

ST. LUCAS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MAY 28, 2019

Attendees: Bill Linnenbringer, Randy Jurgensen, Cynthia Rosfeld, Russ Cottle, Dave Johnston, Jill Meyer, Bill Lowry, Don Lang, Mike Bohn, Rev. Eric Moeller and Rev. Kelly Archer.

Absent: Barb Beck, Debbie Ball, Gregg Heutel.

Guests: Michele Ottinger and Dan Coughlin.

Opening prayer by Russ Cottle.

Michele Ottinger informed us about one of our mission partners, Unleashing Potential (formerly Neighborhood House), would be having a Picnic for a Purpose on July 13 from 11 AM to 1 PM at Eden Seminary's Commons. St. Lucas will receive The Good Shepard Award for our support. We can have about 10 people from St. Lucas attend this event.

Consent Agenda: There were no objections to any of the consent documents included. Dave made a motion to accept them and Russ seconded the motion. They were accepted unanimously.

Semi-Annual meeting discussion item about ramp: Since the congregation approved the ramp at the Semi-Annual meeting, Bill Lowry will have the Building and Grounds committee get a price for the ramp and a separate price for a handrail next to the lectern. The Stewardship committee will talk to persons who have previously said that they would be contributors for the ramp. The handrail price will be sent to the Memorial Committee to see if they have money available for the handrail.

Dan Coughlin presented some of the thoughts, feelings and concerns of the youth families. They would like 2-3 council members to meet with them every other month, to ask what is on their minds, what we can solve, stay focused on their topics and provide updates to previously discussed or solved topics. They suggested several cultural changes including : listen to others, stop rejecting ideas, appreciate collaboration, prevent politics, understandable and meaningful sermons at their level, teach youth fundamentals of the Bible, family church service on Sunday at 4 or 5 PM, ONA should be brought to two votes (one for ONA and another for rainbow, flag or logo} since they feel they already are ONA but do not want rainbow. Cynthia, Jill and Eric will work with Dan to set up the next meeting.

Kelly's minister report: Attended semi-annual congregational meeting, held Bible study, did 7 member visits, attended Memorial Day festivities, and invited another uke group to our uke picnic on June 30.

Eric's minister report: Congratulations to Seth on the birth of his baby boy. John is doing well and should be back home this week. Raddicks will be available if /when John is not available. Eric is looking to get a supply minister while he is out. Next month he will provide information about what UCC conference work he is also performing.

Current business: Kelly's call agreement is finalized and will be signed soon. Kelly's ordination is planned for July 7, at Peace UCC. The Installation Ceremony date at St. Lucas is to be determined.

Review of May 1 meeting: Members got to present their ideas and thoughts. Council needs to keep track of on-going events and issues. We need to listen to all and have formal discussion sessions for all. Council has not received a list of members who want to leave UCC (we were to be given the list when the list was finalized).

Semi-Annual Meeting: Council needs to follow-up about what other churches offer that attract people. Preschool Preliminary budget was not submitted, and Bill Lowry will discuss this with preschool. Cynthia and Dave were elected to the council until the end of the year. The ramp was voted on by the congregation and approved.

Council Communications: Council email is setup and we need to determine a process for responding to received emails.

Rev. Mize: We received his May 23 email. He wants St. Lucas to have financial stability through the end of 2020. He will retire from Glenview at the end of 2019, and would like to meet with council during the June 10-12 time period.

Council will have another meeting on Wednesday, June 5 to prepare for meeting with Rev. Mize.

Some questions to discuss: Can we address the finances? Can we handle a senior minister delay until next year? If not would we even be able to get any other interim minister?

Can we increase Revenue? May financials will be received in a couple of days and the first half of May had increased revenue. Next week, Stewardship will meet and hear about a Stewardship Human Capital Campaign. Maybe we should present increased giving amounts as a matching fund campaign to the congregation?

Can expenses be reviewed and acted on? One staff member might be willing to reduce hours. Council will communicate with Church and Ministry about hour reduction and discuss with staff member. Dave made a motion and Randy seconded the motion, that Bill Linnenbringer, Randy and Eric discuss with staff member if that staff member is still willing to reduce hours as a way to help the church's financial position. There were 4 yes votes and 2 no votes.

NEW BUSINESS:

Governance meeting will be June 18. The time is to be determined.

Plan for handling congregational discussion items: We should hold open forum meetings during the summer with UCC office/Minister present to answer congregational questions. Randy made a motion to hold the open forums starting in July, and Dave seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and passed.

Election of new officers: Due to health concerns, Bill is resigning as council president immediately and will send a written resignation letter. He will continue as a council member. The council thanked Bill for his service as president. Cynthia nominated Randy as president and Dave seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, and Randy was elected as president of Council.

As President, Randy opened the floor for vice president nominations. Jill nominated Dave as Vice President and Cynthia seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, and Dave was elected vice President of Council.

Don motioned to adjourn the meeting and Dave seconded the motion.

As is St. Louis tradition, the meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Barb Beck, Recording Secretary
Thank you to Mike Bohn, and Russ Cottle for taking notes in my absence.