

CMCL Council Meeting - December 18th 2023, 8pm via Zoom

Present: Leslie Homer-Cattell, Hope Sholly, Margaret Krumm, Marelene Reiff, Beth Oberholtzer, Drew Brubaker, Larry Groff, Mike Sharp, David Stallings, John King

Absent: Deb Van Pelt, Laurel Martin

1. Opening - Marlene

Poem: *All the way to joy* - Rev. Sarah Speed

In our weary world, we must take the time to notice the beauty around us.

2. Approval of November Minutes

Beth motions to approve November Council minutes. David seconds. All in favor.

Action: November minutes approved.

3. Financial Report - Larry Groff

- We are currently 25% into the fiscal year.
- Offerings are at \$93,000, which is \$8,000 more than last year.
- Rent is lower because IU-13 doesn't meet at CMCL anymore.
- We are at 20-28% of expenses.
- Agency grants disbursed early this year.
- \$16,000 deficit
- We are tracking very similar to last year.
- Giving usually picks up around this time of the year.

Marlene motions to approve the November Financial Report. Margaret seconds. All in favor.

Action: November Financial Report approved.

4. Grant Street Building

- The lease was signed on Dec. 6, 2023.
- The occupancy permit came through; groups can now meet on the 1st floor
- There are still a couple of details that need to be finalized. Construction is handing the project over to the facilities committee to complete these tasks.
- Still awaiting a rental license.
- Chestnut Housing plans to write a newsletter article to highlight this project.

5. Dismantling Racism Committee

- Leadership Team Proposal:* DRC requests a meeting with Susan & Leslie. They want to do a second assessment to see if there is any progress/growth in the congregation's ideas on anti-racism. How far have we come since the first assessment?
- Would be good to get a group of leaders together for a couple of hours (Saturday morning?) to review this information.

6. Staff Relations Committee

- Council reviewed staff reports.
- Staff is so impressed with Meredith's willingness and ability to dive into her role.
- Upcoming pastoral evaluations (for Amanda & Susan) will solicit feedback from the congregation to highlight strengths and areas for growth.

7. Program Commission - 2023-24 Action Steps

-CMCL is currently in its 4th year in the 5 Year Church Goals initiative.
-Program commission committees continue to focus on action steps and create ways to complete these goals.

-Example: Goal: Become a more intergenerational congregation
Action Step: Hold quarterly gatherings where all age groups are involved.

-It is important to inform the congregation about these action steps, as many people may not be aware of them. Sunday mornings may be the best way to relay these plans. Each Sunday, a different goal can be discussed. This will inspire others to join in our efforts.

Marlene motions to present the action steps to the congregation in a variety of ways: verbal, written, or any other creative way to garner support. Beth seconds.

Action: Program Commission will inform the congregation about their action steps they are taking to complete the church's 5 year goals.

8. Pastor's Housing Allowance

A certain part of clergy salary can be designated as a non-taxable housing expense. Council must approve the annual calculation put forth by Susan and Leslie.

John motions to approve the calculation. Drew seconds.

Action: Calculation approved by council.

9. Council Vice Chair

We are currently seeking a vice chair.

10. Next Meeting

January 15th, 7:00PM (in-person meeting held in Grant Street building)

- Drew to provide opening

11. Adjourn

John motions to adjourn the meeting. Marlene seconds. All in favor.

Action: Meeting adjourned.

Future Agenda Items

- Church Retreat
- Structure Document
- Child Safety Policy

Notes: Hope Sholly