

February 2021 Church Council Meeting Agenda

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

Church attendance has been strong. Looking at the future of worship given that some people really like having the virtual option.

The Mid-Winter meeting was well attended and the Board is now focusing on the feedback about the mission of the church.

Budget requests were sent out.

The Nominating Committee is at work filling positions for the next year.

Report of Minister: Rev. Kim Mason

Suggested with the Clark Lecture that perhaps we look at other institutions to co-sponsor.

Reports of Cluster Chairs:

- Steve Smidowicz – Stewardship Cluster

Financially we are still in good shape.

Budget requests from committees are due March 15th.

Canvass will start March 7th.

Will start working on the 2021/2022 budget in March.

General discussion about the funding of a Clark Lecture that Toward Justice is recommending. Financially it would require using available funds from 2 years. People were generally favorable about the suggested speaker - concerns that there is not a Clark Lecture Committee in place. Council members will further review the speaker and the financing will be explored and a decision made by March 8th.

- Clint Cruse – Facilities Cluster (Lynn Hunt reporting)

- Maintenance: plumbing problem - Another option for the preschool leak is being explored.

- Sue Herzberg – Programming Cluster

- RE - Coming of Age class started meeting again. A 9:00 am Minecraft class has been started. The 11:30 offering is all ages. A search team for a permanent RE director is being formed.
- Worship Cmte: Working on their budget and want to increase budget for paid speakers, especially people of color. Also looking at how to move forward with hybrid ministry in the fall.
- Play space ground breaking event - ERDE will be participating in this event with the RE Committee. This will happen on March 14th (small in-person group and virtual).

- Erin Milligan – Growth & Engagement Cluster

- Care and Concern is now headed by Karen Siegrist, Judi Crouch and Larry Dusenbery. They are collecting information from the existing team to see who is actually interested in still being active.

- Knitting Ministry changed their name to Needlework Ministry.
- The Women's Alliance is having an internal auction with one another to raise money for their scholarship fund. Virtual meetings are increasing their attendance.
- Membership Committee will meet on March 1st. Will plan spring calls. They attend Newcomer chats and a Membership class is planned for the spring. Erin Milligan met with the Committee on Ministry who is looking at the membership process.
- Cathy Rauch – Outreach & Social Action Cluster
 - Toward Justice has been sending letters to the editor and is looking at a reconciliation project. Want to do an ARREST style project focused on the St. Louis region and the history of our congregation.
 - Social Responsibility is meeting to plan for spring forum speakers.
 - Partner Church has a film event on Feb. 26th. The committee is very active. Probably postponing Partner Church visit until 2022.
 - Cathy Rauch is working on finding people to reactivate Welcoming Congregations. Send her names if you know of people who may be interested.

Church calendar

- Yearly canvass
- Next Newcomer Chat

Old business:

- The completed committee/group definitions are in this Google folder:
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/17QU8kocoUzwBFrbKLTCoP5V9RSYtXcmw>

New business:

- Do the existing clusters make sense, given the new categorization of our church groups? Will discuss at next meeting.

Closing thoughts and adjournment