

# CMCL Church Council Minutes

January 4, 2018

Present: Larry Groff, Susan Gascho-Cooke, Cynthia Stayrook, Katy Heinzl, Sue Stoesz, Cal Esh, Jim Spicher, Sarah Shirk

Absent: Carol Eby-Good

1. **Opening**—Susan opened the meeting with some readings from *Light upon Light*, compiled by Sarah Arthur.
2. **Approval of December, 2017 Minutes**—It was motioned, seconded and approved that the Council Minutes of 12/7/17 be approved with two minor changes – the ACE budget was \$200 and the request is for an additional \$200; the funds left over from creation care will be applied towards green energy.
3. **Pastor Reports**—Susan gave her report.
  - 3.1. **Susan's Sabbatical**—is due this coming summer. Susan will be submitting her proposal to staff relations.
  - 3.2. **One Service/Two Services**—A meeting to decide the future of our service(s) will be taking place in the near future.
  - 3.3. **Discussion regarding written Pastoral Reports from Amanda and Malinda.** It was suggested that Amanda and Malinda submit written reports of their monthly activities to council.
4. **Thank you to TCW Computers for Donation of Laptop**—A thank you was sent to TCW Computers for their donation of the laptop for use with the large screen in sanctuary. Susan will double-check with Rod Houser to make certain that this occurred.
5. **Leadership Selection Committee**
  - 5.1. **New member** – Sue Stoesz has not been able to get a volunteer to date. Council members will each supply Sue with 3 suggested names for Leadership Selection Committee. Sue will be the liaison to the 2018-19 Leadership Selection Committee.
  - 5.2. **Getting started for 2018-19**—The hope is for the 2018-19 Leadership Selection Committee to start their work in February or March of 2018. Description of the timeline for Leadership Selection is posted on the web site. Susan will participate with information for LSC. Past Leadership Rosters are posted on the CMCL web site.
6. **Council Nominating Committee**—Council is seeking 4 additional council members for the coming year, with Sarah, Sue and Cynthia's terms ending soon. With the new structure,

Leadership Selection Committee works together with Council on selecting new council members.

**7. Pastor Search Committee Report**—Katy reported that this coming Saturday, the search committee is meeting again. The committee has requested Ministerial Leadership Information forms for some candidates. Advertising has been somewhat delayed, but ads will come out in February.

**8. Facilities Guidelines Report**—Cynthia met with Dave Lutz, Lamar Weaver and Rachel regarding the use by profit and non-profit/not for profit groups or members/attenders/families or other churches. Over the years, the guidelines changed regarding restricting use of our facilities to non-profits/not-for-profits. The fees charged have varied widely. Since 2012, the guidelines have restricted groups/individuals from selling anything (CDs, books, etc.) or charging fees (spiritual guidance, etc.), baking bread and selling it, etc.

**8.1. Taxation of Facilities Use**—There are questions regarding the taxability of rental fees.

**8.2. Discussion**—Council expressed interest in getting pertinent information on the taxation of rental fees. Cynthia will circle back and check in with Phil Weaver regarding the tax laws regarding rental fees.

**9. Budget Reports**—Rod Houser sent out a current budget report. There was increased giving (approximately \$22,000) at the end of 2017, but we anticipate reduced giving in January and February of 2018.

**10. Visioning Next Steps**—Continuation of meeting with Sherrill Hostettler.

**10.1.** Design Phase: Goals for Upcoming Year:

**10.1.1.** Everyone involved in “group” outside of Sunday.

**10.1.1.1.** Affinity Groups of common interest. Randy Newswanger will give additional input on affinity groups. Small Group committee is doing some work with affinity groups. We need additional leaders or facilitators. *CMCL’s 2015-2020 Goal is to increase relational bonds in our church* and enhancing our youth program. Susan is working with Small Group committee on affinity groups.

