

Parish Council Minutes - October 28, 2019

Moderator Bruce Weaver called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. In attendance: Bruce Weaver, Rev. Nancy Rottman, Debbie Cotting, Chuck Cotting, Katherine Decker, Jill DiGiorgio, Lisa Gerbick, Linda Ladd, Jeff Law, Jim Marshall, and Annmarie Pendola. Annmarie offered the meditation. Minutes from 9/30/19 were approved with unanimous consent.

Pastor Report: Rev Nancy Rottman reported that Laraine is back part-time. Nancy attended Mental Health First Aid training in October along with Linda Ladd, Kathi Martin, David Bjorkman. She also was a guest on the Hancock Minister's Bible Study podcast for a discussion on a passage from Ruth. The Adult Faith Formation class is finishing up their study of *Creed: What Christians Believe and Why* by Adam Hamilton. They will be choosing the Advent study soon. The labyrinth has been ordered, and Rev Nancy will be offering labyrinth walks on Wednesday evenings during Advent. We will be wrapping up the *Unraveled* worship series before Advent. During Advent we will consider "What Can't Wait." The PPRC will be meeting in November for ongoing training and planning. On Sunday, Oct 20, Rev Nancy offered the ritual portion at the 5th Annual Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Gathering hosted by Leslie McKeough at the Meeting House. Nancy has also been invited to participate with North Shore Postpartum Help, a task force providing support and resources for new mothers and their families. Centre Church will be looking into ways to display resources in the Church.

Three Hundred Committee: Members of the committee viewed the space at the Sheraton, the proposed location for the celebration to be held on September 19, 2020.

Financial Reports: Treasurer Jeff Law reported that our overall loss in the operating fund year-to-date is better than last year and better than Budget. Income year-to-date is better than last year and better than budget. Overall most categories of Income are doing better. Expenses are currently a bit worse than last year and Budget. Council unanimously approved the move of Undesignated Memorials contributions to Capital Maintenance.

Education: Jill DiGiorgio reported that Laraine returned to worship on October 22. She will work closely with Jill and Rev Nancy over the coming weeks. The Faith Formation Team is in need of a couple of new team members. Kerri McKenzie "hosted" the first meeting of the Middle School Youth Group on October 20. They had pizza, prepped for Trunk or Treat, and looked into Service Projects. The next meeting will be on Nov 17. Additional dates include caroling at Sunrise on Dec 8 and the Middle School Christmas Party/Swap on Dec 22. On Oct 5, Laraine and Elizabeth Gaskins attended Super Saturday which focused on Racial Justice. On Oct 12, Laraine attended the seminar ABCs of Racial Justice at Old South Church. Centre Church hosted Trunk or Treat on Oct 26. The CCC "trunk" was ocean-themed and was a big hit. The next FFMT Meeting will be Nov 19. Laraine will be organizing a Staff/Volunteer Orientation with Safe Church refresher sometime in the next few months. Joyful Noise will share a song during the mini-message on Nov 24, with rehearsals on Nov 17 and Nov 24.

Outreach: Linda Ladd reported that CCC members served at Haven for Hunger on 10/28 and in addition to helping serve a great meal, they delivered 70.4 pounds of food. The next service day will be on 11/25. CCC will be collecting turkeys on 11/17 and collections will be delivered on the same day. The next Green Wagon Sunday will be 11/24 and we

will be collecting Thanksgiving food for Ma Duke's Thanksgiving Dinner. On Nov 16, Barbara Langill and Linda will attend Heifer's 75 Year Anniversary Celebration featuring Gustavo Hernandez Polcano, Country Director for Heifer International Guatemala in North Grafton, MA. 11/24 will also be the next Mission and Outreach meeting, which will include setting up the Angel Tree. There will be Equal Exchange sales of Fair Trade goods at the Church Fair and then by catalog and table sales through Christmas.

Diaconate: Annmarie Pendola reported on various Diaconate and worship activities, including the celebration of Baptism of Riley Harper Nikitas on October 20. The Deacons will be decorating the Sanctuary, Chapel and other parts of the Church for the Christmas Season on Nov 24. The Deacons met on Oct 6 to discuss various upcoming activities including hosting Coffee Hour on Nov 10 and Dec 8, emailing David Wallace to schedule annual organ maintenance, the usher schedule for November and December, the Pie-challenge for Jan 12, and the upcoming Diaconate meetings on Nov 3 and Dec 1. There was also a discussion about the handling of the offertory and Communion.

Stewardship: Debbie Cotting reported that she and Rev Nancy met to discuss plans for the 2020 Stewardship Campaign. The theme will be "The Way," and will run in January and February.

Finance: Chuck Cotting reported that there was another sprinkler piping leak in the attic over the Outer Office and Sanctuary. While repairs have been made, we are looking into replacing the leak-prone main pipe and waiting for an estimate from Metro Swift. Gari and Chuck removed air conditioners from the Tower Day classrooms. Chuck also reported that the outside cameras were damaged in the storm. Daniel Miller made the new benches outside the front door as part of his Eagle Scout project. Safety lanyards for staff have been ordered, but are currently backordered with possible delivery in December.

Fundraising: The Yankee Candle fundraiser raised \$554.00. The Holiday Craft Fair and Festival of Trees will be held on Saturday, Nov 2. Barbara Langill and Lisa Gerbick, along with the rest of the Centre Church Craft Group have been meeting since early summer to make items for the craft table. The Thanksgiving Apple Pie Sale will be Sunday, November 24. Trivia Night will be Saturday, February 8.

Coffee Hour: The schedule for hosting Coffee Hour was discussed and we seek individuals to host. Sign up sheet will be in the Narthex.

Old Business/New Business: Treasurer Jeff Law reported that the Southern New England Chapter of the MBA has proposed a new way of having churches contribute, based on a % of the church's revenue. This would be options and we will be looking at whether this makes sense for our church.

There being no further business, Council voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Decker, Recording Secretary

Next Meeting: Monday, December 2 @ 7pm

Meditation - Bruce Weaver