



## **Council Meeting Summary**

November 9, 2020 - 7:00pm, via Zoom

**Members in Attendance:** Rev. Michael Swartz (Pastor), Audra Bailey (Moderator), Wes Llewellyn (At-Large), Desiree Grace (At-Large), Russ Armstrong (At-Large), Kristi Bailey (Spiritual Engagement), Sara Wynn (Outreach and Mission), Layne Porembski (Building and Finance), & Tami Marshall (Clerk).

### **Financial Reports & 2021 Budget Planning**

Council has many questions regarding financial reports and budget for next year. Audra will ask Sara Otta to join us in our December meeting to help answer questions. Additionally, Audra asked all council members to review budget plans and let her know if we can suggest any cuts anywhere. We are currently over the proposed budget by \$145,000. We also have not included a plan to start repaying the loan from the endowment account either.

### **Interim Pastor Update**

The interview team will be interviewing two candidates this coming week. Both are women who already live in the area. Audra hopes to have an decision by the end of the week. Interviews are being done via Zoom.

### **Red Wagon**

Wes and Amanda Petersen have spoken and agree that it's a prudent decision to set up a separate checking account for Red Wagon.

### **COVID-19 Planning**

Audra completed an online course provided by Insurance Board to learn more about how to safely reopen our church when the time comes. There is concern among Council that there is "drift" and we certainly do not wish to lose out members, but we also do not wish to put them at risk. Tami suggested that we survey the congregation on what their feelings are on reopening at this point in time. Desiree will draft a survey and share for input. We will remain in Step One until we received feedback from the congregation.

### **Nominating Committee**

Audra asked that everyone let her know if they have suggestion for people to serve the church in a leadership capacity. If chairs are not remaining on their boards, the board will need to nominate new chairs. Audra is willing to stay on as moderator again next year for consistency purposes during the church's transition.

### **Personnel Committee**

Desiree reported that the committee is starting peer feedback reviews for staff.



### **Building and Finance**

The board is still working on ongoing projects and comparing bids for work to be completed.

### **Outreach and Mission**

The board is working on essential basket deliveries and preparing for the giving tree.

### **Spiritual Engagement**

The board will be meeting on 11/28 to decorate the sanctuary for Advent.

### **Christian Education**

In-person Sunday school is going well so far. The 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Bible presentation went well and it was a beautiful service.

### **Pastor's Report**

Pastor Michael feels we had really good speakers during worship and he enjoyed the "Opening Doors" theme. We have had 60 pledge cards returned and we will soon know how we are doing. Staff is planning on pre-recording Christmas Eve service this year so that multiple people and groups can participate in the service.