

## Ad Council Meeting Minutes

6-1-25

Attendees: Andy Bryan, Rachel Ward, Rona Chandler, Colette Cummings, Cathy Todisman, Jerry Blackwell, David Phelps, Charlotte Phelps, Diane Watkins, Kevin Watkins, David Vierge, Barb Riney, Renee McDonough, Tim McDonough, Bailey Schuchmann

### Opening

- Rachel Ward opened the meeting discussing lessons from a story at work and how we are becoming less pastor-led and more congregation-led, and we as leaders are “outsourcing” much of the church’s work to others in the congregation. This only works when our leadership and structure are strong.

### Approval of 4/27/2025 Minutes

- Motion to approve by Diane Watkins , second by David Vierge, APPROVED

### Celebrations and Upcoming Events

- 4 new members!
- Pastor Adrienne’s sermon, and how she was able to take a song – Boots on the Ground – and turn it into a sermon
- Generosity of the congregation and community - Pillows, socks, and underwear that we gathered (over 700 items!), along with money to share with Union Memorial and organizations that are supporting tornado relief
- Having additional Second Time Around Shop hours to support people impacted by the tornado.
- Graduation celebration
- Special offerings were in excess of \$5,000
- Andy Bryan went to planning retreat and was able to plan themes through the end of December
- Gabe Bryan did very well at the Special Olympics
- Andy Bryan is starting his doctorate in the fall
- Upcoming:
  - Freedom School
  - Tuesday book discussion starts – runs for 3 weeks
  - Griefshare session starting, led by Steve and Lis Wall-Smith

### Finance

- See report that was provided
- More money being given to Union Memorial than what was provided on the report.
- Over \$1,000 for California Wildfire Relief
- As of end of May, we've had \$8,000 more than anticipated / budgeted. Expenses are below budget.

## Trustees

- Action item – request approval for up to \$4,700 to add a steam trap in addition to the boiler cost.
  - Kevin may have a resource to complete this work.
- Accessibility
  - still working on pricing, however Barb Riney has met with destruction and construction vendors. Would need as much space for a lift chair as an elevator.
  - Colette Cummings also has a vendor resource to complete an accessibility audit for the building.
  - Barb Riney and the trustees are maintaining a shared document, that may be shared with the full Ad Council as part of next month's meeting.
  - Brainstorm ideas for accessibility:
    - Ramp directly into fellowship hall, and add an elevator inside the building instead of the southeast tower
    - Ensuring access to the entire building (including 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Sunday School building)
    - Elevator inside fellowship hall, in the corner (would require going through two separate walls)
    - Elevator at double doors on Sunday school room
    - Elevator in Trustees room
    - Ramp across church below the stained glass that gets to the sanctuary level to gain access to fellowship hall and sanctuary
    - Remove steps on Sutton and build a ramp into fellowship hall
    - Elevator should be large enough to carry a casket for funerals.
    - Two elevators – one large that goes to sanctuary and fellowship, second smaller elevator that goes to 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.
    - Accessible restrooms (how many do we need? Question for accessibility audit)
  - Andy Bryan will ask Larry Schmid for floorplans similar to what is posted around the building, and ask for his opinions.

- Priorities are access to all three levels and accessibility audit

## PPRC

- Cathy Todisman and Andy Bryan are having discussions about time off
- David Phelps sent an email to Andy Bryan and Rachel Ward about time off as a potential option
- Review Music Director and Administrative Coordinator job descriptions that Andy Bryan shared for approval next month.

## Freedom School

- 20 students enrolled, waitlist of 5-6 students (15 are returning)
- 11 students for aftercare
- Volunteers for readers, meal service, and aftercare signup available online
- 1 teacher and 1 assistant hired
- Have Aftercare coordinator and assistant for aftercare
- New food service, snack not provided. Will need more snacks purchased / donated
- Discussed w/Webster Hills and they will partner with us on providing school supplies and some volunteers
- Cleanup day this Thursday
- Setup in classrooms 6/16
- Freedom School is 6/23-8/1
- Training for meal service after church on Sunday
- Events:
  - Ice cream social
  - Dental Cleanup
  - Weekly field trips
  - Garden is blooming, many radishes that are up for grabs, students will work there once / week and potentially use food from the garden in their meals
- Bailey Schuchmann is working with local businesses to sponsor a meal or activity. Ensure thank you's are posted on social media.
  - Bailey has secured at least 1 sponsored meal per week!

## Pastor's Report

- Suzanne Thompson has agreed to lead the Outreach Team, Andy is meeting with her to discuss.
- Vacation 7/7-7/20, working on getting coverage for the two Sundays.
- Beginning after vacation – theme will be Maplewood at the Movies.

- Watch a movie on Thursday night
- Discuss spiritual themes of the movie the following Sunday
- Theme – Feline Films
  - Flow
  - Life of Pi
  - The Incredible Journey
  - The Lion King

#### Other Business

- No response received from City of Maplewood re: Parsonage letter.

#### Next Steps

- All - Review job descriptions for approval next meeting
- Trustees - Accessibility Audit and priority list
- Bring in time off for approval
- Andy Bryan to connect with Larry Schmid re: drawings
- Upcoming meetings:
  - 6/29/25 at 12:15
  - 7/27/25 at 12:15
  - 8/24/25 at 12:15

#### Action Items

- Action item – request approval for up to \$4,700 to add a steam trap and the boiler repair.
  - Moved by David Viersse, second by Rona Chandler APPROVED

Motion to adjourn – David Viersse moved to adjourn, Cathy Todisman seconded;  
ADJOURNED