

## **April 2021 Church Council Meeting Notes**

### **Call to order and chalice lighting**

**Quick check-in:** Joys and concerns

### **Report of Policy Board Representative:** Rosemary Lawton, Policy Board VP

Slate for next year's Council and Policy Board was attached to the agenda.

Board is preparing for the Annual Meeting and looking at preparing for returning to the church building.

Committees were put together for the Fathman and Ross awards.

The wording for the Staff Recognition Fund was finalized.

### **Report of Minister:** Rev. Kim Mason

Mission statement - wording was finalized at the last board meeting. The statement is in the by-laws and it will be voted on at the Annual Meeting.

Rev. Mason has been working with a group on hybrid ministry for the coming church year. The group won a contest for UU churches to get a professional assessment for live streaming of services. The estimated cost for the equipment is \$10,000 - \$12,000.

Canvass is nearly complete and while we did not meet our goal, it was very successful.

### **Reports of Cluster Chairs:**

- Steve Smidowicz – Stewardship Cluster
  - Canvass update
    - 71 pledge units increased their pledge - 50 of which increased by 10%. 90% of Friends pledged. As of now we are at \$381,000.00 which is an increase over last year.
  - Budget discussion, including drawing from endowment to cover expenses of streaming worship services.
    - Discussion on how to fund plumbing repair, refinishing the Chapel floor, new tables and chairs in Fellowship Hall and the live streaming equipment.
    - Proposed that the funds for the live streaming come from the additional Endowment Funds that were approved at the Annual Meeting last year.
    - The question is if since we are running a surplus is it okay to take the funds out of the Endowment.
    - Proposed to use Endowment funds for live streaming equipment, use Special Gifts and Memorial for the plumbing expense and Fellowship Hall furniture and Capital Maintenance funds for the Chapel Floor. Clint Cruse moved to approve the expenditures as described and seconded by Cathy Rauch. Passed unanimously.

- Clint Cruse – Facilities Cluster

Maintenance: plumbing solution

The preschool room floor has been opened and looking for an additional plumbing bid to replace the pipe.

The Kingshighway fence was repaired.

Developing ideas for the Memorial Garden for an ornamental piece to go into the space where the Ash Tree was. Will engage the congregation more in developing ideas.

Update on COVID-19 task force

- Sue Herzberg – Programming Cluster

Play space update

Groundbreaking happened. Will open up the fence where a gate will be going in. The Play Space walkway may be stressful to the existing Crab Apple trees.

RE is continuing with Minecraft.

ERDE helped with the Play Space groundbreaking and may perhaps have a ceremony for Summer Solstice.

The Worship Committee will be working on Summer services soon.

- Erin Milligan – Growth & Engagement Cluster

Alliance continues to meet every week with about 12 - 15 participants. They are offering their scholarship.

Care and Concern is working well.

Movie Groups - 2 of them are meeting.

Maker's Ministry is meeting twice a month and Sherry Bassi continues as the facilitator.

Membership Committee - Is still participating in the Newcomer Chats. The Committee will be planning more phone calls to members and is exploring ways to implement Circle Suppers as outside events. Norma Vogelweid is doing write-ups of new members. Committee will also discuss how people can become members online.

- Cathy Rauch – Outreach & Social Action Cluster

Social Responsibility sponsored a forum talk with Arch City Defenders (about 28 attended)

Toward Justice had about 38 people attend a forum session on ESG investing. Sponsored a virtual tour of the history museum exhibit of the Pride exhibit -- about 15 attended. Have been sending letters to the editors.

### **Church calendar**

- Annual meeting – Sunday, May 16th

### **Old business:**

- The completed committee/group definitions are in this Google folder:  
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/17QU8kocoUzwBFrbKLTCOp5V9RSYtXcmw>

### **New business:**

- Sung Chair award  
Some additional votes were collected. There are 3 nominees and their names will be sent to committee chairs to vote for the recipient.
- Reconstitute the Clark Lecture Task Force - tabled

### **Closing thoughts and adjournment**