

## Parish Council Minutes - January 6, 2020

Moderator Bruce Weaver called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. In attendance: Bruce Weaver, Rev. Nancy Rottman, Chuck Cotting, Debbie Cotting, Katherine Decker, Scott DeSantis, Jill DiGiorgio, Linda Ladd, Jeff Law, Annmarie Pendola and guest John Muise. Larainne Wilson offered the meditation via Facetime. Minutes from 12/2/19 were approved with unanimous consent.

300th Committee: John Muise gave a presentation on the logos he designed. He went through his process and presented two logos, one for general use and one specifically for the 300th Celebration. Following a lengthy discussion, Council voted on two motions; the first on the general logo and the second on the 300<sup>th</sup> Celebration logo. Both motions were approved with unanimous consent.

Pastor Report: Rev. Nancy Rottman reported that staff evaluations are being conducted. The Lynnfield Clergy will meet later in the month and will be attending the Mental Health First Aid Youth Training in March. On behalf of the clergy association, Rev Nancy is now a part of the Emergency Dispensing Site (EDS) Plan for the Town on Lynnfield. She will attend a Table Top Exercise in January. Rev Nancy is also grateful for the collaboration with Rev. Bob Bacon and Chiefs Glenn Davis and David Breen in honoring the life and service of Jon Procurot. The Blue Christmas service, held on December 8 had 15 attendees. Next year, the hope is to have it closer to Christmas. Over the course of 3 Wednesday evenings in December, 25+ people attended the labyrinth walks. The 5pm Christmas Eve service had increased attendance over last year, while the 11pm service saw a decrease. The Adult Faith Formation Class had mixed attendance during Advent, and will be determining the epiphany study in January and then planning the Lenten series, which will be offered to the wider church as well.

Financial Reports: Treasurer Jeff Law reported that our overall loss in the Operating Fund year-to-date is better than last year, but worse than Budget. Pledges and Undesignated Contributions are running below budget.

Education: Jill DiGiorgio reported on Church School and Faith Formation activities, including the successful Christmas Pageant, "Something About a Baby," performed on December 15 and contained a song shared by Joyful Noise. The Young Families Group will go ice-skating at Burbank Ice Rink (Reading) on January 26 at 4pm. Shelley Halloran has agreed to be the 2<sup>nd</sup> person on Creation Care weeks. We are still in need of additional volunteers for the Nursery, Footprints class, and the Faith Formation Ministry Team. The next FFMT meeting will be Tuesday, January 21 at 6:30pm.

Outreach: Linda Ladd reported that on Monday, December 23, volunteers prepared and served a dinner at Haven from Hunger. They also helped with prep work for the Christmas Eve dinner. The next volunteer day will be Monday, January 27. The next Green Wagon Sunday is January 26 and the donation for January will be cereal and shelf-stable milk. The holiday "Living Gift Market" raised \$1,455 for Heifer. On December 15 we blessed two green wagons with Angel Tree gifts. The gifts were then delivered to City Mission Boston, where using their value per type of item, it was determined that we donated 300+ items worth approximately \$2,800, plus many coats for "Coat Boston," not counted in the total. Sales of Equal Exchange goods have brought in \$243.49. The next Mission and Outreach meeting is on January 12.

Diaconate: Annmarie Pendola reported on Diaconate and worship activities, including the Blue Christmas Service on Dec 8, the Pageant on Dec 15, the Choir concert on Dec 22, and Christmas Eve services. We celebrated the lives of Ann Smith on Dec 31 and Jon Procurot on Jan 4. In celebration of Epiphany and Star Sunday, the Sanctuary was decorated with stars, and the Congregation was invited to choose a Star to be their guiding word for the New Year. Following the service, the Christmas decorations were taken down. The Deacons met to discuss various upcoming activities including The Great Pie Challenge on Jan 12, the Church Breakfast on Feb 2, hosting Coffee Hour on Feb 16 and March 8, and finalized the Ushering Schedule for January, February and March. The next Diaconate meeting will be Feb 9.

Stewardship: The Stewardship Campaign, "The Way," will begin on February 2, and Commitment Sunday will be on February 23.

Finance: The sprinkler system continues to have some issues. Metro Swift has given an estimate for replacing the existing corroded sprinkler main piping, and maintenance is scheduled to begin on Wednesday, January 8 and continue during the week. Scott completed a number of projects for Tower Day, including the preparation and painting of hall walls. He also discovered a failed window near the old dishwasher and plans to remove the window and put up a cover until a replacement is installed. Blaisdell Plumbing cleaned the two high efficiency gas furnaces in December and repaired a failed connection on January 6. Delta Beckwith Elevator continues to look for options for the aging and obsolete elevator.

Fundraising: Trivia Night and Silent Auction will be Saturday, February 8 and the theme will be 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We need volunteers for set-up, staffing during the event, clean-up and for bringing appetizers and desserts. Anyone interested in donating wine prizes can contact Chuck.

Coffee Hour: The schedule for hosting Coffee Hour was discussed and we continue to seek individuals to volunteer to host.

Old Business/New Business: In old business, discussion regarding MBA dues continued.

There being no further business, Council voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:29 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Decker, Recording Secretary

**Next Meeting: Monday, January 27, 2020 @ 7pm**

**Meditation - Chuck Cotting**