

Church Council Meeting 4/20/2021

Tuesday, April 20, 2021

6:32 PM

Attendance (Council in bold): **Phil Owen, Daniel Russo, Kathy Sheibley, Margaret Baldwin**, Nan Wagner, Barbara Bennett, Cara Rothe, **Christina Hellums**, Eric Elnes, Sheldon Hurst, Bruce Bishop, **Jack Allman, Edward Eggleston**

Opening Prayer (Phil): ("Soon we will all be cheerleaders.")

Senior Minister Report (Eric):

- Heartened by feedback at Saturday's retreat (4/17)
- Moving into new house this week
- Next service series theme: emphasizing small groups
 - o Will use resources from Darkwood Brew site

Business Manager Report (Cara)

- Already getting inquiries about space use once we reopen
 - o Had to turn some people away
- Hired graphic designer as part of larger hiring plan
- Will split up Communications and Facilities Manager roles into part-time, uninsured positions
 - o Separate roles for A/V and Maintenance
 - o Separate roles for Graphic Designer, Communications (clerical work), and Bookkeeper
- Andre will be staying until mid-August
- Insurance premium for the building is going up
 - o **Consensus decision:** matter will be turned over to FOC
- Lots of broken window and graffiti incidents caused by the same person, who appears to have mental health issues
 - o May need to press charges
 - o Eric has had extremely varying experiences with the person
 - o Sheldon: talked about conflict between the kind of ministry we want to have, and the kind of ministry we're capable have
 - o Bruce: concerned about the church's liability in the situation if we don't act
 - o The person is currently in custody, may not be released

- His tent is still in front of the church; his girlfriend sometimes stays in it
- There are also two other tents in front of the church, one of which belongs to a newly unhoused person

Treasurer Report (Edward)

- Pledges are up from month to month
- Balance sheet looks good
- Margaret: Quarterly statements were just sent out to pledgers

Announcements

- Margaret:
 - **Vote on Approving Last Month's Minutes**
 - 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining
- Sheldon:
 - Fundraiser for Immigrant Welcoming
 - ArtReach Gallery: New exhibit May 10th
 - Expressed concern about tents discouraging people from coming to see exhibits, but is interested in having the houseless see them as well
 - Talked about commonalities between the notion of "rest" in Chinese culture and the Judeo-Christian notion of Sabbath that Eric has been exploring in services lately
- Phil:
 - PinMaps.net
 - Allows users to drop pins on an online map
 - Have offered to give us free full access to their site
 - We can use it to share information about ourselves, and get to know each other better
 - Some maps may be members-only, while others might be interesting to share with the world
- Margaret:
 - Barbara is interested in taking on the role of Peacemaking Core Facilitator, focusing on the homeless and houseless
- Bruce:
 - Free e-cards for people who come to our services
 - Hard part: getting people's email addresses
 - Bruce is willing to send them
 - Cara: "Zoom ushers" could send private messages to people who attend our Zoom meetings, to get their information

- We'll talk to existing ushers about taking on this task

4/17 Church Retreat Reflections

- Proposed May 2 Council Retreat
 - Continue discussing feedback from 4/17, and come up with proposals based on that feedback
 - Could include "Get-Er-Done" committee members (Sarah Vazquez, Kyle Roy, Ted Heid) and Core Ministry Facilitators
 - Alternative date: May 1, 12:30-4:30pm
 - **Consensus decision:** alternative date will be used
 - Council retreat will decide when trial period of in-person church will begin
- Thoughts on Margaret's transcript of 4/17 retreat
 - Phil: impressed with how it worked
 - Kathy: impressed with how many people attended the morning Zoom session
 - Nan: her group emphatically wanted in-person church every Sunday
 - Eric: GED team looking into logistics of having people come in person when church is being recorded for live broadcast on Zoom
 - Eric: Catholic friends really thought the "Nomad Church" idea was cool
 - Eric: Nomadic church could be part of discernment process for deciding the future of our church
 - Eric: Will talk to clergy in congregation about helping motivate people to lead small groups
 - Cara: Conference may be putting out new guidelines about when to reopen
 - Eric: Reopening before July or August is very unlikely
 - Discussion of potentially doing a second congregational retreat at Camp Adams

Closing Prayer (Eric)