

Consistory Minutes of December 12, 2022

Present: Mark Chapinski, Judy Peters, Lisa Gargas, Kim Harsanje, Cindy Huss, Denise Melter, Andy Dembowski, Thadd Huss, Jeff Mihalko, Bob Banky, Darrell Ray, Mike Sondergeld, Rebecca Booth (via Zoom) Staff present: Pastor Dawn Balduf, Jane Bowes, Administrative Assistant, and Marsha Mihalko, Treasurer. Absent: Sheila Tucker

The meeting was called to order by Mark Chapinski at 6:30 p.m. Kim Harsanje read Mother Theresa's poem, "Do It Anyway," followed by a devotion from The Daily Bread.

Minutes were reviewed, and amended the sentences as follows: 1) The sentence regarding paying Pastor Dawn was amended to read: She would like to have some of her pay be allocated as housing allowance through February. 2) The sentence regarding Nurturing Center was amended to read: Judy Peters and Bobbi Kehlmeier have started a group to get nurturing center graduates to come back to the church for a Story Hour once a month on Wednesday evenings, 6-7, for a story, music, craft and snack. A motion was made by Bob Banky to approve the amended minutes, seconded by Denise Melter, and passed unanimously.

Pastor Dawn Balduf reviewed the Pastor's Report, a copy of which is attached.

Marsha Mihalko reviewed the Treasurer's Report, a copy of which is attached. Darrell Ray made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and pay the bills and was seconded by Thadd Huss and passed unanimously.

The Nurturing Center Report was reviewed and approved. Note: \$135,000 grant received has bolstered the Nurturing Center's finances nicely.

This Sunday, December 18th there will be a fellowship luncheon after the service with the Sunday School Program, sponsored by The Nurturing Center.

Trustees Check In: It was noted: 1) the water bill is back up to 12,000 gallons usage. 2) the bill for the parking lot repair was \$700 more than the quote, (after the meeting quote and payment were ok, per Mike Sondergeld) 3) J & L Mechanical has not been back to do the bearing repair. Mike Sondergeld will follow up on these 3 items. It was brought up that the parsonage needs to be checked and winterized.

Deacons Check In: Nothing new, Deacons are happy 😊

Elders Check In: Kim Harsanje brought up questions regarding the video not playing correctly in Sunday's service. It is felt it is a random glitch in the interaction of the software, possibly caused by the old cameras with low resolution. But it only occurs infrequently.

Christian Ed Update:

Kim Harsanje brought up that she felt the acolytes need training. Denise Melter responded that Glenn has been working with the acolytes.

This Sunday's Sunday School Christmas Program will be a shorter version. Low attendance in Sunday School. Some brainstorming of ideas were presented and the Christian Education team will meet in January to discuss some ideas. Attendance has been 15-20 kids, has not rebounded since Covid. A thought was presented for discussion regarding perhaps having Sunday School the same time as church service? Or perhaps on Wednesday evenings along with an adult bible study. Discussion will continue at Christian Ed meeting.

Evangelism Update: Kindergarten Adventures has started in an effort to draw in children and families from the Nurturing Center. Kindergarten Adventures meets once a month with kindergarten age children. It has been going well, with 12 in attendance for the first meeting.

Search Team Update: Mark Chapinski has sent Jane, the office assistant; a letter to be distributed with Friday's Mail Chimp update regarding the pastor search. It states if you have met a pastor that you felt comfortable with or has had a good impact to please let the search team or the church office know and we will follow up in recruiting if possible. The Search Team will be proactive and has goals set. By the beginning on January they hope to have the first church profile letter sent out, and the beginning of February another letter, and hopefully some resumes by March.

Old Business: Kim Harsanje asked if we are still giving bibles out at the Nurturing Center and suggested an excel spreadsheet be kept of who receives the bibles, so duplicates are not given. It was discussed that a nice ceremony done when gifting the bibles would be good.

At this point in the meeting Thadd Huss left at approximately 7:15 p.m. to attend another commitment.

New Business: 1) It was decided not to do a press release regarding Pastor Dawn as the interim pastor. 2) Regarding the salary and housing allowance for the year, beginning in January 2023 for Pastor Dawn it was agreed to use \$4000.00 as a housing allowance as a yearly rate. 3) Coverage for the Sundays Pastor Dawn will be off. For the January 22, 2023, Dan Busch of the UCC will do the scripture and sermon and will need order of service conducted. 4) Food and Fellowship will continue the third Sunday of each month. January will be done by the Worship Team and February will be done by the Evangelism Team. 5) Connie Roe offered to conduct a service in February and offered to do something regarding missions. February and March pastor coverage will be discussed at the next Worship meeting. 6) Pastor Dawn is planning scheduled office time in January of 3-4 hours a week, and to also be available by appointment. Pastor Dawn would also like to include regular visitations. 7) This Saturday, December 17th, the Dartball Team will use the church kitchen and will be baking and decorating cookies for our church shut ins. 8) The End of Year Reports are due to Jane in the church office by January 5th. 9) The Annual Meeting Date will be January 29, 2023. Discussion followed regarding whether to do a Power Point Presentation in the church on the Annual Meeting January 29th and to have hard copies available, along with emailing scanned copies. Also at the Annual Meeting will be election of positions, specifically Vice President, Trustee, Elder, and Deacon. 10) An agreement was made with the Nurturing Center, to increase The Nurturing Center portion of utilities from 25% to 50%. 11) A copy of the Proposed 2023 Budget was handed out and reviewed by Marsha Mihalko, Treasurer. It was brought up that there are some variables, a) what to do with the parsonage, b) need a campaign to get a roof for the church. c) the Finance Committee will meet in January to figure a salary range for the perspective Pastor. It was asked if there were any recommendations or changes to the Proposed 2023 Budget, remembering that we must put a roof on. There were suggestions and some discussion for fundraisers for which all proceeds would go towards a roof; and will be discussed further in February. Mike Sondergeld made the motion to accept the Finance Budget for 2023, which was seconded by Kim Harsanje and passed unanimously. 12) Bob Banky made a motion that since there will be no raises for staff this year, in lieu of raises, to give a \$75 gift card or a restaurant gift card. Discussion followed and it was suggested to also pay for their lunch for the planned staff luncheon coming up Friday. Cindy Huss amended the motion to do both, to cover lunch and a \$75 gift card. It was seconded by Judy Peters and passed unanimously. 13) Darrell Ray brought up the possibility of a concert fundraiser and he will talk to Adam Paddock regarding whether he might be interested in doing a free Youth Christian concert.

The motion was made by Denise Melter to adjourn and seconded by Darrell Ray. The Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m. Submitted by Jane Bowes, Administrative Assistant for Sheila Miller, Secretary