

Parish Council Minutes - May 1, 2018

Moderator Bruce Weaver called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. In attendance: Bruce Weaver, Rev. Nancy Rottman, Jill DiGiorgio, Debbie Cotting, Linda Ladd, Chuck Cotting, Scott DeSantis, Annmarie Pendola, Larainne Wilson, Jeff Law, and Lauren Donadio. Linda Ladd offered the meditation. Council approved the minutes from the April 3, 2018 meeting.

Pastoral Relations Committee: Discussion was held regarding the need to create a PRC which will serve as a neutral sounding board/liaison to both pastor and congregation. This can be appointed ad hoc and Nancy will research guidelines and help craft a description.

Pastor Report: Rev. Nancy Rottman thanked Barbara Langill for her willingness to staff the office in Susan's absence. Thank you to Chuck for getting the color copier. Nancy and Larainne meet weekly, and staff is using Google Docs to help with worship planning. Nancy continues to meet with the Lynnfield Clergy Group; their current focus is church safety. On April 11, Nancy attended the Synergy911 training at St. Maria Goretti. Jill, Chuck, Kathi, and Nancy also attended another safety training for Houses of Worship by the Middlesex District Attorney's office. Nancy will begin meeting with the New Clergy Practice Group soon. Nancy meets with Ministry Teams, and she is working with the Care Team monthly. Adult Bible Study Group meets on Thursday afternoons at 1 P.M. The group will be reading *With the End in Mind: Dying, Death, and Wisdom in the Age of Denial*. Nancy attended a kick-off event for the Dementia Friendly Community Initiative in Lynnfield. May 6 is City Mission Sunday with Rev. June Cooper preaching. May 20 is joining Sunday and Pentecost. Nancy thanked all for being involved in the Installation Service on April 29. Nancy continues to serve on the search committee for the new Minister for Members in Discernment and as Head Usher for the final ANTS commencement. Nancy is planning to participate in a leadership retreat called "Tending the Fire" which will take place in three 3-day sessions starting in Nov 2018 and Jan 2019 (Framingham) and March 2019 (Sharon, CT).

Financial Report: Treasurer Jeff Law reviewed preliminary financial data as of 3/31/18. Jeff noted that our overall loss in the Operating Fund year-to-date is \$27,953.76 which is \$13,542.82 better than last year and \$29,545.59 better than budget. Income y-t-d is \$707.99 better than last year and \$28,476.49 better than budget. Expenses are \$12,834.83 better than last year and \$1,069.10 better than budget. MBA dues through March are low - discussion if dues should be paid from general contribution/pledges in future.

Education: Jill DiGiorgio and Larainne Wilson reported that FFMT will plan to have evacuation drills this spring: 5/13-Footprints, 5/20-Godly Play, 5/27-Nursery, 6/10-Brick by Brick. There is also a plan to offer CPR/first aid training to the community in partnership with Lynnfield Moms Group on 6/9. Young Families Group surveys have been analyzed and one monthly activity will be planned - Chuck will add to the Powerpoint slides that YFG will meet every Sunday after service on the playground (weather permitting). Volunteers are needed for Nursery and Footprints Transition class. Curriculum for summer programming is all set, but volunteers are still needed. May 13 will be Senior Sunday and Laraine will reach out to all seniors. Joyful Noise will rehearse on 6/3 and 6/10 to share music on Celebration Sunday (6/17). Giv2 will help with HFH sorting on 5/12 and the Food Project on 6/2. Next meeting will be May 8 at 7pm.

Outreach: Linda Ladd reported that Annmarie Pendola, Frank Scott, Phil Fisher, and herself prepped and served at Haven from Hunger on April 23. Next opportunity is May 28 and the donation for May is pasta, tomatoes, and sauce. Thank you to Nancy and everyone at the Installation for directing half of offering to HFH's kitchen project. Stamp Out Hunger will take place on May 12th at HFH and volunteers can sign up on the M&O board to sort food/carpool. A team will walk for the Heifer New England 5K for \$5K Walk for Women on May 6th after church around Lake Quannapowitt. We will meet for hotdogs and popcorn at the church after service and then head to the lake. Nancy and Linda attended a luncheon by City Mission Boston on Family Homelessness. M&O will be making a \$3,000 donation from budget to City Mission. Bread and Roses will host a comedy night fundraiser - info at <https://brcomedynite.eventbrite.com>

Membership: Bruce Weaver reported for John Sievers that there was a suggestion to move Coffee Hour to the Narthex. Discussion of logistics of the move including sign-up tables/name tags and seating concerns. Can plan to look into making the move in the fall. The Flea Market/Bake Sale will take place on May 12. Chuck sent out press release on 4/25 and Deb Cotting and Lisa Gerbick offered to help organize/bake. 2 tables have been purchased. Volunteer sign ups are posted and donations for sale can be stored in the front hallway. Lobsta Roll Sunday is June 3 and Membership will be assembling the rolls before service that day.

Diaconate: Annmarie Pendola reviewed recent Diaconate activities and worship services. At the April 29 meeting, the deacons discussed City Mission Sunday with Rev. June Cooper (5/6), hosting coffee hour (5/13), New Member Sunday (5/20), baptism (6/3), and assisting the children in ushering on Celebration Sunday (6/17). Deacons plan to host a Summer Kickoff BBQ/Potluck on 6/16 at 4pm. Deacons will have grills and everyone can bring own side dish/dessert. Christmas in July service planned for 7/8 with a pajama/toy drive for Cradles to Crayons. Discussion of making sure to greet new faces and locking side door by Chapel once service has started. Possible date to move to Chapel - 6/24. New Deacon will be needed starting in Sept. Deacons Breakfast scheduled for 9/30.

Stewardship: Debbie Cotting reported that she and Nancy discussed having next year's stewardship campaign during Epiphany instead of Lent and having a luncheon on Commitment Sunday to celebrate the end of the campaign. Plan to hold focus groups in the fall involving young/new members to discuss communication and engagement. Also plan to discuss stewardship throughout the year - quarterly. As of 5/1, 75 pledges have been received and 16 are outstanding. Debbie will review the list of outstanding pledges and send out reminder letters.

Finance: Chuck Cotting reported that carpets were cleaned, all office/classroom windows were cleaned, the bench in the Narthex was repaired, a leaking toilet was replaced, a hole in the basement ceiling was fixed, and a paint issue in a Tower classroom was resolved (thank you Scott!). TD will have a state inspection in May - dead tree/stump removed, replaced mulch in playground, sand will be replaced in sandbox, room by room inspection by Leah and Terri, supervision of children in 2nd floor bathrooms to prevent overflows. Color copier was installed. CPR/AED training will be coordinated with FFMT. FFMT is planning class by class evacuation drills and Chuck will meet with Diaconate to work on whole church plans.

Fundraising: Debbie opened discussion of Festival of Trees to be held in November and open to the public. Concerns about a raffle were discussed. Request was made to share past pictures of the Flea Market to post and advertise.

Special Meeting of the Congregation: Will be held 6/10 to keep operations and temporary budget going until the annual meeting in the fall. Will also discuss/vote on extending terms until annual meeting. Nursery will be open for additional 10-15 min to provide childcare.

Old/New Business: None to discuss.

Nominating Committee: Terms are expiring for treasurer, Jill, John, Cottings, and 3 deacons. Moderator and treasurer have gone over by-law term allowances. Many openings are coming up and discussion was held about filling vice-moderator and vice-treasurer positions.

There being no further business, Council voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren Donadio, Recording Secretary

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 29

Meditation: Jeff Law