

Congregational Council Meeting

November 27, 2018

Luther Library, 7:00 P.M.

Members Present

Ernie Atkins, President
Jason Green, Vice President
Rita Foringer
Pastor Phyllis Milton
Todd Pfahl
Dan Singer
Aaron Sutherland
Garth Wallis

Michael Canny, Congregational Secretary
Dawn Lomax, Treasurer

Members Excused

Allison Phillips
Barry Zorumski

Staff Present

Rick Graves, Administrator

Call To Order

Ernie called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Opening Devotions

A reading from Psalm 25, provided by Pastor Milton

Old Business

Review of October Minutes:

Motion made and carried to approve as presented

Financial Reports Review: (Rick Graves)

Regular offerings were up significantly for October. Although we are still below plan for the fiscal year, October did help close the gap. Expenses remain largely on plan. Also working on several lump sum gifts—the change in tax law has altered this procedure and it can be complicated. Towne Bank has been assisting us in this regard. Rick will

prepare an article for the next Newsletter giving some guidelines for those who wish to support the Church in this manner.

Motion was made by Rita and seconded by Garth to accept reports as presented.
Motion carried.

Treasurer Comments:

No additional comments

Sunrise House Update:

Nothing to report

Nave Doors Update:

Pastor Milton will be contacting additional vendors—nothing to report at this time.

Stewardship: (Garth Wallis)

So far, 83 pledge cards have been received. Follow up procedures have not yet been initiated. Consensus was that the holiday season is not an appropriate time for this. Rick will analyze available information and prepare a report for the Committee to use for these efforts.

The Mansion and Harris Creek Properties: (Rick)

Nothing new to report. No response from letter to ductwork contractor at the Mansion.

Shepherd/Visitation:

Ernie reminded all Council members to maintain contact with their respective groups.

New Business:

Security Considerations

Placed on agenda at request of some congregation members. Will be discussed in January.

GLDC Organization Chart Review

Ernie passed out the updated flow chart and reviewed it.

School and Church Audit

Garth has received several names of possible Committee members—hopes to have membership of Committee confirmed by January Council Meeting for a 2019 audit to be conducted. The members will need to have appropriate financial training/background.

Border fence between Rite Aid and Fox Hill Campus

Mike Canny brought up the fact that this fence has just about completely fallen down. We no longer have the barrier between the school and the store; in addition, it looks terrible. Rick and Ernie stated that they have both approached Rite Aid management about the situation...it is not our fence. The building is not actually owned by Rite Aid; the company that owns it is in Maryland, and unresponsive. All agreed that their maintenance of the property has been very poor. Rick will continue his efforts in this regard.

Habitat for Humanity Construction Event

Mike Riley would like to have Gloria Dei host a construction event on our parking lot on April 13, 2019. Nothing else is scheduled for this date at this time. Floors and walls would be constructed here, then moved to the site of the house the same day. The goal is to increase church participation. The area used would be where activities like the Pig Picking and Fish Fry are held, as there will be a need for power and this area is already equipped for that. Consensus was that this would be fine. Pastor Milton cautioned that adjustments might be necessary if a funeral came up.

Shepherding Reports

Worship: (Jason Green)

Service on 11/18 had very high attendance, with all the children's groups singing-- some people had to be seated in the balcony. It went well but he asked if it would possible for him to get some advance notice of this type of service in the future, so he could have an additional usher and more bulletins could be printed. (We ran out) Pastor Milton stated that there was always an "unknown" variable here, as all of the children do not always show up.

Handicapped Lot for Sundays has been very well received.

Rita mentioned that some people thought that the organ drowned out the handbells last Sunday. Pastor Milton will mention this in the next Worship meeting. It was also brought up that the trumpet assembly portion at the rear of the church needs dusting. Mike Canny said he had been informed by Pastor Bang previously that this could only be done as a part of the tuning/maintenance process of the organ. Though it is large and appears formidable, it is actually very delicate and one-of-a-kind (constructed specifically for our nave.)

Christian Education/Youth:

Nothing to report

Care & Bible Studies: (Rita and Dan)

Rita: Daybreakers will be changing their time to 9:00 A.M. The move to the church and the “bring your own breakfast” idea have been well received. Reverie Rowlett conducted Bible Study this morning; Paula Jones is ill.

Dan: There is a problem with the churches for weekends 2 and 3 not showing up for the Bag Lunch program. (Gloria Dei does week 1 of the month) This has led to decreased turnout, and many of the sandwiches we make end up wasted. Dan will contact H.E.L.P., which oversees the program, to try to resolve the issue.

Community Fellowship: (Aaron)

Going well...Chrismon tree going up tonight, Hanging of the Greens set for Friday.

Mike Riley would like to do the “Glorioso’s” dinners on February 9, 2019.

School Operations:

Christmas Programs are starting next week. End of year accounting will be ready for the January Council meeting. Two-year-old class is now full. The new Building and Grounds Manager, John Lowe, is receiving compliments from all over. Ernie asked if he could be invited to our January Council Meeting so we could all meet him.

Committees and Elder Care: (Garth)

Nothing to add

Pastoral Perspectives: (Pastor Milton)

Six months into the transition period, Pastor Milton feels that everything is going well. She will be initiating “Focus Groups” once a month, starting in January, to get feedback from the Congregation on specific topics.

Several Council members complimented her and stated that feedback from the congregation was also favorable regarding her efforts.

Adjournment:

8: 10 P.M.

Next Meeting:

January 22, 2019, at 7:00 P.M. **(No December Meeting)**