

Hope United Church of Christ

Council Meeting Minutes – February, 2017

DATE: February 16, 2017

ATTENDEES: Pastor Sarah, Andy, Tiffany, Sue, Erik, Emma, Bethel, Robbie, Dan, Alice

ABSENTEES: Randee, Amy, Jennifer

GENERAL NOTES:

I. OPENING PRAYER (Sarah)

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Andy)

Dan moved, Tiffany seconded. Minutes approved.

III. FINANCIAL REPORT (Alice)

We reviewed the financial overview that Alice provided. In addition, Alice broke down the Lowe Memorial Gift regarding what had been allocated to capital improvement and what was remaining as unallocated.

There was continued discussion about having Gina look at reclassifying certain income and expense accounts so that they would flow into the correct subtotal lines. Andy suggested if Gina wasn't sure how to do this, that we could seek out telephone support from Church Windows to assist her. Alice is going to follow up on this.

IV. PASTOR'S REPORT (Sarah)

Sarah noted that for the first time in quite a few years, Ash Wednesday service on March 1 would be held in the sanctuary to facilitate use of worship elements such as lighting and the organ. She was also excited to report that on March 14, Hope would be the host of an ecumenical Taizé service, sponsored by the Archdiocese of St. Louis, in preparation for the Taizé Community's nationwide "Pilgrimage of Trust" to be held in St. Louis Memorial Day Weekend. Sarah reported that the Neighborhood Houses Freedom School summer program would take place at Hope from June 19 –July 28 from 9-3. Lastly she updated Council on the status of securing pastoral coverage during her upcoming vacation and sabbatical. For March 19, Jody C., a recent Eden grad, will be preaching and Martha R. will be on call for pastoral care during that entire week. Regarding the pastor's summer sabbatical, a sub-committee consisting of Andy, Tiffany, Bethel and Robbie was formed to interview potential candidates that may be identified and recommended by Sarah.

Josh's upcoming graduation and deployment with the Army Reserves was discussed and it was generally agreed that the congregation would want to celebrate and support him. Emma will take this back to Pastoral and Staff relations for planning.

V. OLD BUSINESS

St. Louis Association Spring Meeting

Coordination for the Spring St. Louis Association Meeting on May 4, 5 – 9 p.m. was discussed. 120 people are expected. Andy suggested asking Special Events to help set up for the dinner, which is catered. Tiffany will take this item back to them. Greeters are still needed.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Chapel Organ

The letter sent by Jim T. to Council, regarding the unusable state of the chapel organ and possible remedies including the donation of the church organ presently in his home, was discussed. The Council was extremely appreciative of both the information and the offer to donate his organ and agreed that the matter should be held in consideration pending outcome of the Chapel Renovation process.

2nd Service Ushers

Robbie forwarded the request from Worship Committee that they sign up for a month to usher. Robbie agreed to coordinate if Council would agree. Council decided to volunteer for April.

Eden Intern Spring Salary Allotment

Sarah recommended that the money budgeted for the student pastor for the spring, which will not be utilized, be reallocated to Chapel Renovation. Erik moved, Dan seconded, Council approved.

VII. OPEN DISCUSSION (Bethel)

Bethel referenced the slow pace of life celebrated in television shows such as "The Waltons" and asked for reflections about the fast pace of life these days and what we thought we were missing.

VIII. MINISTRY TEAMS (ACTION ITEMS ONLY)

Building and Property (Dan)

Dan reported that B&P is recommending that capital improvements funding be made a bigger part of the next stewardship campaign. This should be taken up by the Stewardship Ministry team. Parlor renovation done by Ethan is scheduled for (approximately) the week of March 20-27 and expected to be complete before Easter.

Evangelism and Communication (Amy)

Andy discussed work on t-shirts. He also reported that Hope was going to be the sponsor of 2 or 3 movie nights in Francis Park and mentioned there would be the need for a few people to staff a booth where we will be giving out tickets for free popcorn.

Finance and Insurance (Alice)

No Verbal Report

Hospitality (Robbie)

No Verbal Report

Outreach (Sue)

No Verbal Report

Pastoral and Staff Relations (Emma)

Emma reported that the committee met with Jill S. and Phil B.

Special Events (Tiffany)

Noted Spaghetti dinner is coming up March 4th.

Stewardship (Jennifer)

No Verbal Report

Worship (Robbie)

Robbie reported on plans for Ash Wednesday and ideas for enhancing worship during Lent based on the Lenten scriptures.

Youth and Children's Ministries (Bethel)

No Verbal Report

Chapel Renovation Team (Erik/Sarah)

Sarah reported that next Sunday they would have their last meeting with Joyelle, their facilitator.

IX. CLOSING PRAYER (Sarah)

Respectfully submitted,
Robbie