

APPROVED FEBRUARY 2023 CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

(The February Minutes were approved at the March 9, 2023 Church Council meeting.)

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Church Council Agenda

February 9, 2023

Call to Order by Jason Jacque @ 6:36 pm

Pastor Scott, Jason Jacque, Phil Stepanski, Ken Matthews, Eric Olson, Mike Spalding, Jodi Cowen, Jennifer Dimmer, Shandy Roehrig, Kathy Bretl, Bill Bond, and Rhonda Thompson.

Opening Meditation – Shandy – Shandy read a section of God's Unconditional Love by Henri Nouwen Society.

Approval of the Minutes – January 2023- Jennifer motions to approve the January minutes and Shandy seconds the motion. The minutes are approved.

Monthly Budget Review (Phil) -Phil is hoping to run Quick Books Budget vs Actual report the first of every month for the most accurate monthly report. If he runs the report after the first of the month and asks for it by month, it runs a formula with the budgeted amount and divides it by twelve and is not an accurate look at the entries for the month. The report with the bank balances reflects the payment to the missions (wider and local missions) and came out of the memorial account to cover the checking account. The payments were late and Phil is changing the mission payments to quarterly. Phil is considering a new software program as he questions the accuracy of information reported based on input of information. Some statements are still being finalized and will be mailed as they are ready. It is promoted as accounting and payroll software program.

Pastor's Moment (Pastor Scott)- The Thrive Team has met with the Marquette staff for the Examined Church program. They were asked to practice the examined prayer. The idea is for each to develop their own spiritual practice. Our team will meet in February and March and then with all program teams in April to start group discernment. After they work a few weeks together they may start sharing their learnings with the congregation to introduce some of the methods and ideas to encourage others in the congregation to do the same. The goal is to eventually as a church and as members to discern where God is calling the congregation to be at work and of service. Don Neiderfrank and Pastor Scott are co- leading a lenten book study called Growing Spiritually on Wednesday evenings from 7-8:30 pm. It's based on the book Soul Feast by Marjorie Thompson. Prayer has developed and changed from years past.

Old Business

Property Team Building maintenance updates – (Bill)-The altar handrail is hopefully going to be installed by February 19. A quote was received for tree removal and trimming, with all brush to be left on the creek bank (for creek/ground build up and dirt) for a total of \$950. Bill is asking for permission to go ahead with the clean up. Ken motions to go ahead with the clean up of trees as long as it doesn't exceed \$1000. Bill seconds the motion. The vote passes with the money coming from the Property Team budget if needed. Pastor Scott says individual

(continued on the next page)

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES continued...

invoices would be good to allow for "adopt a bill". The last snow was enough for the first professional snow removal of the season. Bill will ask Mike if he is willing to continue with the sidewalk snow removal. Bill is asking if we want stain glass done in 2023 or if we should push it to 2024. After discussing it, it's decided Bill should get back to them asking for the work to be done in 2024. Bill is waiting to hear back from the fire department as to the options we have for AED/CPR class offerings. It does not look like Northern Ozaukee will be able to rent the classrooms due to our location outside of their district.

Stewardship (Jodi)- Pledge campaign was wrapped up in January. Jodi says thank you to the Church School kids for coloring the thank you cards. Jodi is hoping to get a May date for a brat fry and a second brat fry on a later date. Stewardship is hosting a Dr Seuss pancake breakfast. From 8-11 am on March 4. Tickets are available for \$8 at Port Washington State Bank.

Rental Space update – (Pastor Scott)- The poster/flyer is being updated with new pictures. The space should be advertised at the pancake breakfast with a poster on one of our boards. There is no line in the budget for advertising of the space. Once we learn how much advertising costs, it could be another "adopt a bill".

Succession Planning (Jason)- Some of the terms will be up in June and replacements should be considered now. Most have turned in a list of team members, but those that have not should email the list to Jason.

Winter Congregational Meeting (Jason)-Does anyone have any feedback? Holding it in the sanctuary seems to work. The weather might have reduced the attendance a little.

AED and CPR training (Bill) - Bill is waiting to hear back from the fire department as to the options we have for AED/CPR class offerings.

Membership Count (Pastor Scott)-The office staff has reviewed the list of members to come up with a final count. They sent several letters out to members in question, asking anyone wishing to stay on as a member to contact the church. If they did not reach out it would be understood they were not interested and could be removed. We report the current membership this time of year, but the association plans their budget based on last year's number. Our current number is 319 members and 124 friends.

Additional Team Updates – (Shandy, Eric, Jennifer, Mike, Ken)-Shandy says they have 27 orders for the Mac and Cheese fundraiser. The Church School will meet in March and will combine April and May classes on April 30. Jennifer said chili dinner was good. Soup and salad will be on the third Sunday in February. Next Thursday is going to be youth game night with pizza and hide and seek. March will be making cards event. Mike needs help on March 5, Jennifer volunteers to be the second server. Ken will have a full report in March.

New Business

Any other new business to come before the Council? Bill would like to attend an anniversary meeting as he has some ideas to share. Submitted by, Rhonda Thompson -Clerk