

FUMC Loveland Church Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 6, 2017

Present: Rev. Steve, Rev. Jeremiah, Ann Kessler, Bill Eads, Charlie Bouchard, Angie Clarke, Gene Clarke, Karin Delaney, Pam Erickson, Betty Hill, Larry Jones, Mark Kessler, Doug Mannering, John Morgan, Ellen Shepherd, Dale Thurman, Marlene Thurman, Mary Lou Wells, Anne Wible

Welcome by Bill Eads

Devotion by Gene Clarke

Minutes for January 9 meeting approval moved by Doug Mannering, seconded by Dale Thurman and were approved.

Special Reports

Britta Wenman of the youth organization proposed a Prayer Labyrinth be constructed around the oak tree in the courtyard using a brick outline at ground level to permit mowing. The proposal has been reviewed by Rev. Steve and Trustees. Several suggestions were made concerning a plaque, removable stations, a dedication, and newspaper coverage. The proposal was approved by consensus, with the request that Trustees be updated regularly on its progress.

Mark Kessler gave an AV update, stating that the work is mostly done with issues such as hand-held mikes left to be resolved. The system is working as expected, and a training session for operators will be held this week in the sanctuary and Coy Hall. Trustees and the entire Church Council gave Mark a big "Thank You" for a job well done!

Staff Reports

Rev. Steve: FUMC will host an ecumenical Good Friday service on April 14 at 7 p.m. On March 23, we will host a LULAC (League of United Latin American Citizens) meeting on the topic of immigration. Advocates for Justice is responsible for this meeting. Regarding the Welcoming Statement, 168 responses have been received. The Welcoming Statement Committee still needs to process this information, and a proposal on how to proceed is expected at the May meeting of Church Council. The 10 Brave Christians Group has been very energetic and is going well. They are reading "50 Ways to Pray". With our increasing attendance of young families, Susan Harding has agreed to get a children's choir going again. This will be brought to SPRC soon. Rev. Steve observed that there are and will be many funerals in our future, so funeral coordinators Shirley Reed and Linda Barrow have been named. They will be the point people, working with the Hospitality Committee, and are accountable to that committee.

Rev. Jeremiah is creating an updated wedding pricing guide, working with Finance. He also discussed our need for more bus drivers in order to keep this program going. Several options are being considered, including having multiple drivers each Sunday to reduce the time commitment for each driver. In this case, we would need to have 9-12 drivers available on an ongoing basis.

Ann reported that we now have lots on preschoolers in one big group and that a Sunday School Class for this age group is being planned. She also stated that the youth fundraising is going well: \$333 was raised at the Smashburger project.

Committee Reports

Trustees: Dale reported that the phone/internet migration to Comcast is complete with a savings of \$200/month on phones and much faster internet service. We have received a request from Frontier Classic Schools for use of our facilities this summer. They are willing to pay our fee and will use the 3rd floor of the education wing. We are moving to Wood River Energy for our gas, saving us 5% on these bills. Replacing the youth van with a newer one is moving forward. Cost is expected to be about \$25,000. \$13,500 is now available, and Trustees is investigating other funding options. Our parking lot needs to have work done at considerable cost. Trustees are looking at how to best set aside funds to cover these costs.

Finance: January finances were excellent, and February's were also good. We are doing fine financially. A finance audit was performed in February by an auditor from outside the Church who volunteered her time, and the results were very positive, with only minor changes recommended.

Advocates for Justice: A tour of the Ft. Collins Art Museum is planned for Sunday, March 12.

Missions: The committee is working with the Salvation Army on their "One Community One Family" program. Our group from Searchers and Journey classes has been trained and is now awaiting families who are seeking housing and are in the vetting process. This program in Ft. Collins has been very successful.

Hospitality: Angie reported the completion of a "deep cleaning" of the kitchen and plans to do this annually in the future. Our thanks to Angie and her team! The committee is also planning a bereavement training class.

Missions: Karin told about Missions expanding its activities, including backpacks for kids. There are lots of new opportunities in the mission area awaiting us.

New Business: Gene Clarke there are many opportunities to communicate our programs via the Reporter Herald and others. We need a point person for this.

Closing Prayer: Rev. Steve

Future meetings: May 1, August 7, December 4 at 6:30 p.m. in West Coy