

Council Minutes: October 16, 2018

Attendance:

Present: Dorothy Datemasch, Mack Flood, Steve Foust, Pastor Hybl, Bill Lavallee, Howard Weigold

Absent: MaryAnn Sinwell

Devotions: Pastor

ADMINISTRATIVE

Minutes:

A motion was put forth, seconded, and carried to approve September's minutes as corrected.

Council:

Steve Foust announced that he would be leaving council as he and Amy are moving to Tennessee.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor Hybl highlighted the first Saturday night worship took place and had an equal number of people and leaders, about 22 total.

Letter was sent from Nicole Held to transfer her membership to a church in Virginia. Pastor put forth a motion to accept her transfer. The motion was seconded by Dorothy and passed.

The mortgage burning will be discussed later.

Pastor Scheiderer will cover Pastor's planned vacations in November and December.

Mailings:

Request from Lutheran Institute of Theology.

AA questioned what restrictions would be in place during the holiday season. Amy responded.

Financials:

The charts were not included in the package.

Contributions for September were about \$17,000, a five Sunday month. It was \$1,300 more than September 2017. Expenses were about \$17,700, which were about \$4,000 less than the budget and less than last September.

Contributions YTD were \$196,400. Expenses were \$228,500, resulting in a negative cash flow of about \$32,000 for the year to date.

We're running \$11,400 below budget year to date.

\$41,400 remains in the bank account. Our current mortgage balance is \$10,700. \$38,000 is our total funds balance. We are very close to delving into the fund balances for operating expenses.

Overall total expenses are at 87% while we are 92% of the way through the year.

A copy of the budget presentation was sent out for review.

We need to vote on the \$500 donation to the NALC. Bill made the motion to make the donation. It was seconded and passed. All agreed no additional benevolences would be paid for the current fiscal year. Fred sent a letter regarding his position on benevolences. Mack read an email from MaryAnn highlighting the Lenten light meals contributions, crop walk, MOS food bank, Blackburn Center, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, AA, Al-Anon, etc. which occur throughout the year but don't show as benevolences. We should have a list of benevolences for the budget meeting.

We are forecasting a bank balance of \$40K at the end of the fiscal year, just enough to cover the designated funds. From a General Fund perspective, we are essentially broke.

Our proposed budget for next year is \$204K and assumes the same level of contributions as this year, which might be overly optimistic. Without the mortgage we are projecting positive cash flow of about \$7K or \$8K for FY2019.

Options were put forth to bring it to the congregation at the budget meeting, increase the budgeted amount and decide later how much to pay out as the year goes on, leave it as it is and explain the budget at the budget meeting, include the Wilson donation, etc.

The Wilson donation is not included in the budget.

Discussion on whether to hold or cash out the Home Depot from Jim Wilson took place. A vote was taken to sell. The results were 4 to sell, 2 to hold and 1 abstention.

Ministry Reports

Christian Life:

Dorothy highlighted items from the quarterly report. Christian Life would like to find a permanent home for the Ministry Team boards. Game night is planned for October 24th. The Christmas Party at Jaden's is set for December 4th. Murrysville Light of Nights is scheduled for December 7th and we have already received a \$250 Action Team contribution from Thrivent.

Dorothy brought up evaluations regarding Dan. A rating report was completed. Dan has schedule activities for October, November, December and January.

Soul Life:

Worship & Music:

First Saturday service went well.

Homer would like to bring a group in for Christmas.

Homer sent out the bells for repair and they have been returned.

Christian Ed

Christian Ed report was provided.

Life Stewardship:

Cecelia Verner resigned from chair of Benevolence Subcommittee.

Kyle Lysher has accepted the position as financial secretary with Danette.

As part of the mortgage burning ceremony, commitment cards will be passed out and burned as well.

Stewardship read the Becoming a Welcoming Church and would like other teams to help become a welcoming church. We should upgrade the handicap spaces to make them more visible and possibly increase the number. Visitor spots should be identified. Add Pastor Hybl's name to sign. We should ask Evangelism to greet people at the front door rather than just outside the sanctuary.

The question came up regarding the transparency of finances. Should we put more information out?

God's Property:

Winterized the A/C.

Winter inspection for furnace was scheduled.

Snow removal fees were reviewed, with a slight increase and we will continue with the current supplier.

Excavations are on hold, as well as the soffit, fascia and gutters.

Getting estimates for broken window discovered during clean up day.

Steve will be leaving due to his imminent move to Tennessee.

OLD BUSINESS

Acolyte schedule continues to be a challenge.

Service Survey Results:

- Survey results were received and reviewed but were inconclusive.
- It was decided to do one Saturday per month on the second Saturday and will include communion and will be a contemporary service at 6:00PM.

Signage will be discussed at a later meeting. Steve had information on improving the signage.

Background screening needs to be transferred from Bob.

NEW BUSINESS

Next events:

- a. Confirmation 10/28 with reception.
- b. Daylight Savings Time ends 11/4.
- c. Harvest Share setup by Altar Guild.

Convocation feedback was very positive and everyone's help was truly appreciated. At the end, a cooler from the boy scouts was missing.

The budget meeting is set for this weekend. The Wilson property information will be provided.

Amy wanted to know if she could work Tuesday – Friday so that she can prepare for her move. Pastor was fine with it and could cover Monday mornings. We need to discuss Amy's replacement at the next council meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting: November 19th. Bill will have devotions.
The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by MaryAnn Sinwell (Secretary)