

ST LUCAS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING – JANUARY

01/25/2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Joy Dressel, Paul Simons, Ken Hamilton, Kathy Herron, Jack Laudenslager, Marty Schmidt, Carol Stelmach, Donovan Larson, Jenny Bell, Violet Brooks, Marsha Fey, Julie Burr, Dave Johnston and Juanita Wagner.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jeff Wagener

STAFF PRESENT: Rev. Vicki Hampton and Rev. Dr. Carole Barner

The January 25, 2022 Council meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Council President, Joy Dressel.

OPENING PRAYER: Joy Dressel led us with an opening prayer.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Pastor Vicki noted that Staff Reports and the Consent Agenda should not be under the same...
- Cemetery Report and Pastor Reports were removed from Consent Agenda.
- The remainder of the consent agenda was approved upon a motion made by Paul Simons and seconded by Marty Schmidt.
- Cemetery Report (Nov): Schmidt questioned the notation of mounting a bell in the cemetery. Stelmach noted that the church has two bells that were used in the past. A request by the DeBasio family to mount one in the cemetery was denied by the Cemetery Board.
- Cemetery Report (Dec): Herron questioned the December report which stated “accounts that are still not accurately reflected in the financial statements including not allocating a portion of office salaries, to the Cemetery and of the Sexton’s house rent paid to the cemetery. Larson noted that ten years ago, he remembered that the partial funding and partial reimbursement was standard procedure. This is the case still today.
- Marty Schmidt moved for approval of the November and December Cemetery Report. Dave Johnston seconded the motion. Approval of the November and December Cemetery Report passed.

STAFF REPORT: (Pastor Carole’s Report Sent to the Committee before the Meeting)

There were no questions or comments regarding Pastor Vicki's report. Pastor Carole noted Lenten season plans and vacation bible school plans are in the making.

OLD BUSINESS:

Transition Team

- The following members have agreed to serve on the Transition Team: Dan Herron, Janet Smith, Steve Sobo, Karen Litzsinger, Chris Blanke, and Jeff Heutel.
- Marty Schmidt moved for the approval of these volunteers to serve on the Transition Team. Kathy Herron seconded said Motion. The motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Authorization to Transact Financial Activities: There was a resolution introduced by Joy Dressel to authorize Donovan Larson and Carol Stelmach to transact church financial activities. Dave Johnston moved to approve the grant of authorization and Jenny Bell seconded said motion. The motion passed.

Easter Worship Schedule: Services will be held on Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday (recorded), Good Friday, Easter (2). Wednesdays during lent will focus on UCC theological topics during hybrid learning/worship. The church's Easter egg hunt will be organized by Marsha Fey and likely occur on the Saturday one week prior to Easter.

Heritage Award by SW Area Chamber of Commerce: Our church was awarded the Heritage Award based on our many years we have contributed to the community. Two congregants will represent the church, and a church history will be submitted by 02-04-22.

Signup Genius for Opening Prayer for Council meetings: President Joy Dressel asked that Council members sign the sign-up sheet to volunteer for prayer to open the Council Meetings.

Sign-up Sheet for Offertory Collections: Dressel reminded members to sign up for Offertory Collections, and noted the Council person assigned to handle offerings should also oversee the sign-in sheet in the Narthex.

Suggestions from the December Quarterly Council Conversations with the Congregation:

- Publicizing Mission Efforts? Perhaps all mission committees regularly provide eBlast material to Megan. Post announcements and meeting notices in weekly bulletin to provide a take-home reminder.
- Use of Building? Allowable for activities that include a church member. Some exceptions-see Pastor. Consider new floor, possible damage to ceiling. Activities from community unrelated to church—not yet. Coordinate all use with Debbie.
- New Member Information? ~~Cathy Viehman compiles packets.~~ We should provide a list of committees' activities and a contact name / number.

- Links to Individual Meetings? Bad idea.
- Technology Support to Congregants? Check with Debbie / Megan. Is there a need? Recommend use of tablet “grandpads” from library for simplified use. E-Blast could ask question re need
- Market to Preschool Parents? Look for opportunities—preschool pageant on a Sunday brings families. Maybe hand out a short history of the church / community to parents at enrollment.
- Update Membership Lists? Would help to determine who has clearly left. Use a new church directory as such a tool. Some congregants who think they are still members but are not listed on the membership list, may “refresh”?
- Additional opportunities for fellowship? Pancake dinner on Saturday before Shrove Tuesday. Coffee perhaps in Narthex to pick up on the way into church; after March 1, maybe coffee hour
- Next council/congregation discussion scheduled for 03-13-22.

Motion to Adjourn. Carol Stelmach moved to Adjourn. Kathy Herron seconded said motion. The motion passed and meeting was adjourned.

Meeting ended with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Wagener
Council Secretary