

Parish Council Minutes - October 22, 2013

In attendance: Bruce Weaver, Barbara Langill, Carrie Pericola, Margaret Waugh, Jim Marshall, Chuck Cotting, Jeff Law, Debbie Cotting, Rev. Dennis Bailey.

Moderator Bruce Weaver convened the meeting at 7:03 and offered the meditation.

Council approved the minutes of the September 24, 2013 meeting.

Pastor Report: Rev. Bailey noted that we will need to develop a job description for the supply UCC pastor who will cover during Rev. Bailey's sabbatical. He has asked Rev. Wendy Vanderhart for sample job descriptions, and he suggested that work on the job description should take place in January or February of 2014. Rev. Bailey reviewed pastoral concerns and his activities during the past month. The Lynnfield Clergy Association met on Oct. 2 to plan the Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service to be held at Centre Church on Sunday, Nov. 24 at 7:30 P.M. Weddings are scheduled for Nov. 16 and Dec. 31. Rev. Bailey has planned a meeting for new members on Nov. 10 after worship.

Financial Reports: Jeff Law circulated the Treasurer's Report which contained financial data through Sept. 30, 2013. He noted that our overall loss in the Operating Fund is \$36,382.10 which is \$2710.76 worse than budget. Income to date is \$5589.43 worse than budget. Pledge income, Building Use Donations, and Other Local Support Income are all lower than at this point last year. Also, at this time last year we had received \$2200 from the Supplemental Pledge Drive which we are not holding this year. Expenses are \$2878.66 better than budget. Health Insurance, MBA Dues, and Custodial Expenses were all lower than expected. Jeff remarked that we are 25% through the fiscal year, and we are at 12% of our fundraiser goal. Financial Secretary Jim Marshall noted that he has received \$2800 in additional pledges.

Christian Education: Barbara Langill reported that 3 new families and 2 visiting families attended on Kick Off Sunday. The first Sunday of each month, children in grades 1 through 8 will remain in worship for a family-friendly service. Children's Time will be used to discuss the important parts of worship; the appropriated symbols will be added to the banner. The Confirmands will participate in the service by reading scripture or helping with Children's Time. Barbara noted that the family-friendly service on Oct. 3 was well received; the topic for Nov. 3 will be the Trinity. The first Youth Group meeting was held on Oct. 6; 21 youth and parents attended. Youth groups will hold a sock drive with a Red Sox theme during the month of Oct. College care packages were sent to 6 college freshmen, and a card was sent to our Marine recruit. The Youth Group assembled a package for Devon Abt who is serving in the Peace Corp in Benin. They will host a Halloween Party at Bridge House on Oct. 29. The Turkey Drive for Haven From Hunger is scheduled for Nov. 17. There are 3 ninth graders and 5 eighth graders in the Confirmation Class. All have mentors. The Confirmation Class will meet with Kathi Martin on Sunday mornings at 9:00 A.M. in the kitchen, and they will meet with Rev. Bailey at 11:30 A.M. on the first Sunday of the month. Schedules and updates are posted on the Confirmation Bulletin Board outside the library. On Oct. 19, 8 youth and 3 adults traveled to Boston to prepare and serve a meal for over 100 people at Pilgrim Church in Dorchester and to participate in the UCC Heritage Tour. The

MACUCC Christian Education Certification Class will be held at Centre Church on Nov. 16 from 8:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. Barbara will attend a workshop on Vibrant Faith in Acton on Nov. 7. Vibrant Faith Ministries believes that training, utilizing appropriate resources, social networking, and smart use of technology are keys to building strong leaders in homes, congregations, and communities.

Membership: Dottie Whittier was not able to attend, but she submitted a written report. At their last meeting, Membership welcomed their newest member, Sara Perkins. Plans for the pie and carrot cake sale are underway. Twelve people have volunteered to help, and orders are coming in. The trip to the Peabody Essex Museum will be rescheduled to early spring because the original Dec. 1 date conflicts with the Advent Workshop. Membership will serve refreshments at the Night in Bethlehem on Dec. 7.

Diaconate: Margaret Waugh reported that Dave Wallace performed the annual tuning of the organ. He took one stuck cipher (pipe) out of service. He sent an email to Rev. Bailey, Bruce Weaver, Doug Hodgkins, Chuck Cotting, and Margaret to explain the status of the organ. He made recommendations for repairs and costs to help us plan future capital expenses. George Hayden and Marian Orfeo have volunteered to usher; Mary McCarthy will schedule scripture readers. Deacons will attend the new member meeting scheduled by the pastor. Diaconate gave Elizabeth Walsh a plant for her inspirational garden to thank her for leading 3 worship services when Dennis was away. One Deacon position remains open. A Deacon's Breakfast is scheduled for Nov. 17.

Stewardship: Carrie Pericola informed Council that Stewardship will meet on Oct. 24 to finalize plans for the campaign to raise funds for roof and gutter replacement.

Finance: Chuck Cotting is working with a carpenter to get a sample design and estimate to replace the column bases for the front (Summer St.) entrance. He is also investigating the repair or replacement of the two lights at the Summer St. entrance. He will obtain an estimate to spray insulation on the concrete walls and exposed wood areas under the first floor ladies' room. Council approved an additional surveillance camera to be placed over the parking lot entrance portico at a cost of approximately \$350. Ken Brassard of Brassard Surveillance Systems will donate the labor cost.

Fundraising: A Recycling Day is scheduled for Nov. 2. Debbie Cotting reported that we earned just over \$400 on the Yankee Candle fundraiser.

There being no further business, Council voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:35. Rev. Bailey led a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Cotting, Recording Secretary

Next Meeting: November 26, 2013. Meditation by Kathi Martin