

**Colonial Church in Prairie Village
Council Minutes
March 21, 2021**

Attending: Bill Sanderson, Ken Werne, Bob Burgdorfer, Harry Morrison, Stacy Algren, Kelly Hansen, Marylee Battaglia, Kate Nicolai, Martha Wofford, Heather Brasel, Mary Penrose, Aaron Roberts, Allan Weil, Russ Townsley.

Guest: Mark Holland (left after the Capital Campaign presentation)

Bill called the meeting which was also held via Zoom to order at 11:30 am.

Minutes: The January minutes were approved. No Council meeting was held in February.

Treasurer's Report: The January Treasurer's report reflected total pledges receipts of \$68,849 including several annual pledges and total receipts of \$103,900 which included prepaid pledges. Total disbursements for January were \$27,416 resulting in a surplus for the month of \$76,484. Other than normal operating expenses, January disbursements included \$1,677 for snow/ice removal for the parking lot and sidewalks almost weekly and \$415 for a new vacuum cleaner. Activity in Designated Funds included donations of \$290 for meals for Artists Helping the Homeless, \$3,600 for Crosslines and \$43,551 from the Pemberton Charitable Foundation. Prepaid pledges of \$33,781 were transferred to the operating fund. Disbursements included \$736 for food for Artists Helping the Homeless, \$10,147 to repair the lower level (from the Pemberton funds) and \$4,000 to Mark Holland for December. The 2020 surplus of \$14,610 was transferred to the Contingency Fund resulting in a fund balance of \$102,359. Memorials added donations of \$2,000. In accordance with the total return distribution policy, General Endowment Spendable funds were increased by \$5,752. Earnings added to the endowment funds were only \$278. Changes in investments for January included reinvestment of earnings.

In February, total pledge receipts were \$68,982 and total receipts \$69,049, both of which were greater than the budget and prior year. Total disbursements were \$30,592, resulting in a surplus of \$38,456 compared to budget of \$3,492. February disbursements included \$1,013 to repair the furnace, \$331 to repair a broken water pipe and \$1,671 for treating ice on the parking lot and sidewalks. Year-to-date, total receipts were \$172,949 which is about \$49,800 greater than the budget. Year-to-date disbursements of \$58,008 were about even with the budget resulting in a net operating surplus at February 28, of \$114,941 or \$50,300 greater than budget. Activity in Designated Funds included receipt of \$900 for the Crosslines food pantry, \$1,100 for meals for Artists Helping the Homeless, \$100 to Neighbors in Need, \$150 to One Great Hour of Sharing and \$500 to the Pemberton Funds. Disbursements for the month included \$4,000 for Mark Holland's consulting fees which was paid from the 2020 Federal tax credit (\$3,725) and General Endowment spendable funds (\$275). The Garden of Life Endowment Fund received \$500 from the sale of a niche. Earnings of \$121 were added to the endowment funds. With almost \$135,000 in the checking account mid-month, funds were invested in a short-term CrossFirst Bank CD. In addition, transfers were made to the money market accounts at CrossFirst (\$15,000) and U S Bank (\$35,000). Available funds, exclusive of certificates of deposits, for operating and designated funds as of February 28, 2021 stand at almost \$246,000. Financial reports are on file with the treasurer.

March 21, 2021

Board Reports

Parish Life – Gathering Sunday will be a chance for some members to see each other for the first time in over a year, so the Board wants to make it special. But they also want to take precautions for the lingering presence of the pandemic. Instead of a pot luck, they are looking into having food trucks.

Worship – Marylee outlined the help needed to have outdoor services. Aaron added that weather could require cancelation, in which case members will be advised via facebook, the church website and e-mail.

Minister -- Aaron asked for interest in a Kansas Leadership Institute Training course over the next few months. The course has been highly rated. Aaron and Heather Winker are scheduled to take it. He also announced a dance challenge in the weeks after Lent.

Old Business

Capital Campaign – Mark discussed the results of the member survey, the first step in seeing if a campaign is viable. Participation in the survey was exceptional, matching pre-pandemic attendance. Nearly half the respondents were supportive of a campaign with another 30% undecided. Given the absence from the building for a year, that warrants additional action. He encouraged Council members to review the comments in order to understand the data.

Next steps would include some kind of congregational engagement, possibly small Zoom town halls or building tours for small groups. Once members are reacquainted with the issues, a feasibility study would be in order. Determination of projects and a case statement would be done. In response to Heather's question on timing, he suggested determining feasibility this spring, a fall capital campaign with a low key stewardship drive in January 2022.

Nominating Committee – Bill explained they are looking for candidates for Assistant Moderator and Chair of Property Management. At the behest of Jim Cook, Bill suggested changes to the By-Laws regarding this process be considered in the coming months. Alternatives to a nine member committee have been tried in recent years successfully. He also suggested changes in the requirements and restrictions in light of changes in time demands and life-styles. Russ noted the value of leadership development program throughout the year.

New Business

Pemberton Funds - The recommendations for distribution of the Pemberton Funds were discussed. Having talked with Jim on priorities, Bill suggested replacing roof replacement with repair of the parking lots/curbs and sidewalks and completion of restoration of the nursery. Jim felt strongly the paving issues presented more immediate challenges, although the roof will need to be replaced in the next 12-18 months. The consensus was to follow the Task Force's recommendations with that change.

Mark Holland contract –The agreement expires the end of the month. Rev. Holland is willing to continue assisting Colonial with community pastoral care, capital campaign or a combination.

The consensus was for Aaron to work with him in creating a proposal for continued services after March to be considered at the April meeting.

There being no other business, Bill adjourned the meeting at 1:10.

The next meeting will be April 18 at 11:30 am via Zoom.

Russ Townsley, Clerk