently posted on the website. This amendment is to allow a change in the leadership structure, replacing the term Moderator to Chairperson and not having a Vice-Moderator/Chairperson. The chairperson role would be shared on a rotating quarterly basis and the Council would meet quarterly rather than monthly. To my knowledge, there have not been comments regarding this change so the new leadership structure will begin at the first Council meeting of the first new quarter which is February to April.

In a nutshell, our Council has responded to the changes in our church/congregation in the past 3 years to be where we are now. I think these were appropriate changes, not necessarily permanent, but workable and we're open and ready to continue to grow and change as needed.

Thank you to the Council I have served with and will continue to serve in the rotation of being a quarterly Chairperson, at least through 2025.

Peace and Blessings, Jan Narracci, Moderator