

Council Connection for August 17, 2021, Council Meeting

Council approved the following:

- Update Covid protocols
- Accept Pastor Dean Pipers resignation (effective 12/31/21)
- Accept Peggy Torda, Council Secretary, resignation (effective 07/31/21)
- Nominate Pam Fenn (Council Member at Large) as Council Secretary. Pam will serve in this position until the next annual meeting (February 2022) at which time a successor shall be elected to complete the secretary's term (2003)
- Nominate Kristina Giffin for Council Member at Large (vacated by Pam Fenn). She will remain in this position until the next annual meeting (February 2022). The term of this position ends in 2022.
- Discontinue the search for student intern and authorize Pastor Jon-Marc to begin search for a minister of Word and Sacrament or Word and Service. This will not be a called position.
- Approve Strategic Planning Committee as amended. (This will be the guidepost for moving forward on the South Site).
 - The Steering Committee will do the grunt work and planning.
 - Publicity Chair: Meta Minton
 - Finance Committee Chair: Karen Barnes
 - Growth/Program Committee Chair: Len Robertson
 - Fund Develop. Committee Chair: Pat O'Dell
 - Design Const. Committee Chair: Dale Feit
 - The Executive Team
 - Congregational Council President: Kent Hamdorf
 - Lead Pastor: Pastor Jon-Marc MacLean – Pastor Rani will be proxy for Pastor Jon-Marc MacLean
 - Associate Pastor: Pastor Bruce Dillman
 - Member: Paul Schlagheck
 - Member: Bob O'Dell
 - The Council made a motion that the Executive Team of the Strategic Planning Committee elect a Chair.

Discussions:

- Developing of Disaster Planning and Recovery Plan for all three sites (tabled) (Rolf & David W.)
- Debbie Bennett & John Dean spoke to Council regarding feasibility of alternative meal options for Social Suppers
- Lead Pastor Evaluation Process (ongoing process)
- Worship Times (tabled).
- Discussion on getting members back to worship and getting involved – Dave Wither

Financial Report – Gary Hill, Treasurer

- Gary reviewed the financial statements with the Council for the month of July. It was noted that the expenses for July in the General Fund exceeded revenues by \$36,674.08. Gary stated that deficits are normal for the summer months, and this is less than the prior two years for July and is further mitigated by the fact that since we pay salaries every two weeks, we periodically have three pay periods that fall within one month. This was the case for July and resulted in salaries being approximately \$28,500 over budget for the month. There were no other significant over budget items for the month.

PASTORS' REPORTS:

Pastor Jon-Marc

- Pastor Bruce Dillman's duties are being reviewed considering his new duties at the South Site.

Pastor Rani

- Hope for the Future Scholarship planning for the 2022 graduating class will start next month. There were eleven scholarships given out in 2021 totaling \$11,000.

- Mentoring ministry – 15 people have been engaged as mentors – some in person. Pastor Rani shared the procedures with the mentors.
- Lay Leadership Team has met to plan for phase two - which will hold a meeting in early 2022. All volunteers and congregation members will be invited to participate.
- Synod Assembly was to meet in person in September. Synod Council met and decided that it would be held by Zoom the weekend of October 15 & 16.
- Faith and Fellowship – now has over 30 people meeting in person and via Zoom
- “Church Ladies Luncheon” has been a wonderful new way to connect with some of our members who are developing relationships together. They have been taking turns meeting at each other’s homes sharing a meal together.
- Heritage Series will be offered to past new member classes. There will be six classes. The first class is September 15th. David Withers is taking the lead on this.

Pastor Bruce

- Food Pantry – income exceeds expenses. July \$12,211 and expenses \$9,260.
 - Masks required at the Food Pantry.
 - They continue to get more volunteers. Over 60 people indicated interest in volunteering from the surveys.
- H.O.P.E. University – discussion of upcoming classes.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS/DISCUSSIONS:

- Cathy Daley
 - Choral Reading Sessions. At the two Choral Reading Session we had a total of 71 attendees (35 non-members). Lake Weir had 30 attendees (13 non-members). The next session is September 1 and will be on our new South Site property. There will be a tent. If weather inclement – it will be cancelled and not rescheduled.
 - Thanks is extended to Susan Bloomenberg-Neiman for her gift of music and leadership at the Lake Weir campus during the absence of Dennis Kienitz.
 - Choirs requested at our South Site – rehearsals will be at Hope Central
- Pam Fenn
 - Requested sermons in podcast form. Pastor Jon-Marc will work with Jime Eversole to make them available. It can be used as an outreach tool also.
 - Tracking visitors – Pastor Jon-Marc explained the process of tracking first time visitors. Pastors, staff, ministry team leaders are making personal phone calls.
- David Withers
 - David Withers is starting SAW “Sunday After Worship” after the 10am worship, It is a time to have coffee and a sweet treat. It is a casual fellowship group. They will discuss the sermon.
 - Volunteer survey results have been sent to the team leaders. The role of Council members is to follow up with team leaders to see if they have been able to contact volunteers.
 - Pastors and staff are reaching out to members who have not attended lately. David Redding said the Inactive Caller Team also has contacted some people.