

Parish Council Minutes – March 29, 2021

Moderator Bruce Weaver called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. In attendance on Zoom: Bruce Weaver, Rev. Nancy Rottman, Chuck Cotting, Debbie Cotting, Katherine Decker, Scott DeSantis, Jill DiGiorgio, Linda Ladd, Jeff Law, Annmarie Pendola and Larainne Wilson. Jill offered the meditation. Minutes from 3/1/2021 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 community activities. In March we finished up a successful set of facilitated conversations with Rev Laura Stephens-Reed, which will help in our future planning. During Holy Week, there will be parking lot Tenebrae service on Maundy Thursday. There are plans for a potential inside service in the event of rain. There will be a Sunrise Service on Easter morning at Suntaug Lake and a Digital Easter worship service available on YouTube, which will include the conclusion of the Easter Cantata by the choir. The theme for Eastertide is Dare to Dance, with umbrellas as an anchor image. Discussions surrounding plans for the rest of spring and into summer are underway, including how to transition from all digital worship to a hybrid worship experience.

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 and Faith Formation activities. The Youth Group gathered on March 20th to put together Easter bags. Then on Saturday, March 27 members gathered with Rev Nancy and Larainne for a drive thru palms and Easter Bags pick up.

The Church School schedule is set for April. The mini-message will be re-introduced in our digital Easter service. Katie will lead Godly Play, *The Mystery of Easter* on April 11 and Allison will lead *The Good Samaritan and World Communion* on April 25. There will be no church school on April 18 because of the school vacation. Future dates include Eastertide with Larainne on May 2, Flower Planting on May 30 and Children's Sunday on June 6.

Outreach: Linda Ladd reported on the activities of the Mission and Outreach Team. M&O joined with Tower Day and other Lynnfield schools to collect toiletries and underwear for Citizen's Inn. Between an outside drop bin and a drive thru on March 6th, 4 carloads of items were collected and delivered to Citizen's Inn. Linda and Rev Nancy attended the Citizen's Inn annual meeting on March 2nd and the Mary Jane Lee Society recognition events on March 14th. Each month Tower Notes will contain a write up on a local food pantry. March featured Beverly Bootstraps.

In celebration of Earth Month, we will be having a parking lot drive-thru Spring Cleaning Celebration on April 3. It will include a paper shredding truck and Mission of Deeds donations. Linda is working on a Creation Justice page for the church website which will feature information and resources regarding the Climate Crisis and how to fight it. Additionally, plans for a schedule of videos is being worked on for April. All these are steps towards becoming a Green Congregation.

Diaconate: Annmarie Pendola reported that the Deacons continue to assist with contacting church members who are on the Congregation Care List. Easter cards and

thinking of you notes were sent out in March. The Deacons will help out with the Maundy Thursday Service and the Sunrise Easter Service. They will next meet on April 7 to discuss updates, future worship services.

Stewardship: Debbie Cotting reported that the Stewardship team has been preparing for the Stewardship campaign, which will run from April 25 – May 16. The Stewardship theme will be Dare to Dance Again which will tie in with our worship series. Packets will be mailed out. The team will meet on April 6 to finalize plans and continue work on the narrative budget.

Finance: Chuck Cotting reported on the various maintenance and capital maintenance projects. Scott fixed the security cameras after the one at the back door stopped working. Jared Alphen installed window locks in the Chapel to complete his Eagle Scout projects. Delta-Beckwith was back to continue work on the elevator, which continues to require maintenance. Chuck also provided an update on the reconstruction work.

Current Issues: There was a brief discussion regarding fundraisers.

Old/New Business:

There was a brief discussion of future plans, including possibly doing another fundraiser with Anthony's Coal Fired Pizza.

There being no further business, Council voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Decker, Recording Secretary

Next Meeting: Monday, April 26 @ 7pm

Meditation – Linda Ladd