

## Parish Council Minutes

May 28, 2013

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

Moderator Bruce Weaver convened the meeting at 7:07, and Carrie Pericola offered the mediation.

Council approved the minutes of the 4/23/13 meeting.

Pastor Report: Rev. Bailey shared pastoral concerns and reported on worship-related activities, funerals, and baptisms for the month of May. A baptism and three weddings are planned in the coming months. Dennis attended a meeting of the Lynnfield Clergy on May 14. He marched in the Memorial Day parade and offered prayers at the cemeteries and the Town Common. On May 6 and 7, Dennis attended the Fire Chaplain's Conference in Duxbury, MA. He informed Council of some August vacation dates he is considering. Dennis will lead the Mission trip to Joplin, MO from August 11-18.

Financial Reports: Jeff Law distributed the Treasurer's Report with data as of 4/30/13. Income to date is \$19,991.78 better than last year and \$21,159.99 better than budget. Expenses are \$9,668.95 better than last year and \$8,198.81 better than budget. We are at 84% of our fundraising goal so we need a strong finish to meet our goal. We also need parishioners to complete their pledges for the year.

2013-2014 Budget Review: Jeff Law reviewed the Preliminary Budget for fiscal year 2014. The Preliminary Budget contains 2% staff raises and a 5% increase in utilities. Snow removal is level-funded, and there will be a savings in health insurance costs. Jim Marshall reported that pledges are coming in at about the same level as last year so no increase is projected in the budget. \$15,000 is budgeted to cover the Pastor's Sabbatical. The Preliminary Budget projects an overall loss of \$22,951.36. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Preliminary Budget and present it at a Special Meeting of the Congregation on June 2, 2013. The motion passed unanimously.

Christian Education Report: Barbara Langill reported that Children's Sunday is scheduled for June 9. There will be an Ice Cream Social following the service. The church school children planted flowers on May 26. Education Ministries will meet on June 4 to finalize plans for next year. On May 5, the Middle School youth had their end-of-year celebration at Sky Zone in Everett. The High School group's end-of-year celebration at Canobie Lake has been postponed until later in the summer. The May 18<sup>th</sup> yard sale raised \$1,000 for the Joplin Mission Trip. Nine youth and six adults are slated to travel to Joplin. The proceeds from the June 2<sup>nd</sup> cook-out after church will support the Mission Trip. Parishioners can also support the Mission Trip by purchasing stock in the trip at \$20 per share. Shareholders will be invited to the Shareholders' Dinner where trip participants will present their experiences in Joplin. A Mission Trip to Atlantic City is planned for July 21-26. Seven youth and 3 adults have signed up to support the victims of Hurricane Sandy. Barbara is looking for adults and kids to participate in the Write On Pen Pal Program over the summer. Mia Sievers will be the coordinator for Vacation Bible School, scheduled for July 15-19. The cost is \$40 per child.

Outreach: Sandi Watson informed Council that she needs to resign her position as Chair of Outreach Ministries. She thanked Council and her Ministry Team for their support. Council accepted her resignation and expressed appreciation to Sandi for her dedication and hard work.

Diaconate: Linda Ladd reported on recent Diaconate activities. Services in the Chapel will start on June 23 at 9 AM. At their next meeting, the Deacons will complete the usher schedule for the summer and plan preaching coverage for Dennis on the Sundays he will be away.

Stewardship: Carrie Pericola noted that her team continues to write thank-you notes to people who have pledged. There are 24 families who pledged last year who have not yet submitted pledges for the coming fiscal year.

Finance: Chuck Cotting reported that Scott DeSantis cleaned the outdoor storage shed, and it's ready for clear coating. Shelving has been added to the Todd Hall closet, and the septic tanks have been pumped. The elevator requires a major repair to replace circuit boards and cable piping and to correct a problem with the doors. Three security cameras have been installed on the exterior of the building, and a DVR system and monitor were installed in the Tower Day office. Brassard Surveillance Systems donated labor, wiring, one camera, and the monitor. Baker Electric will install a two-way intercom system to cover the Tower Day office, all classrooms, the church office, and the Pastor's office at a cost of \$3,930 (to be paid from the Capital Maintenance Fund.) This system will allow an announcement to reach all offices and classrooms at once. Chuck reviewed estimates on a variety of capital projects, and offered price comparisons from Verizon and Comcast for providing telephone and internet services.

Fundraiser Update: Included in the Treasurer's report is a summary of the fundraisers held to date. The fundraising goal for the year was \$12,583.45. So far, including Shopping Card proceeds, we have raised \$10,517.32-84% of our goal.

Old Business: Carrie Pericola reported that her committee has almost completed the initial planning for the Night in Bethlehem. At their next meeting, they will put together a list of items they hope will be donated; they will advertise their needs via Tower Notes.

New Business: The Moderator led a general discussion about the need to replace the church roof. The roofing issue will be the focus of the next Council meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 P.M., and Dennis led a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Cotting, Recording Secretary

**Next Council Meeting: June 18. Meditation by Kathi Martin**