

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL – MINUTES
October 21, 2020 - Virtual meeting via Zoom
Ely United Methodist Church

Call To Order: Chair Dan Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

Attendees (11): Lucy Diesslin, Rich Floyd, Craig Haberman, Linda Hane, Bev & Dan Johnson, Carol Linneman, Margie & Mark Olson, Jay & Jeanne Tomlinson.

Opening: Pastor Craig talked briefly on the idea from Romans 14:8 that we “live to the Lord and die to the Lord” – that we are not in charge but always need to do our best to live as Christ taught. He then opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes: The September 2, 2020 Ad Council minutes were approved as distributed to Ad Council members and with the weekly *Parish News*. Motion to approve by Linda Hane; second by Bev Johnson. Motion passed.

Treasurer’s Report: Mark Olson had previously sent out copies of all the Treasurer’s reports from March 2020 through September 2020. He pointed out a few key items and answered questions about a few others. The account balances as of the end of September are General Fund \$37,163.62; Memorial Fund \$11,354.42; Building Fund \$4,397.31. Jeanne Tomlinson moved that we accept all 7 Treasurer’s Reports as submitted, second by Bev Johnson. Motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Trustees:** Margie Olson reported the following.
 - Since we haven’t been in the sanctuary yet, she hasn’t had a chance to post a sign-up sheet for snow-shoveling. Mark is planning to take care of October through December. We briefly discussed the problem with the sidewalk which leads to the handicap ramp on the west side of the building. Unfortunately it gets covered up with snow from the city plows and then freezes and is nearly impossible to shovel. We talked about options and decided that since we’ll be having worship both in the sanctuary and the fellowship hall, we should direct folks with a sign near the ramp that the handicapped entrance is temporarily in the back.
 - Margie and Vicki Podominick took care of a lot of the recyclables in the garage. There is still a lot more (mostly non-recyclables) to go through and discard.
 - Cleaners came in on October 9 in preparation for the October 11 worship, which unfortunately was cancelled.
 - Mark & Margie will pull up the upper-to-lower parking lot handrails so they won’t be damaged by the snow and snowplows.
- **Worship:** See *Old Business*.
- **Finance:** Bev Johnson reported that after the PPRC has determined pastoral expenses, and we have received our conference apportionment figure, then she’ll work at preparing the 2021 Budget in time for review by the Ad Council on November 18.
- **Pastor-Parish:** Jeanne Tomlinson reported that the committee members are currently working on the annual evaluation form and will be meeting on Nov 4 to go over the evaluation and also set Pastor Craig’s salary and other associated pastoral expenses. The

committee will be meeting virtually with our DS, Laurie Kantonen, on Wednesday, Nov 11.

- **Outreach:** Jay Tomlinson reported that the Visioning Committee is working on a current Outreach project and Rich Floyd would report on that. He brought up our *Gift of Giving* project and whether we should do it. The general agreement was that we probably can't do it safely this year because of Covid-19. Jay will talk to Tricia Schreffler who is the new coordinator for the project. We might think about making it an "every other year" project anyway.
- **Visioning:** Rich Floyd reported that a group of people, not all of whom are Visioning Committee members, have been working these past couple of months calling everyone on our directory listing to touch bases with them to see how they are doing during this pandemic, determine if they need any assistance, and to make sure our directory information is up to date. There is a shared file that each person is updating as they get this information.
- **Memorial Fund Task Force:** Carol Linneman reported the committee hasn't met but has communicated by email to decide on two requests for Memorial Funds: (1) \$200 requested by Susan Germek for special "singer" masks for the church choir so they can start meeting again and (2) \$2000 towards the cost of our new electronic equipment that will allow us to live-stream our worship to Fellowship Hall and to homes. Both requests were approved.
- **UMW:** Lucy Diesslin reported that UMW has not met since early this year and probably won't during pandemic restrictions. It was brought up that we need to have the group approve the \$1,000 that we'd like to donate towards the new electronic equipment. Jeanne offered to coordinate that by email and phone calls.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Ongoing concerns and current status regarding Covid-19**

- a. **Pastor Craig's health (after testing positive for the virus on October 15):** He is feeling better. While the main symptoms eased up by Saturday, Oct 17, he still had some residual effects and some psychological "downs". He is still trying to meet most of his obligations but has had to force himself to slow down and rest more since he tires easily. He thanked everyone for all the prayers and concern shown.
- b. **Opening the Church for Sunday Worship:** It had been decided earlier that we would not have worship on Oct 25. We discussed whether we should do our "restart" starting with Nov 1. Marshall has agreed to do the sermon in Pastor Craig's absence by taking extra precautions entering & leaving through the Pastor's study outer door. However, after some discussion it was agreed that it would be better to just postpone another week and shoot for restart on November 8 when Pastor Craig is here. We will have communion that Sunday. All the technology issues should be resolved and thoroughly tested by then.
- c. **Technology:** Jay & Jeanne have spent a couple times trying to just hook up her laptop to the downstairs TV through the cable that Mauro (Custom Theaters) had

installed. While a direct link with the laptop worked with some recommended setting changes, the link through the installed cable didn't. Mauro came over briefly to check out the details and decided that something doesn't seem right with the cable even though he had done a quick check after installation and everything seemed to work ok then. He's planning to replace the cable. The camera is supposed to arrive by the end of the month.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **An Echo Ad regarding NO pasties due to Covid-19 guidelines:** Jeanne Tomlinson asked about whether we should run an ad so that our customers know we won't be doing pasties until our Church conference guidelines allow us to. Lucy moved that we do this, second by Margie. Motion passed. Jeanne will develop the wording and Jay will take care of laying it out and getting it to the Echo & the Shopper.
2. **Love Offering:** Jay brought up that we still haven't taken our Love Offering for this year. Marge moved, second by Jay, to set a minimum donation of \$150 and to take the special offerings through November. Motion passed. Pastor Craig will do a write-up about it in the Nov 6 & 13 *Parish News* issues and include a link for folks to learn more about the 4 mission programs that will be supported by this year's Love Offering.
3. **Newsletter:** Jeanne brought up the fact that we haven't done a *FISH* since May and there are folks who aren't getting the *Parish News* who are on our newsletter mailing list. Although it was mentioned in the May *FISH* to email Pastor Craig or call the church if interested in being on the *Parish News* mailing list, the notice wasn't particularly emphasized so there are probably a number of people who didn't read that or didn't understand that it was going to be the only general form of communication during this pandemic. We briefly discussed when & how often we should do a full newsletter, possibly even going to quarterly. In view of the time, we decided to table this issue for a future meeting.

Items of Information

1. **PPRC** will meet with the DS on Wednesday, November 11.
2. **Our Annual Church Conference** will be Wednesday, Dec 16 at 6:30 PM.
3. **Next Ad Council meeting:** Wednesday of November 18 at 7 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM with Pastor Craig reciting the *The Lord's Prayer*.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Tomlinson, Ad Council Secretary