

Consistory Minutes 2/13/23

Present: Judy Peters, Denise Melter, Thadd Huss, Darrell Ray, Mike Sondergeld, Mark Chapinski, Laura Miller, Lisa Gargas, Sheila Tucker, Rebecca Booth, Andy Dembowski

Absent: Jeff and Marsha Mihalko, Maeley Alexander, Kim Harsanje, Carrie Sheldon

Staff: Rev. Dawn Balduf, Julie Humbarger

Meeting Started: 6:33 pm

Devotions and Prayer: submitted by Jeff Mihalko, read by Judy Peters

First Order of Business: Appointment of Thadd Huss as a deacon for one more year. Laura Miller made the motion, Denise Melter seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Lisa Gargas to become the chair of the Elders and Worship Committee as these two groups work so closely together.

Minutes: January minutes were presented and reviewed. Edits to be made: *In Pastoral Search Committee section rephrase "in accordance with UCC guidelines" to "under the guidelines off UCC."* Motion to approve made by Darrell Ray, seconded by Mark Chapinski. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Request to include the 3-year comparison of budget details in future reports. Sheila Tucker moved to accept the report and to pay the monthly bills. Denise Melter seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report: Pastor's report included in consistory packet. Pastor Dawn reported that after speaking with co-confirmation leader, Glenn Melter, a decision was made to eliminate the student papers this year. Instead, the confirmands will write, direct and lead a Sunday Service on April 30, 2023.

Other items discussed:

- Lent starts next week - Ash Wednesday is Feb. 22. Service will be held in the chapel at 6:30 pm.
- Season of Hope devotionals have been ordered for seniors. They will be passed out to Elderlife and given to the Call to Care team for sharing with members as well as being distributed to those receiving pastoral visits. 75 booklets were ordered.
- There is a leadership summit for Genoa Clergy at ARC on March 31 (hours: 9am-5pm) and April 1 (hours 9 am-Noon). Cost is \$35 and includes lunch. If you want to attend contact Pastor Dawn or the church office
- Youth event on 2/12 went well, 20 kids attended.

- A reminder to all members to welcome strangers who visit on Sundays. Simply introduce yourself, welcome them to service. We only have one chance to make a good impression. The best one we can make is helping visitors feel welcome.

Trustees Report:

- J&L Mechanical to fix broken/frozen pipe
- Pitching toys in Cry Room due to mouse droppings being found in the area. The Nurturing Center will share toys on a rotational basis with the Church.
- Water fountain in Nurturing Center needs to be turned off as it leaks profusely.
- Lightbulb in the front of entrance needs to be replaced
- Parsonage: Dehumidifier is running nonstop. Sump Pump wasn't working and has now been fixed.
- Leaks in gym and chapel area are due to high winds, hesitant to walk on the flat roof given its need of repair.
- Freezer is working again. Keep temperature on 3-4.

Elder's Report: Moved a few communion dates to accommodate Pastor Dawn's schedule. Next date is March 12 (versus March 5) make sure we publicize this on the website and in our blasts and newsletter. The weekly Wednesday night devotional group needs a temporary leader the week of March 5 lest it be postponed.

Deacons Report: Glad to have Thad Huss back!

Worship Team Report: No report presented.

Christian Education Report:

- Committee is running the concession stand during the Dartball Tournament on 3/11. Concessions start at 8:30 and will last until 1 pm. Hot dogs, pizza will be among the delectables sold. Nurturing Center is providing the concessions.
- March 19 Soup-A-Rama after church. People will vote on best soup with their money. Partnering up with Evangelism Committee to offer a Family Feud game during Soup-A-Rama. Need sign ups for teams as well as soup makers. Buzzer system is needed - Denise will provide. Sheila Tucker providing FF games. Rebecca Booth to emcee the event.
- Nurturing Center paid for food, cups and games what were played at the youth event that Angie Balduf hosted on 2/12.
- Sunday School rooms are being cleaned out and organized.

- Positive comments received on having Sunday School during church. Grades Pre-K thru Grade 4 are taken back to classrooms for age-appropriate activities. Older students are being lead by Judy Peters in the chapel or choir room. The goal is to keep Sunday School running throughout the summer. More volunteers are needed to help with teaching.
- Maeley Alexander will lead the Easter Egg Hunt this year. Offering prizes in addition to candy inside the eggs. The hope is to decrease the amount of litter in the area. Children will visit a centralized prize table for their reward. Prizes will be age appropriate and the labor involved in stuffing eggs will be minimized.
- An emergency medical form needs to be created and shared with parents who are dropping off their children for Sunday school. New form will be based on Vbs's info form.
- Need a chair for VBS. Sign ups for helping is underway. VBS will end with an ice cream social, not a carnival this year.

