

FUMC Loveland Church Council Meeting Minutes

Monday May 7, 2018

Present: Rev. Steve, Rev. Jeremiah, Bill Eads, Roy Allen, Sally Allen, Phil Ashcraft, Bob Bostwick, Barbie Clark, Angie Clarke, Gene Clarke, Karin Delaney, Keith Flaming, Norma Flaming, Daren Gartner, Mary Hannon, Betty Hill, Kay Jones, Doug Mannering, Bill McCreary, John Morgan, Carrie Robinson, Pat Schaeffer, Ellen Shepherd, Marlene Thurman.

Welcome by Bill Eads

Devotion by Roy Allen—Romans 12:2

Minutes for the March, 2018 Meeting: Motion to approve made by Marlene and seconded by Bob. Passed unanimously.

Steve's Report:

Welcome Statement Update This is the end result of the groups meeting last fall with facilitators. Each group nominated 2 people to form a small group of 8 to draft the welcome statement. This small group recommended the following statement:

We welcome everyone seeking a spiritual home. We are an inclusive and safe community that values unconditional love. We embrace diversity and strive to live in harmony with the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Steve's handout gave an explanation of the process used. The group recommends that the statement be placed on the website, along with a gallery of individual welcomes from various members of the congregation. These statements will be open to whatever language the participants choose (with minimal oversight). Rev. Steve asked that the Church Council approve the new statement and recommended uses. The church council unanimously accepted the recommendation by the Welcoming Statement Committee.

2018 Annual Conference: In Ogden, Utah, we will have a joint annual conference with Yellowstone Conference. There will be a vote on forming a new annual conference, merging Rocky Mountain and Yellowstone Conferences. This means fewer districts, fewer superintendents, and the conference office may be moved. Rev Jeremiah explained that there has been work to strengthen circuits (groups of local churches). It has been happening mostly on the clergy level, but will be expanded to the lay area.

The Way Forward: Three proposals have been sent to the Council of Bishops, with one recommended -- the One Church contextual model, which changes the language in the Book of Discipline, but allows individual churches or conferences to modify the Book to fit their own context better. The matter will be taken up at a special General Conference in February, 2019.

Rev. Jeremiah is not starting any new committees as a result of his new responsibilities. He is talking to already existing committees about how to connect to millennials and young families. Our niche is spiritual transformation, we need to make sure that our programming and work in the community reflects that so that we are not only pouring out into the community but it brings something back to our church. SPRC is looking to figure out how to create a support network around this new area and for Jeremiah.

Mary Hannon, Business Manager gave a report on the Columbarium. There are currently three sections: each can hold 100 12x12 squares (300 plots). Only the center section has been prepared, along with 1 or 2 plots in sections 1 & 3. Each plot can hold 4 sets of cremains. There are 45 sold plots in Section 2 with 55 still available. Columbarium was put in place in 70s or 80s. She doesn't who did the planning or digging. In 2006 a rule was written by Trustees, stating that the church is responsible for moving all remains in the

Columbarium if the church moves, a major financial liability. To date, the money for plots sold has been put into the operating fund, and no money has been put aside for this liability. Plots are currently selling for \$2,000/each. Council recommends that the Trustees do more research and put together a recommendation about how to move forward.

Hospitality: Angie thanked the Committees for stepping up and helping out with snacks for Sunday Hospitality Hour; it's been working well. She now needs signups for July through December. She recommended Church Council cover June 17, so all of June will be full, and Council agreed to this. Angie sent around a signup sheet for the 2nd half of the year.

Missions: All of Church Council is invited to attend the reception and presentation by our missionaries, Steve and Alene Burgert on June 2 at 10 a.m., regarding the status of Tenwek Hospital in Kenya.

Trustees: Keith expressed concern that they are already over budget. The 2018 budget is less than 2017 end of year costs, and all utility costs have gone up, meaning they will be over budget for year end. Discussion ensued on whether to increase the budget, but the Council noted that the budget is a target, and no matter what, the utility bills would still be paid. Decision was made not to change the budget at this time. The Council expressed their appreciation for the attentiveness to the budget. Talents Unlimited donated \$7,200 for the lobby court furnace. The rental house furnace was replaced, from the HVAC maintenance budget. Security team continues to meet, with several objectives as described in the Trustees Report. The council discussed what and how much is needed. Trustees will have full report with cost estimates by next meeting, or will call a special meeting if something has to be done before then.

Family Outreach: We will continue doing the water and popcorn table at Foote Lagoon Concerts this summer. The committee is considering organizing families with children as play date, doing crafts. There will be a Vacation Volunteers program again this year; Family Outreach will pass information about that out at Foote Lagoon.

There being no further business, Rev. Jeremiah gave the benediction and the meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting: August 6 at 6:30 in Coy Hall West. Future meetings are October 1, and December 3, same time and location.

Note: Thanks to Karin for the excellent notes for these minutes!