

Parish Council Minutes

June 24, 2015

In attendance: Bruce Weaver, Chuck Cotting, Kathi Martin, Jim Marshall, Margaret Waugh, Dotty Whittier, Barbara Langill, Carrie Pericola, Jill DiGiorgio, Linda Ladd, Debbie Cotting, and Rev. Dennis Bailey.

Moderator Bruce Weaver convened the meeting at 7:00 P.M.

Council approved the minutes of the 5/27/15 meeting.

Pastor Report: Rev. Bailey reviewed pastoral concerns and his worship activities since the last Council meeting. He officiated at a wedding on May 20, and he conducted a funeral on June 17. He attended several special events including the Fire Academy graduation, Firefighters Sunday, and the Tower Day Kindergarten celebration. He will attend the UCC General Synod in Cleveland from 6/25-6/30 and take vacation time (4 vacation days + July 4th holiday) from 7/1 - 7/6. Rev. Glenn Mortimer will cover during Rev. Bailey's absence, and Gage Whittier will preach on 6/28. Rev. Bailey will be on vacation from 8/3-8/26. Rev. Rick Hughes and Rev. Judy Proctor will cover during August, and worship leaders on Sunday mornings are in place.

Financial Report: Financial Secretary Jim Marshall reported that we have received approximately \$170,000 in pledges so far. There are still 28-30 outstanding pledges – people who pledged last year who haven't yet returned a pledge this year.

Christian Education: Barbara Langill reported that Kid's Summer Sunday Camp will be offered each Sunday during worship with the exception of July 5. Beginning in September, there will be two classes of Godly Play for children ages 4 and up. Education Ministries is exploring the possibility of an Ecumenical Youth Group. Next year, the UCC will hold its National Youth Event in Disney World, and Education Ministries would like our youth to participate.

Education Ministries: Jill Digiorgio updated Council on the search process to select a candidate to become the Director of Faith Formation. Based on the experience of the candidates they have seen and the committee's salary research, Jill and Bruce recommended that we extend the salary range to \$24,000. A motion to extend the salary range to \$24,000 was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.

Membership: Dotty Whittier noted that the Lobster Roll sale was successful; 61 lobster rolls were sold. Membership has received information about two Dining for Dollars fundraisers – one at Bertucci's in Peabody and the other at Otto's at Market Street. They also have information from the Red Sox Group Sales Dept. asking if we might be

interested in getting a group together to attend a game. Council thought attending a September game would work best.

Diaconate: Margaret Waugh reported that Sunday services have begun in the Chapel. The June 21st service was lightly attended possibly because it was Father's Day, and it was raining hard. Diaconate will watch attendance numbers to evaluate whether changing the service time to 10 A.M. has increased attendance. When Rev. Bailey is away, worship will be covered by a Deacon, Linda Ladd, or Rev. Jamie Howard.

Stewardship: Carrie Pericola noted that calls have been made to people who pledged last year, but haven't yet returned a pledge card this year. She e-mailed Council the updated list of responses to the Time and Talent Survey.

Finance: Chuck Cotting reviewed a list of bids received for a variety of capital projects and repair and maintenance issues. He plans to discuss the list further with Bruce and Jeff Law before making recommendations to Council. One item on the list was replacing the carpet in the library. Barbara suggested that vinyl tile might be a better option for the library, and Council agreed.

Real Good Church Book Discussion: Based on the June 10 discussion, Council feels that we need to update our website and improve signage. Barbara suggested that we also create a better location for the nursery-one that is geared to infants and toddlers.

Old Business/New Business: Debbie Cotting reported that the tentative date for Shredding Day is Oct. 17. She will finalize dates for the Yankee Candle Fundraiser soon.

Bruce led Council in thanking Carrie and Kathi for their dedicated service as Ministry Team Leaders and Barbara for her extraordinary service as Christian Education Director. Linda Ladd presented Barbara with a photo album commemorating all the church school, youth group, and mission trip activities she has led over the years.

Council thanked Bruce and Denise Weaver for hosting our end-of-the year Council meeting and cook-out at their home.

There being no further business, Council voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Cotting, Recording Secretary

Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 2, 2015. Meditation: Bruce Weaver