

All Church Council Minutes
February 24th, 2019

Present:

Chairman Sue Lessoff, Pastor Cheol, Don Ross, Sandy Gallup, Linda Shivers, Dave Joy, Bridget Joy, Mel Bacha, Judie Culy, Stan Culy, Carol Robbins, Steve Yoder, Sylvia Yoder, Janice Klingman.

The meeting began at 11:30am with Judie Culy leading us in prayer.

- Judie Culy reporting on Nurture and Visitation, Good Friday Walk, and Finance Committee – (See attached report.)
 - It was decided to have Financial Updates done once a month instead of each Sunday – the exception being if there is some special, good news to celebrate.
 - Regarding the financial spreadsheet introduced a last month’s Council Meeting, Janice Klingman said that she finds the document to be challenging to navigate, and perhaps this is why there have been so few comments added.
- Report on Marri Family – see attached report from Stan Culy.
- Trustees (Dave Joy) - See Attached report.
 - Discussion followed about the pros and cons of selling the parsonage (as mentioned in the report). The issue will be addressed further at the next Trustee meeting and subsequently at the next Council Meeting in March. Dave said he believes the value of the parsonage is about \$250,000.
 - Pastor Cheol said he is ok with living in a rental property leased by the church, but encourages us to think about the next pastor’s needs.
 - Dave said there is more homework to do, and more information and actual costs will be forthcoming at the next Council meeting.
- Worship Committee (Carol Robbins)
 - There will be a fund-raising luncheon in April following worship. The meal will be prepared by Mike Gay.
- Pastor Cheol
 - Encourages us to invite friends and family members to our Family Sunday, April 7th.
 - He is concerned about the critical financial problems facing RUMC which have not been discussed in depth before.
 - He suggests our financial campaign plan should be “Grow the Membership”, “Worry less and hope more.”
 - He said that we need some GYM’s (Grumpy Young Men) to augment the GOM’s! He would like to work with the younger generation.

- He will discuss plans for our Lenten Program at the next council meeting.
- He will be attending the Walk to Emmaus on the weekend of March 17th.
- SPRC – Sandy Gallup
 - With regard to lay speakers serving as substitute preachers on Sundays, the Conference will help us to find them.
 - We need to discuss how to raise funds to pay guest preachers.
- Missions – Sylvia Yoder
 - KidSafe presentation will be during Worship March 24th. A luncheon will follow the service.
 - Family Day, April 7th – committee will be providing snacks.
 - The committee will hold a bake sale during the Strawberry Festival in June. Proceeds will go toward paying apportionments.

At the conclusion of the meeting, there was discussion about an article in the Hartford Courant on February 23rd about the LGBT community and the United Methodist Church. The question of where we stand as a church on this matter was raised by Linda Shivers. An informal vote of the group was taken, asking “Is this church supportive of the Gay Community? And do we support gay marriage?” The consensus was “yes”.

Additional comments:

Jake Gerow is looking for a project from our congregation to complete his Eagle Scout badge.

Linda Shivers shared that her mother is gravely ill and will be dying soon. She has asked for our prayers, telling us that her memorial service will be held at RUMC.

- Next Council meeting will be March 31st.

Respectfully submitted by Janice Klingman, recording secretary.