

Parish Council Minutes – October 25, 2021

Moderator Bruce Weaver called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M. In attendance on Zoom: Bruce Weaver, Rev. Nancy Rottman, Chuck Cotting, Debbie Cotting, Katherine Decker, Linda Ladd, Jeff Law, Jim Marshall, Annmarie Pendola and Scott DeSantis. Rev Nancy offered the meditation. Minutes from the September 27 meeting were approved by unanimous consent.

Pastor Report: Rev. Nancy Rottman reported that Alison is settling in well and will be taking over the weekly email. We continue to problem solve issues with the Livestream for worship as well as properly documenting and reporting music copyright. The series on the Book of Acts will continue until Advent. All Saints' Day and a little bit of Halloween will be celebrated on October 31. Three little ones were baptized on October 24. The baptisms were done after Sunday worship out of an abundance of caution for all involved. Rev Nancy participated in the Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance event on October 16. We will be receiving some scholarship funds from a closing church in Pennsylvania.

Financial Reports: Treasurer Jeff Law provided Council with an update regarding the church's financial situation. It is time for the investment committee to gather and discuss current affairs and future plans. Jeff made a motion to move the following amounts from cash - \$71,906.44 to the 1720 Founders Fund and \$12,175.93 to the Investment Fund. The motion was seconded and approved by unanimous consent.

Education: Nancy shared an update on Faith Formation. Katie Swayne-Gerrish has joined FFMT. The Youth Group will have it's first meeting on October 30 to prepare for Trunk or Treat on October 31. Starting on Nov 1 we will be starting a Giving Thanks social media campaign. There has been some discussion regarding how best to handle the nursery.

Outreach: Linda Ladd reported on the activities of the Mission and Outreach Ministry Team. They will be hosting fellowship on the 3rd Sunday on each month and will have "Earth Matters" goods, such as Equal Exchange chocolate and no-plastic laundry detergent, for sale. During the holidays, M&O will match donations of shopping cards to our typical holiday partners including Ma Duke's Thanksgiving Dinner, Bread and Roses, La Collaborativa and City Mission. Orders for Equal Exchange and Shopping Cards will be placed on November 12. Green wagon collections include pantry supplies for Bread & Roses, Thanksgiving food, and Angel Tree gifts.

Diaconate: Annmarie Pendola reported that the Deacons continue to reach out to those on the Congregational Care list. They will be sending out cards for the holiday season. Annmarie reached out to David Wallace regarding organ maintenance. Mr. Wallace is preparing his November schedule and will reach back out to us. The Deacons will be decorating the church for the Christmas season on November 21. They met on November 7 to discuss the ushering schedule, hosting coffee, decorating the church, finalizing details for Charlotte McClure's Memorial Service and a baptism on November 28, as well as discuss the upcoming Advent and Christmas season and the choir concert on December 19. The deacons will also team up with M&O to host "Help Us Decorate the Angel Tree" on Sunday, December 5.

Stewardship: Debbie Cotting noted that there was nothing new to report since the last meeting.

Finance: Chuck Cotting reported that a new lease agreement with T-Mobile was signed on October 25. Verizon will be making some modifications to their equipment. Our custodian, Jose will be leaving. He will train Yessi Castro, his replacement, who will take over fully on November 8. On October 18, new drainage piping and drywall was installed in the front right corner of the Sanctuary. The Investment Committee will have its first meeting on November 2. Chuck also provided an update on the insurance and restoration work related to the sprinkler failure. The Flea Market and Bake Sale was held on Saturday, October 16 and was a success.

Old/New Business:

There was a discussion regarding how to approach moving forward while there is still uncertainty. The idea of a two-track approach that would consist of a whole church assessment as well as restructuring for mission was included in the discussion. There was also brief discussions regarding the kitchen and looking ahead to a potential Trivia/Silent Auction fundraiser.

There being no further business, Council voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Decker, Recording Secretary

Next Meeting: Monday, November 29 @ 7pm

Meditation – Chuck Cotting