

SPECIAL CONGREGATION MEETING

August 24, 2025

11:00 am - Sanctuary

Meeting called to order at 11:09am.

Attendance: 69 Member signatures signed in.

Total Membership: 157

Quorum: 24

Refer to Power Point presentation

Pastor Jeff Teeples started with introduction and a prayer.

- He thanked Sonja Almlie, and Lynn Ruby, for the assistance in preparing the power point and communications
- Pastor reviewed the SOTH values document and spoke of the church's foundational values, unity, relationships, providing a reminder to protect the Unity of the church by acting in love with one another.

Dwaine Abbe – Council President

- Thanked the SOTH staff for all the help in preparing for the meeting. and Lynn Ruby for sending the Constant Contact email on Friday.
- Dwaine stated that he and members of the council spent the week of August 18-23, researching other options brought up by congregants at the Preview meeting on August 17. The intention was also to clarify details for questions presented.
- Ballots are written as requested - split in two: Vote for the pergola, and a separate vote for landscaping.
- Retractable awning – Attachment of the awning to the Fellowship Hall: the awning option would not work because 3 ft of the extension would be lost due to the depth of the lantana planters, leaving only 10 ft of useable space below the awning. All Pro Shade Concepts could provide (3) 18 ft sections attached along the Narthex roof – Using the fascia board is insufficient for holding the weight. There was some concern with leaks at the install points - (10) warranty on fabric, (5) yr warranty on operating structure of the awning would be available and also, (2) yr warranty on the installation. Dwaine covered all info regarding the cassettes that house the roller. The system only has wind protection of 20mph. Cassette is 12"h and 15"d. Cost - \$25,000K, does not include electrical.

PERGOLA:

Louvered – adjustable.

(2) options were presented for layout - rectangle or square.

Pergola height is equal to the height of the fellowship hall, i.e., the underside of fascia soffit.

Photos of other pergola installations were shared for examples – A Rio Verde pergola photo was shown and was unassuming in appearance.

One option is to have a lattice roof - non moveable – allowing a cost savings. Colorful pots were suggested, and furniture would need to be added – this is not currently in budget.

Photo of the maintenance tools required was shared. A rotary brush system, used much like a lawn mower.

Estimated cost for the 50th Anniversary Project is \$200,000.

Pergola 100K

Landscape 100K – already pledged by congregant.

Dwaine Presented the Vote

Begin immediately once 50% of the funds are received for the Pergola.

The landscape will begin once the vote is approved. \$8,000 has been donated to begin the landscape with the additional \$92,000 as of January 2025.

All gifts shall be designated for 50th Anniversary Project

Goal to be completed by Anniversary Celebration 2/22/2026.

Motion by MaryJo Abbe 2nd - Art Terlecki

David Caribardi

Concerns for lack of representation from the congregation due to the time of year.

Concerns of bird droppings, and nesting happening on the pergola.

Options to the expense of a pergola – Use removeable/temporary options such as tents.

Eileen Doench - needed clarification on the pledge of 100K regarding landscaping and pergola.

Art Terlecki - What is the cost of watering the grass. Would the cost of the watering be gone?

Answer: 47% of the water costs currently goes to the grass and would be eliminated.

Sue Terlecki - Current tree coverage is equal to the new layout.

Lloyd - Questioned how many votes were collected (answer 3)

Suggested decorative stone around the base of the columns to blend in better with architecture.

Dwaine discussed possible pledges while waiting for votes to be tallied.

Vote Results - - Pergola (20)NO (49) YES

Landscaping (1) NO (68)YES

Jon Charles - Motion to Close

2nd Pam Carlson

Meeting Adjourned