

St. Lucas UCC Church Council
March 27, 2018

This meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Steve Sobo, Council President

Attendees: Barb Beck, Mike Bohn, Russ Cottle, Mary Ellen Cox, Shannon Givens, Pastor Keith Herron, Julie Hubble, Bill Lowery, Bill Linnenbringer, Cynthia Rosefeld, Paul Simons, Steve Sobo, Kelly Archer (Intern)

Opening Prayer: Pastor Keith

Steve reviewed the Consent Agenda previously sent to Council members and available in the Council packet and called for any questions. Included in the consent agenda were the February Council Minutes, Financial Report February 2018, Committee reports to include AV Minutes, Building & Ground Minutes, General Endowment Funds, Search Committee Guidebook. Paul requested that the General Endowment Funds document and the Search Committee Guidebook be removed from the Consent Agenda as they were not appropriate for the consent agenda.

Steve asked if there were any objections to adopting the remainder of the items in the Consent Agenda. Hearing no objections, the items in the Consent Agenda were adopted as amended.

Pastor Keith's Report:

Pastor Keith provided an update report on staff transition.

- There is a need for a part time weekend custodian as our current custodian has been unable to work due to illness for past month. Until someone is hired to take the position the weekday personnel will split the week to cover the weekend. Other staff has been covering duties of locking and unlocking doors as needed.
- The Search Committee is up and running and is in the very beginning stages of working towards finding someone to take Pastor Carol's position. They have met once and will begin the process which is expected to take some time. Intern, Kelly Archer has been assisting in job duties 10-15 hours a week, including visits to shut ins, hospital visits, etc.
- Music Director, Heather Hamilton has been filling in since Lana's retirement. She will be able to assist in the music duties until the end of May. Currently in the process of organizing a search team through Church & Ministry to find a music director. Hope is to have someone hired by first half of summer. This is a part time position and is expected to be a local search.

Pastor Keith reported on the Small Groups: Groups started during season of Lent. This is a trial period and we are slowly seeing groups form. Pastoral staff will be looking for

congregational response to justify staff time that is going into it supporting the groups. Groups will continue past Easter to allow time to see if it will catch on. Asked that leaders of the church continue to encourage the concept of these groups. There are about 5 small groups that are meeting now. Would ideally like to see 10-12 regular groups.

Pastor Keith is solidifying details for Trip to Israel & Jordan. A brochure with details about the trip, costs, what it covers etc. will be coming soon.

Upcoming Senior Adult luncheon, over the age of 80,

Friendship Village Bible study has begun. Pastor Keith and Kelly are both working on and tag teaming the classes.

Pastor Eric Report:

Eric and Kelly presented information about a Program OWL (Our Whole Lives) OWL is a comprehensive sex education program with faith based component and is described in as an antidote to sexualized media messages, peer pressure, misinformation and prejudice. It provides accurate, age-appropriate information, puts sexuality in the context of values and personal responsibility, supports healthy decision making, and strengthens social skills. The program includes curriculum for K-Adults, Kelly is a trained facilitator and the training is coming to St. Louis in April. Discussed how the program would not only benefit the members of St. Lucas but also the members of community. Current vision would be to begin with class for Junior High and High School students. Would need at least 4 adults to be trained as classes are facilitated by one male and one female leader. Discussion led to consensus that program should be offered to community and contain the faith based portion of the curriculum if we proceed with the initiative.

- Motion: Barb Beck to proceed with finding volunteers for training. Cynthia Rosefeld second, the motion passed unanimously.

Eric reported that in light of recent shootings there has been discussion for possible need for Active Shooter Training. Training will be in collaboration with Tier One training and Sunset Hills PD, it will be offered for staff, ushers and regular greeters at Church.

- Motion: Bill Linnenbringer to proceed with scheduling the training. Russ Cottle second, the motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports :

- Social Justice Committee: Social Justice Committee presented idea of initiative for use of the Parsonage in a missionary way for the Church. In collaboration with Lindbergh School Social Worker, have found a family who is an intact family of Mother, Father and 8 children who have fallen on hard times and are in severe need of a home. They are currently living in a hotel room. Council is supportive of this initiative and Social Justice

Committee will continue work directly with Business Manager Pam and the Building & Grounds Committee as needed to work out details of possibly renting to this family.

KGCS Policy Review/Update: Discussed the need for restarting the KGCS Committee, need to revamp and begin training again. Barb Beck reported that Marty Schmidt has agreed to give 6 months to get the committee and program back up and running.

- The MCC Youth Choir that will be visiting in May has decided that they will stay in hotel with their parents since we could not accommodate sponsor homes due to violations to our current KGCS Policy. We will still do some event at the Church that weekend to welcome them.
- Mission Trip - Background Check Discussion: Discussion about a waiver for a specific member to allow them to attend Mission Trip. Motion: Shannon Givens, Second: Bill Linnenbringer, the motion passed unanimously.
- Semi Annual Meeting - May 6th
 - Agenda Prep - Paul Simons will share last meeting's agenda with Steve as a guide.
- Congregational Retreat - May 6th
 - Open Questions
 - Contemporary service /blended- Barb Coughlin & Janet Wallinger are heading up initiative to put a simple survey together for current attendees, they will be attempting to have a brief talk with those that attend regularly to see likes, dislikes, anything they would change, want to improve, etc.
 - Open & Affirming Voting in 2018/19- not ready for any type of vote at this time. Still working on gathering information from interviews with people.
 - Small Groups - will provide update/progress
 - Visions of Ministry - trends 2019
 - People like you
 - Intergenerational
 - On-Line
 - Small Groups - will provide update/progress
 - Esprit De Corps
- Group Discussion - Governance and Ministry
 - Governance Committee- looking for 3 people
 - Council relation with Committees
 - The Council's role is to set policy
 - Committees to implement policy
 - Questions about policy should be brought to the Council for resolution.
 - It's OK for the Council (not committees) to make exceptions to policy. No polity can foresee every contingency.
 - Exceptions should be in line with what the Council deems to be the desired direction
 - Care should be taken to avoid legal liability or any other form of personal injury.

- The Council should have a formal means of drafting and implementing policy.

Paul Simons reported that the Bylaws Revision Team (BLART) have had 3 meetings, and they decided that any changes to the Bylaws would be by consensus of the committee which consists of 12 past Council Presidents and the Current President Steve Sobo. The committee has not been successful in getting an consensus on any of the things discussed so far. Paul stating that priorities should be set to what is most important to change and that the Council should discuss what they would prefer to be at the top of the list. Paul suggested the dissolution of this Team and that the Council take over the revision of Bylaws and work on making any necessary or needed changes based on what they deem most important.

A motion was made by Mary Ellen Cox to adjourn the Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Bill Linnenbringer and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:17pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Dates to Remember

Mar 29	Maundy Thursday – Communion
Mar 30	Good Friday – Worship with Communion 12 pm
Mar 30	Good Friday – Traditional Worship 7 pm
Apr 1	Easter Service – Communion at 8, 9:30 and 11 am
Apr 24	Council Meeting

Respectfully Submitted,

Shannon Givens, Secretary