

## ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES (On Zoom + in person)

September 26, 2022

Members present: **Rev. Ruth Merriam, Dick Merriam, Dwight Cooper (chairperson), Patsy Tessier, Gene Anastasio, Judy Meserve, Kitty Cogley, Rusty Greenleaf, Kay Gregory, and Vicki Record**

The Secretary's reports from May 31, 2022, the July 3, 2022 ZOOM meeting, and the August 5, 2022 email were approved as written.

### Ministry Reports:

**Trustees:** The Trustees are still discussing a landscaping plan. The wall is not yet done – there is no estimate –but the wall is not moving. There was a hole in the walkway in front of the church which has been filled in by Jon Canty. The railings are in need of repair – an estimate of \$1050 was given. The sink holes in the road will be repaired by the city and possibly the entrances to the church will need to be closed. Lastly, the church investments are decreased by \$80,000.

**Lay Leader:** Patsy stated that our church is building new relationships with the River churches.

**Sunday School:** There is a diminished attendance of children. Pastor Ruth was hoping for a Christmas Pageant but children are not available. Perhaps one could be done during the February school vacation.

**Staff Parish Relations Committee:** They will be meeting soon to prepare for the Charge Conference in November. There was a question regarding creating a paid position for an Assistant Music Minister and also an increase of salary for the Music Minister. These topics will be covered at the meeting.

**Stewardship & Finance:** No report.

**Worship Committee:** The committee has met - all services are planned out to Lent.

10/3: Dogspell

10/9: Indigenous People Day – The Parable of the Good Samaritan will be told. Sermon will be about Sacagawea.

10/16: Laity Sunday. God in the workplace is the theme. Cindy Malcolm will speak.

10/23: Focus on El Camino

10/30: All Saints Day

11/6: Communion Sunday

11/13: Veterans Sunday

11/20: Thanksgiving/Consecration Sunday. Pledge cards will be collected.

11/27: First Sunday in Advent

**UM Women:** UMW met last Wednesday. They are planning a mini Christmas Fair this year. They will not be making a pledge to the church this year. Coffee hour has been a little difficult getting people to sign up. Volunteers for greeting Oct/Nov. is all set. On 11/6 there will be a music concert at the church and UMW will be doing refreshments.

Kay will be heading up the Poinsettia Sale again this year. Prices have gone up slightly - .55 cents for the small poinsettias and .75 cents for the larger. We'll need to make \$500 in sale for the plants to be delivered.

**Mechawana:** There will be a To Go meal offered 11/6 at Camp Mechawana.

**UM Men:** No report. There were 12 people at the last breakfast meeting.

**Caring Team:** The committee has not met since May, the next meeting is 10/4.

**Community Suppers:** Going forward, the meals will be made and served from inside Christ Church – no more bagged dinners.

**Pastor's Report:** The pastor is looking for representatives to attend a worship on Protecting Houses of Worship 10/13 in Westbrook. A lot is going on in our community due to the Cooperative Parish.

10/15: Marty Stevens improve at Greene Street UMC

10/16: Discussion of the Jessie Lee Cluster (now River Churches)

10/22 Lay pastor presentation

10/23: New DS installation at Brunswick UMC

11/12: Charge Conference at HAUMC

11/19: Ukraine program. A couple living in Wayne have sponsored a couple formerly of Ukraine. They will host a 1 hour Q&A.

## **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

**Financial Reports:** There is a current balance of approximately \$13,000 in the checking account with October bills having been paid. The Memorial Fund currently has \$14,484

**Benevolence:** There is \$946.52 in the Benevolence Fund.

## **Old Business:**

1. **Sunday School and Youth Participation:** Discussed previously.

## **New Business:**

1. **Credit Card for church use:** The subject of the church getting a credit card to use for making purchases was brought up. Lately, there have been purchases made for the church which necessitated the use of a parishioners' personal credit card, after which they need to be reimbursed.
  - A suggestion was made to have the finance committee investigate this and report back to the Administrative Council.
2. **Letter from court:** A letter was received from the court regarding Marilyn Brown's will. She specified a gift of \$1000 by made to the church. The Trustees will accept this for the church.
3. **Investments:** Due to the economy, the church investments have been decreasing in the past months. A suggestion was made to ship the last payment from the yearly pledge. This would save \$4250 in stocks not being cashed and would protect the portfolio.  
**\*\* A motion was made, seconded and approved that the church does not draw the last quarterly payment of \$4250 from the investment funds.**

A suggestion was made that the new sign be amended to increase the size of the lettering on the hours of worship. Rusty will follow up.

A suggestion was made that the minutes of the Administrative Council be posted to the church website.

**Next meeting tentatively scheduled for October 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm**