

## Parish Council Minutes – September 28, 2020

Moderator Bruce Weaver called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M. In attendance on Zoom: Bruce Weaver, Rev. Nancy Rottman, Chuck Cotting, Debbie Cotting, Katherine Decker, Jill DiGiorgio, Linda Ladd, Jeff Law, Jim Marshall, Annmarie Pendola, and Larainne Wilson. Bruce offered the meditation. Minutes from 8/31/2020 were approved with unanimous consent.

**Pastor Report:** Rev. Nancy Rottman provided updates on the state of the church, virtual worship and Zoom gatherings, congregational care, and looking ahead to plans for eventual reopening. Worship has moved back to 10am on YouTube with Coffee Hour on Zoom at 10:30am. We will celebrate World Communion on Sunday, October 4. The fall theme of “A Way Out of No Way” will continue through October 11. Ann Decker has resumed her role of securing readers for worship and the hope is for broader participation from the congregation in our worship videos. Planning for Advent and Christmas is underway.

The Lynnfield Clergy supported A Night of Hope on Sunday, September 20. Plans are in place for a virtual Interfaith Thanksgiving service. Rev Nancy has been participating in the Diversity and Inclusion working group of A Healthy Lynnfield. The group is planning a series of trainings/webinars on the topics of implicit bias, diversity and inclusion. Once plans are in place, a determination will be made about what to offer for adult faith formation on Thursday afternoons.

Rev Nancy encourages church committees/team meetings to begin meeting regularly on Zoom. She is also exploring a new Stewardship program by attending an informational webinar with Grace Duddy Pomroy on the Funding Forward Learning Community.

**Financial Reports:** Treasurer Jeff Law provided Council with an update regarding the budget and the potential financial impact presented with the current pandemic.

**Education:** Larainne Wilson provided an update on Church School which will resume on October 4. The plan is for Larainne to teach the 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays using Illustrated Ministries materials, and the yearly theme is Invitation: Joining God at Work and in the World. Lisa will be the lead teacher in Godly Play on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays. All Sundays will be online at 10am and Children & Parents will be encouraged to join coffeeshour as soon as Church School is over.

The Weekly Zoom Parent Support Group resumed on September 10 at 7:30pm and will continue to be lead by Jill or Larainne. The first meeting of Youth Group will be Sunday, October 4 and be a socially distant gathering of pizza and games. The Parking Lot Popsicles and Blessing of the Backpacks went well. The Faith Formation team will be welcoming a new team member, Betsy Ragalevsky at the next FFMT meeting on October 13.

**Outreach:** Linda Ladd reported that the Outreach Ministry Team continues to match donations made by church members to organizations hit hard by the Covid-19 pandemic. Discussion about how to connect with Heifer virtually is underway.

**Diaconate:** Annmarie Pendola reported that the Deacons continue to assist with contacting church members who are on the Congregation Care List. The Deacons met on September 23 to discuss personal updates, Congregational care concerns, future services, and encouraging people to read Scripture. They also celebrated retiring

Deacon, Jeff Langill, and discussed new Deacons, Paul Harrington and Lauren Patriquin-Muise who will attend the next meeting.

**Stewardship/Fundraisers:** There was a brief discussion about fundraiser ideas.

**Finance:** Chuck Cotting reported on the status of the 2020 Maintenance activities and the 2020 Capital Maintenance projects. José has been working to keep the building clean with Tower Day now in session, as well as completing a number of minor installations and maintenance projects for Tower Day. Chuck also provided an update on repairs related to the sprinkler head flood.

**New Business:** There was a brief discussion about an investment committee.

There being no further business, Council voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Decker, Recording Secretary

**Next Meeting: Monday, October 26 2020 @ 7pm**

**Meditation – Annmarie Pendola**