

First Congressional Church of Akron UCC  
Annual Meeting Minutes  
September 14, 2025



Moderator Tori White called the meeting to order at 10:58 a.m.

Tori White asked Larry Becker and the ushers to determine if a quorum was present. Mr. Becker reported that a quorum was present,

Pastor R. Brooke Baker offered the opening prayer.

Larry Becker moved that the minutes of the May 18, 2025 congregation meeting be approved. Kellie Ramirez seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Kevin Kowalski who served as moderator for the previous year presented highlights from of congregational life for that year. Rev. Jeff Jackson was acknowledged for the interim leadership he provided. His last Sunday was 8/31/25. During the past church year Associate Pastor Bobby Burt was ordained in August of 2024. Pastor Burt left to take a position as a chaplain. His last Sunday was May 4, 2025. The staff was acknowledged for their steadfastness during the transition. The Pastoral Search Committee reviewed a number of candidates for the position of senior pastor. A candidate was introduced to the congregation at a meet and greet on May 31, 2025. The vote on the candidate on June 1, 2025 is part of the current year. The church purchased three parcels of land from the University of Akron. Two of those parcels are being leased to the University of Akron. The structural issues with regard to the dome were presented to the congregation in a special meeting. The congregation voted to approve the repair work. Repairs were also made to the boiler system. The garden ramp was completed. The Shower Bus comes to the church parking lot once a month. We hosted a Trunk or Treat event and worked in collaboration with the neighboring United Methodist church on events. Security is a continual concern. In the congregational meeting on May 18, 2025 a new slate of officers and a new budget were approved.

Carrie Petersen who serves as Treasurer provided the financial report for the previous church year. Ms. Petersen pointed out that the church ended the year \$18,000 in the red due to a shortfall in income. 74% of the church's operating revenue comes from the endowment with only 14% coming from offerings. She emphasized that overall the church is financially strong. A stewardship campaign will take place in the fall. She encouraged greater giving.

Pastor R. Brooke Baker offered the closing prayer.  
The meeting adjourned at 11:12 a.m.,