

COMMITTEES OF SESSION Highlights

MISSION and OUTREACH

Discussion about supporting TOPSS financially. Mission and Outreach is planning to involve the entire church in this effort to learn more about and raise money for TOPSS. Lara Osborne will be at OPC on March 10, 2019 to help the congregation learn about TOPSS, their needs, and vision for their future in the new building.

Skype with Andrew Kang Bartlett on the possibility of OPC becoming a Hunger Action Congregation. Building in part on our January 2019 retreat and contributing to MO Vision 2020 Goals, the committee held a Skype conversation regarding the various aspects of a Hunger Action Congregation (HAC), what it entails, and some of our concerns. Following this electronic communication, Anne Bailey moved that OPC become a HAC. This was seconded by Danny Cross and unanimously approved by the committee. (More about Hunger Action Congregation will be in the April newsletter—ed)

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Inclusion of artistic gifts of our congregation during certain liturgical seasons: Our church is blessed with talented artists of various kinds, and their gifts might be used to further enhance the quality of worship. These gifts would be in addition to the banners, flowers, holiday trees, and other decorations already used during liturgical seasons. We agreed that performance art should be included. An announcement to this effect will appear in the March Newsletter. Want to find willing artists—painters, sewers, sculptors, woodworkers, etc.--to participate.

Ash Wednesday Service March 6: The service will be held at the Seminary Church, beginning with a light supper at 5:30, followed by worship at 6:30. The supper menu will feature two soups made by Cy Young (one vegetarian, one meat-based), plus bread or fruit brought by attendees to share. The pastors will be responsible for imposition of ashes made from burned palm fronds saved from last year's Palm Sunday service.

Youth to perform during prelude are:

March 2019: Oliver Rice and his mother, Carla Blackmar Rice (piano)

April 2019: Jens Bartel (piano)

May 2019: Katya Fisher and Lynn Jacobs (voice and organ, respectively)

Choir Appreciation Sunday, plus new pins. Choir Appreciation day will be May 5. The choir will sing the anthem “How can I keep from Singing?”, the music for which was purchased in memory of Evelyn Black, mother of Pam Deahl. Service award pins will be presented to choir members. sheet cake celebrating the choir will be served

Music for Mardi Gras Service March 3: A jazz group that performed for OPC a few years ago will be returning. There will be some “jazzy” touches in the worship service, followed by a jazz postlude in the sanctuary.

MEMBERSHIP, EVANGELISM AND FELLOWSHIP

Engagement opportunities – MEF would like to hear directly from church youth about activities they would be interested in having available with the church community. Communicate with Jake and Bridgite to find out if they have the contact information for parents and youth to spread the word on events and happenings, especially to our non-member youth that attend other churches.

TRUSTEES

A discussion took place regarding the children’s playground equipment. The CCNS Board has prohibited the use of the existing playground due to its deteriorated condition, and requested permission to remove these items. A motion passed unanimously to authorize CCNS to remove all existing playground equipment, to include the swing set, and any sub-surface components.

The effect of low temperatures in the sanctuary on the ability to tune the organ prior to services was discussed. In addition, tuning of the pipes needs to be done, but the loss of the rose window lights prohibits this work.

The Memorial Ramp project will start April 22. Tree removal will need to be completed by then. Pastor Lawrence will hold a “Blessing of the Tree.”

Pastor Mark’s office has been repainted, and Jake’s will be done soon. Blinds will be provided for the church office.