

## Council Highlights: February 19

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- The council voted to approve Fred Schamber to fill a vacant 3-year council term and assume the role of Secretary. With the recent addition of Joe Ugen to fill the position vacated by Steven Foust (responsible for Property), the council now has a full complement of seven members.
- The January financial report showed a negative cash flow (income - expense) of **\$2778** for the month. For the fiscal year-to-date (Nov. through Jan.) the cash flow was a positive \$7,040. The January income was depressed by the necessity of cancelling services one weekend due to weather. However, the income also included a book-keeping transfer of \$2492 without which the cash flow (considering only contribution income) would have been a negative **\$5270** for January and \$4,548 for the fiscal year.
- The council voted to release \$3385 for distribution as quarterly benevolences (to be allocated per the recommendations of the Benevolence Committee). This amount includes both the 5% of General Fund income that has been provisionally set aside this quarter, as well as the contributions of members marked for undesignated benevolences. The decision to release these funds is done with full recognition that our cash-flow condition is tenuous, but with faith that our members will rally to support this modest benevolence commitment.
- In view of the recommendations of expert presentations at the last Mid-Northeast Mission District convocation (held at Emmanuel this past fall), there is a general sense that Emmanuel should have a comprehensive safety plan, including such matters as fire safety and emergency response. To this end, it was agreed to ask Jim Kuczek to assemble an ad-hoc group of individuals in the congregation who have a background in safety, to consider and make recommendations for such a program.
- It was reported that plans are underway to install a large electronically-retractable projector screen (previously donated by a member) on the front wall to the right of the altar. The installation is designed to be minimally intrusive when the screen is not in use and is expected to be available for use for this year's Lenten services.

- It was announced that the Lenten offerings for this year will be designated to support the Haiti medical mission (The Good Shepherd Foundation). As a side note, Fred Schamber has agreed to serve as secretary of the Good Shepherd Foundation, and this now gives our congregation a board presence for this mission that our church has been supporting for a number of years.
- The council approved an agreement with NextEdge Network (a representative for Dish Network) to permit installation of a repeater station on the North Side of the Sanctuary roof. The equipment is relatively small and will only be visible from the upper parking lot. The church is fully indemnified and will realize \$3600 from this 3-year contract.