

Emanuel United Church of Christ: Consistory Meeting – December 10, 2024

Present: Nancy Perry, Helen Tritt, Andrea Sammons, Karen Foster, Dave Poetter, Kristen Robison, Pastor Gaye Santoro, Janel Baughman, Alexandra Barner

Zoom: Betsy Rawlins

Absent: Bob McCall

President Nancy Perry called the meeting to order at 7:25PM in person at the church. Nancy Perry opened the meeting with a prayer.

Correspondence: none

Secretary's Report: The November Consistory minutes were approved via e-mail.

Treasurer's Report:

- We were on the plus side \$923.03 in November. This brings the deficit for the year through November to \$3,313.17.
- The following changes made by the budget committee to the proposed budget for 2025:
 - Weekly offering was decreased due to the budget decreasing.
 - OCWM cut in half because budget committee felt there is more need within our church and community for these funds and because the church does not receive offerings earmarked for benevolences as we had in the past.
 - All employees and contractors will not receive increases.
 - Pastor's health and dental were increased due to increases from the providers - these figures are actuals.
 - Line items in Local Church program were increased or decreased due to usage and/or rising costs.
 - Property costs and Utilities are based on usage and actuals.
- Kristen made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and Dave seconded it. The motion carried.
- The housing allowance resolution approved by Consistory on December 12, 2023 shall remain in effect for calendar year 2025 since there are no changes in the stated amounts.

Pastor's Report: see report

- Confirmation is going well. They will go to Temple Israel at the end of January. There is a Zoom link for the service if a congregation member wants to watch the service.
- Sound system – Still looking at ways to improve the audio
- Best Christmas Pageant Ever – Dec 15 3-5PM at the church
- Janel made a motion to accept the Pastor's Report and Kristen seconded it. The motion carried.

Old Business:

- a. New chairs for Fellowship Hall: The chairs arrived on December 9 and are set up in the Fellowship Hall. The old chairs were sold and picked up.
- b. Pastor Search Committee: Art Holden, Julie Huckriede, Brian Sammons, Betsy Rawlins, and Janel Baughman have volunteered to be on the committee. The Consistory will ask 1-2 younger members to join the Search Committee.
- c. Consistory terms: Bob McCall indicated last month that he would continue Consistory for his second term.

New business:

- a. Recycle bin: Royal Oak Recycling will put out a bin with no cost to the church. The church will not receive money from the recycling, but the bin will be available. The Consistory agreed to contact them and get a bin.
- b. Year-end office hours & communication: Holiday office hours: Pastor Gaye will be in the office on Thursdays, December 26 & January 2. Year-end weekly news email: moved to Thursdays, December 26 & January 2. The January newsletter will be sent on Wed., Jan. 8.
- c. Congregational meeting: January 26, 2025. Annual reports emailed to office by Jan. 6.

Committees:

Pastoral relations: meeting January 8. Question – Is there a shorter version of the Congregation Profile? Pastor Gaye said yes, but it only gets local coverage. The longer Church Profile form gets a wider coverage.

Missions

- Next meeting: January 7
- Soup kitchen – December 30 (Monday)
- Giving Tree: collecting socks & underwear in Narthex

Christian Education

- The Children's Christmas Program went well. Twenty-one children from the church participated in the pageant.
- We will be caroling on January 5 to the Wagners and Lucy Rich.

Property: The water test has just been completed. Brad Kurtz has resigned from Property Committee. Property is looking for new members.

Music – Bells will play Christmas Eve.

Elders – see minutes.

Technology: nothing

Safety & Security: Fire & Safety Presentation by Nick Kindel following the Annual Meeting on January 26.

By-laws & church policies:

- See the revision list of the by-law changes that will be proposed at the Annual Meeting
- Discussed the need for duties and responsibilities for the technology committee. Need to list all the programs that the church uses.
- Vote by email for the by-law changes

Adjournment: Janel made a motion for adjournment. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Helen Tritt, Secretary