Evangelism Report:

- Page one of two was presented in Consistory packet.
- The Ark visit moved to August 1-4 (Tues-Thurs.) Cost remains the same. Marketing to start immediately.
- St. John's Carnival moved to July, maybe later. Darrell Ray is contacting the gentleman who wanted to donate the games to the church to check on availability. We will need a sizable space to store the games if we receive ownership. Perhaps store in parsonage garage?
- Also discussed the potential of having Adam Paddock in concert at the Carnival, or during another event held in late in the summer. Perhaps this is part of the Raise the Roof fundraiser that we'd like to launch. Darrell Ray is gathering costs.
- Aug 27 fellowship lunch will be centered around waffles as National Waffle Day is Aug. 24.
- Discussed other potential events: Scarecrows of Genoa - a village wide event in conjunction with the Genoa Chamber and Village. As well as a hosting a Dinner to Go Fundraiser and Wrath/Grave Blanket Fundraiser.

Missions Report:

- Dave Miller is presenting a Health Fair on May 6 from 9-Noon. Need to publicize heavily as the last fair had a very low attendance.
- St. John's is part of the state's Adopt-a-Highway program. The area is on St. Rte 51 between the village limits and Billman Road. Church volunteers will clear the area 4 times a year beginning April 29. Volunteers must be 12 years+ and older.

- A Cimco de Mayo fundraiser will be held on May 5, featuring homemade tamales, enchiladas and tacos. Funds will benefit the mission trip to Biloxi this fall.

Finance Report:

- No report presented, but the team is looking to host major fundraiser to help with payment of a the roof above the Nurturing Center and Gym.

Called to Care Team Update:

- Launching a Touch of Kindness program which pairs Church members with senior friends who may be grieving, learning to live alone or dealing with health issues. Volunteers needed to share 30-60 minutes of their time each week.

Pastoral Search Team Update:

- Mark Chapinski passed out results of the Survey taken at the annual meeting. Results will serve as a basis for the type of minister we are seeking.
- Letter presenting the job presented to consistory. This letter will be part of the ads we place on various on-line job searching boards like Indeed. Posting will happen this week.

Nurturing Center Update: no report submitted.

Elderlife Update: No report. Bruce Auer has been invited to attend the next meeting in order to bring us up to speed on happenings in Elderlife.

Old Business

- March 5 and April 16 pastors will be Rev. Ferguson and Rev. Lowell Peters
- Echo Deadline: Feb. 20
- Julie Humbarger welcomed as part-time office manager.
- Nurturing Center Kitchen Flooring - needs to be replaced. Trustees charged with looking into what needs to be done and the costs for replacing and stabilizing the floor.
- Sanctuary camera issue has resolved itself.
- Laura Miller asked where the BP cuffs she and Dave donated to the church were. They need to be placed in a centralized location.
- New events policy to be presented in March.

New Business

- Appointments of team members by Consistory Vice President and President were approved. (Denise Melter motion and Darrell Ray seconded the President's list; Laura Miller motioned and Denise Melter seconded Vice President's appointments.)
- Proposal to designate monthly loose change and offerings (generally \$125-\$150 per month) was tabled until Q2 of this year. It was decided that those monies be used to help us bring the books back into the positive first.
- Parsonage Proposal submitted by the Hoffmans was discussed in full. Sheila Tucker has been authorized to put together a short-term lease protecting the Church as well as nailing down the Hoffmans' donation of painting and cleaning the kitchen and carpeting in lieu of full rental payment. The Hoffmans will pay the utilities, insurance and taxes on the parsonage (approx. \$325) while they search for a new place to live. Thadd Huss made the motion; Mark Chapinski seconded. Motion passed.
- A new Johnson Controls maintenance agreement comes up March 13.
- Motion made to approve Pastor Dawn's membership to the Genoa Chamber of Commerce by Denise Melter, seconded by Mike Sondergeld. Motion passed.
- We will be establishing a church work day to clean and spiff up the church sometime in March/April. Lunch will be provided. A list of things to do is being created.
- Rebecca Booth made a motion to accept the Annual Meeting Minutes. Denise Melter seconded. Motion passed.
- All other issues were tabled until the next meeting.

Next meeting: Monday March 13 at 6:30 pm

Meeting adjourned: at 8:57 pm