**10.1.1.2.** Formation of new small groups.

**10.1.1.3.** After church Lunch Meetings/Potlucks.

**10.1.1.4.** Discussion regarding attendance patterns, bulletin announcements, midweek announcements, hospitality and new visitor welcome. It feels as if having everyone involved in a “group” outside of Sunday is a goal that is too big for one group to take on. Council will include pastoral team and some

representatives from other committees in the discussion of how to achieve this goal. Larry will initiate a 2-hour meeting (possibly on Saturday morning, from 9 – 11 a.m.) with pastoral team (including pastors) and representatives of some committees, including small group committee. Katy will give some leadership to the meeting. (Linda Berger and Amelia Rauser head up the small group committee; Deb Napolitan is the contact person for pastoral team).

**10.1.1.5. Community Care Leaders** will advance us towards the goal of getting congregants committed to the congregation as a group.

**11. Other Business—None.**

**12. Next Meeting – February 1, 2018.**

**13. Opening for February Council Meeting—Sue Stoesz.**

**14. Council departed at 8:50 p.m.**

**Attachments:**

1. Notes from visioning discussion

**Future Meetings**

Absentee Ballot Proposal

Grants Street Update

Vision Discussion: November 16, 2017

Location: Sue Stoesz's home

Facilitator: Sherill Hostettler

Present: Cal Esh, Carol Eby-Good, Cynthia Stayrook, Jim Spicher, Katy Heinzl, Sarah Shirk, Sue Stoesz, Susan Gascho-Cooke, Larry Groff

1. What do we **value** about ourselves, work or congregation?
  - High quality sermons, art and music
  - Places to use gifts
  - Integrity with saying, doing and living values
  - Support at fund raising meal at Isaac's
  - Capacity to hold anxiety, tension and awareness of impact
  - Welcoming statement
  - Place to raise our children
2. **Dreams** (what we would like to see 10 years)
  - Meaningful community involvement (i.e. MOOS, 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday Breakfast, Refugee family)
  - Everyone involved in a "group" outside of Sunday
  - Youth engaged among themselves and adults
  - Shared living experiences within neighborhoods of congregants (resources, caring)
  - So much energy of engagement that we state a new church
  - Next generation becoming leaders
  - Adequate financial resources
  - Excited volunteers to fill roles
  - Enough hymnals
  - Active engagement within worship leaders across genders
  - Family commitment to the community
  - Pastors well cared for appreciated
  - Continuing commitment to social justice
3. **Three Wishes**
  - Get more persons involved in "groups" outside of Sunday
  - People committed to congregation as a group
  - More Community involvement
  - More clearly claiming focus as Jesus as our guide
4. Community of Faith - **Positive Core**
  - Openness to stories without judgment
  - Valuing questions
  - Living dynamic tension between mystery and faith
  - Valuing music and arts
  - Following Jesus in diverse ways and celebrating it
  - Loving neighbors inclusively

5. **Core Factors** without which we would not exist
  - Flexibility
  - Music
  - Allowing /incorporation questions
  - Dynamic tension between mystery and faith
  - Openness to others' stories with nonjudgment
  - Social interaction with community
  - Children in our midst
6. **Living Your Values**
  - Singing
  - Serving Communion
  - Small group
  - Synergy and relevancy of worship and environment
  - Musical events – Taize
  - Walking with those who are dying
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday breakfast
  - Youth group; wreath making, Service project (MDS Detroit)
  - Sharing stories/preaching
  - Women's/Men's retreat
  - Refugee involvement
7. **Uniqueness** of CMCL
  - Willing to live with questions
  - Follow teaching of Jesus in various ways
  - Inclusively loving neighbor
  - Known and lived by God
  - Celebration of the arts
  - Focuses around Christ as light vs. boundaries
  - Invite questioning of traditional beliefs

### **Design Phase**

Ex. Everyone involved in a "group" outside of Sunday

- Promote affinity groups of common interest
  - o Need a leader or facilitator