

Christ United Methodist Church
Council meeting
April 15, 2019

Present: Pastor Kurt Freeman, Scott Gillespie, Christi Lower, Jack Dwiggin, Lisa Mayer, Claude Sawyer, Pastor Stephanie Hanslow, Joan Banning, Hollie Kessler, Gary Boardman, Rita Bulington, Bradley Blanchard, Marlen Slagel, Misty Hintz and Glenn Pearson

Rita Bulington opened with prayer.

Council Chairperson Scott Gillespie opened the meeting and asked about the stories that were being collected. Three that had been collected were published in the latest Towerlight. Discussion ensued about programs/activities that happen at CUMC and if those should be included. Scott suggested that we make the congregation aware that we are collecting these stories and others might contribute. Kurt suggested that we consider thinking of capturing the moments as they happen in the lives of our people, and using those in video form to share with the congregation via our website and/or screens in the sanctuary. He will consider a You Tube account to do this. To promote this with the congregation, Scott suggested we start with our own stories and then ask others "What's your story?". In the meantime, stories that are given spontaneously will be shared when received.

Minutes of the February meeting had been included in the email about the meeting. Ryan Traeger's name was incorrect in the February minutes and was corrected by Hollie prior to sending them. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Rita Bulington, seconded by Jack Dwiggin and the motion passed.

In the absence of Carol Yarian, Scott reported for missions, health and caring. A class of new members (11 persons, 6 baptisms) will be joining the church on April 28, 2019. The group going to Henderson Settlement has 12 persons so far and more are possible. Aroma donations are down but finances are OK. Jack was asked about hospitality and he commented that volunteers are being sought to assist with parking for Easter Sunday.

Hal Acree, Staff Parish Chair, had emailed a proposed Credit Card Policy to be considered by the Council. The proposal stated that the credit cards held by staff members were to be used for Church business only, with no personal usage, and listed examples. Personal expenses inadvertently placed on the church card required reimbursement to the church. Gary asked Hollie if receipts coming to her were timely. She indicated that generally they were within the 5 day timeline in the policy and she could check the account online to anticipate getting those receipts. Some changes will be coming soon when the Child Care, Preschool and Summer Camp are on a school calendar year, and their separate accounts will be combined into one budget and one bank account. A question regarding limits on the cards was asked and Hollie responded that there are daily and monthly limits on each card. Regarding who is authorized to issue a card, she stated that Staff Parish would authorize her to issue any new cards. Council voted unanimously to approve the Credit Card Policy.

Chairperson Misty Hintz reported for the Trustees. Four different contracts for use of the building have been developed over time and are being combined to create a single contract for all usage of the facility so that the usage fee is consistent. She indicated that the "in memory" brick patio at the office entrance was going to receive attention. The trustees have checked into businesses who print these bricks and one has been found that will hold the bricks for us and print them when needed to add to the patio, perhaps quarterly. A maintenance schedule has been

developed which will include the fire extinguishers that Glenn Pearson is certified to check. She said that the Youth would like to have a gaga pit. Kits are available for this and money is available from the Gifts and Memorials fund. Misty will have plans for this project as well as a basketball hoop (also requested) at the next Council meeting.

No one was present from the Child Care Board. Pastor Kurt indicated that the board had had a training meeting recently. A handbook is being prepared for the new board. He also said that adjusting the Board make-up is being considered, as adding a Staff Parish member and someone from Trustees would help in facilitating Board decisions and actions.

Bradly Blanchard reported for the Youth. He said that attendance has been good with about 30 youth at the last event. The group is rotating among the "167" churches for meeting space. They are also rotating the programs at each meeting with missions still to come.

Pastor Stephanie reported that the MAN-up program will be partnering with the Bauer Center and using their facility. Jack asked if CFE was designated as a separate church by the Conference and thus would have a pastoral and a lay delegate at the Conference. Pastor Kurt is checking with the Conference office regarding this.

Pastor Kurt stated that he likes the potential he sees in Christ Church and is excited about what is happening. He has been visiting some homebound individuals who have been very appreciative of his visits. He commented that we know our mission, to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, but we seem to lack a vision for how we accomplish that. He shared a book which he would recommend reading, *Visioneering* by Andy Stanley. A prayer team would be asked to pray for the task of developing our vision within the next 5 years. More people will be included in this process.

Gary Boardman shared good news from Finance. The funds to complete the new floor in the multi-purpose room are only \$7000 short and he is giving approval for the Trustees to get final bids, being certain that the remaining needed funds will come in. Glenn Howell is being invited to work with our congregation on a year round and planned giving plan. This would be a continuing program rather than the short term Stewardship program we have done each year.

Rita asked if we had any information regarding a sense of whether bringing the child care children to participate in the services has resulted in parents attending besides that Sunday. Pastor Kurt commented that it takes at least 100 contacts to make that happen. Consistency of the church showing interest in the families and intentionally, over time, showing what the church is for, is what brings results.

Pastor Kurt then asked each person to share one thing they would celebrate about their current experience in the church today. He then closed the meeting by commenting that we have a great church with great lay persons.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Banning