

Parish Council Minutes

February 28, 2012

In Attendance: Linda Ladd, Barbara Langill, Kathi Martin, Carrie Pericola, Jeff Law, Sandi Watson, Dotty Whittier, Chuck Cotting, Debbie Cotting, Jim Marshall, Bruce Weaver, and Rev. Dennis Bailey.

Moderator, Bruce Weaver, convened the meeting at 7:05 P.M., and Kathi Martin offered the meditation.

Council approved the minutes of the January 31, 2012 meeting.

Pastor's Report: Dennis reported on funerals, memorial services and visits during February. The Lynnfield Clergy Association met to bid farewell to Father Mike D'Angelo of St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Dennis is preparing for Lenten and other services. He will be on vacation from 3/1 to 3/8. Rev. Glenn Mortimer will be on call if needed.

Financial Reports: Jeff Law circulated the Treasurer's Report with data as of 1/31/2012. He noted that expenses are \$7,896.16 better than budget and \$2,144.11 better than last year. With increases in salaries, insurance, and health care, our expenses should be higher than last year, but we've seen significant savings in utilities, snow removal, and pastor expenses. Income continues to be lower than last year and lower than budget.

Financial Secretary: Jim Marshall will mail statements to make sure people know whether or not their pledges are up to date. Memorial Fund donations in February totaled \$885.00.

Christian Education: Barbara Langill reported that the Lenten Rotation Workshops will focus on "A Walk Through Holy Week" with the congregation participating in the walk on March 25. Each class will bake muffins during Lent to raise money for Heifer. Four youth and two adults volunteered at the Prison Book Program on Feb. 18. They brought books donated by the congregation. Both youth groups will volunteer at Cradles to Crayons on March 10. They will be asking for donations of children's clothing. On March 18, both youth groups will go to Laser Quest. The High School youth group is planning to participate in World Vision's 30 Hour Famine with an overnight at church on March 23. Two youth and one adult joined groups from four other churches on a week-long mission trip to New York City during Feb. vacation. A church-wide mission trip to Joplin, Missouri is planned for Aug. 12-18. There are spaces for 20 people; 13 volunteers have signed up so far. Educational Ministries hosted a Simple Soup Supper on Mar. 26. Barbara thanked Kathi Martin, Laurel Caputo, and Debbie Newman for making the delicious soup. All 7 confirmands and 3 adults will travel to the Craigville Conference Center on Mar. 2-3 for the Confirmation Retreat. The Women's Bible Study meets Monday evenings during lent. The group is using the book "Women of the Bible" to focus on a different woman from the Bible each week.

Outreach: Sandi Watson reported that Outreach Ministries is providing financial support to the Britney Gengel Poorest of the Poor Fund which provides services to orphans in Haiti. Donna Marino's "Spread the Love" collection for Lynn Shelter Association was a great success. Donations will be delivered the week of March 12. The Outreach Team is donating shopping cards that LSA can use to buy additional necessities. Sandi thanked the Middle School Youth Group for their Souper Bowl of Caring collection for Haven from Hunger. On Mar. 4, Rev. Marie Lucca and Jeff Langill will lead an outreach-focused service. Rev. Lucca will talk about her new church in Middleton, "A Different Christian Voice." Outreach will pay her honorarium and make two donations to her church- a projector and a financial contribution. Sandi is exploring "hands-on" outreach opportunities for the congregation, and Outreach Ministries is writing a short monthly newsletter. Sandi is drafting a letter about outreach to be included in Stewardship materials.

Membership: Dotty Whittier reported on the success of Trivia Night and Silent Auction. One hundred people attended, and the event raised over \$3,500. Plans are underway for a progressive dinner on March 31. The organizers of Geraniumfest, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary on May 19, would like the town center to be filled with activities

on that day. The library will hold its used book sale on 5/19, and the folks at Geraniumfest are hoping that Centre Church can host some activities too. Council discussed several possibilities that could work as fundraisers for the church. Dotty will contact Frances Fleming of Geraniumfest to get a sense of which activities would be most appropriate.

Education: Kathi Martin noted that Confirmation class is past the half-way point. The group is learning how the church is organized and governed. Confirmands will attend a Ministry Team meeting in March, and they will attend the April Council Meeting. Diaconate will meet with the Confirmands to talk about Communion.

Diaconate: Linda Ladd reviewed the many Lenten and Easter events and services which will be publicized through press releases and ads in local papers. She is seeking volunteers to provide refreshments and help with set-up, clean-up, and other duties for the performance of The Resurrection on March 25.

Stewardship: Carrie Pericola reported that her team has been working to finalize the Stewardship packet as well as the plans and speakers for the campaign. Stewardship Ministries would like to consider offering on-line payments, automatic deduction, and credit card options for paying pledges. More information regarding the cost of offering these options will be gathered.

Finance: Chuck Cotting reported on a variety of building maintenance issues including: The heat installation is complete, floors and walls of the boiler room are painted, and the A/C installation is nearing completion. Replacement of the rubber roof over Tower Day will occur in late spring or early summer when Tower is not in session. Chuck will meet with Mike Robbins to discuss the other gutter and roof issues. The Mini Sky Globe for the parking lot has been ordered, and the estimate to add a 2-headed spot light to the rear church wall is \$660. Chuck is awaiting an estimate to re-build the handicapped ramp posts and a plan to replace missing and rotted trim around the Todd Hall window wells. Chuck plans to schedule a "work day" in the spring and would welcome suggestions for projects. He reviewed the latest draft of the Donation Rate Schedule for use of the building. He will incorporate Council's suggestions and circulate the revised document for review. Super Soccer Stars conducted introductory sessions on Feb. 25. The turn-out was low so they may need to change the date they start classes from March 1 to a later March date. Chuck is beginning to clean up the stage area in Todd Hall. General discussion ensued regarding the re-building of the stage. Chuck is investigating the cost of re-building the stage, updating and adding electrical outlets, adding sprinklers, replacing the sump pump in the stage area, and other related costs to renovate the stage area and add adjacent closets.

Fundraiser Update: The Prince Pizza fundraiser is underway. Barbara reported that she received information about a Honey Baked Ham fundraiser; she will get more details. The Golf Tournament group will meet soon to discuss the possibility of a spring tournament.

There being no further business, Council voted to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 P.M. Dennis led a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Cotting, Recording Secretary

Next Council Meeting: Tuesday, March 27. Meditation by Carrie Pericola