

Open Meeting Policy

Purpose:

The work of the church is strengthened when it is done in a spirit of openness and trust. Church members have a basic right to know about the work done and the decisions made by the Board of Administration (BOA). Church leaders have a basic responsibility to honor that right by conducting their business with a spirit of openness and vulnerability to church membership scrutiny.

Application:

All meetings of the BOA are to be open to the membership of the Chemung Christian Fellowship to observe the business that is being conducted. Those attending who have come to speak to the BOA about any topic will be allowed to do so at an appropriate time as deemed by the Chair of the meeting. When practical, a member should notify the Chair ahead of time if they are bringing a topic for discussion. Bringing negative concerns or issues directly related to any individual will not be allowed to be discussed in an open meeting; See By-laws for appropriate venue for that.

Executive Sessions:

Meetings should be open at all times, but on rare occasions, portions of meetings may occasionally need to go into executive session and be closed to the church membership. This may occur only when considering matters relating to:

- Personnel issues
- Ministerial Staff Evaluations and Salary Discussions
- Other sensitive issues as determined necessary by the BOA members present.

Those attending executive sessions are to include:

- Members of the BOA that are present.
- Any other individual whose input or participation is deemed necessary for the executive session.