

Asbury United Methodist Church Council

Minutes of April 28, 2022 Meeting

7:30 PM via Zoom

In Attendance: Pastor Jen Karsner, Dan Haas, Nancy Cody, Nancy Beers, Owens Walker, Elizabeth Tawil, Jackie Britton, Kris Neale, and Roxanne Kuhn

Nancy Beers opened the meeting in prayer.

Minutes

We approved the minutes from the March 24, 2022 and April 7, meetings.

Pastor Report

Jen is starting a new sermon series “Soul Feast” on May 1 and is planning a Service of Lament on May 22. She has invited our former DS Evan Young to speak at the lament service.

The nominations committee will be meeting next week. Raymond Shattuck has agreed to be on the reconciling ministries committee. Jen mentioned that we are in need of a VBS coordinator.

Nancy Cody expressed a desire to see if we could get a missions coordinator or committee this time. She mentioned that we won’t be hosting Winter Relief since other churches had taken the only week we could host, Karen and Wayne have no plans to restart the Fisherman’s Dance. We talked about the Fisherman’s Dance and Jen said that she would talk to other churches in the ministry group to see if they would like to partner on hosting a Fisherman’s dance at Asbury.

Trustees

- The toilet repair (women’s toilet in the basement of the Sanctuary) is still pending.
- We had our tri-annual drainage inspection and there are issues that need to be addressed by May 18. Gary Stanlake is getting estimates on work and will be taking care of it.
- The Eagle Scout project is complete.

SPRC

- Cindy will not be accepting the permanent admin position. They are posting the position on Indeed and have contacted the temp agency.

- They are going to start looking at filling the “nursery” position.

Finance Report

Nancy reported that YTD 3-31-22 giving is \$6,000 short of budget. The budget amount was set at last year’s giving amount and that amount included several large one-time gifts from members who didn’t pledge this year including one member who hadn’t given in several years. Members who pledged and recurring givers are on track but she doesn’t have a feel for what the giving will be this year for the infrequent givers or whether we will meet our giving budget.

Youth Ministry

- Scott is at the Orange conference in Atlanta.
- Youth did a great job cleaning the outdoor sign.
- They are planning for Senior Sunday.
- They are looking forward to Hoops and Hangouts and someone has donated basketballs.

Preschool

Good news – all of the staff signed letters of intent to return for the next school year. The Silent Auction begins May 9 and the board is planning an end of year luncheon for the teachers.

Racial Reconciling Collaborative (RCC)

Kris Neale discussed the RCC. The RCC is meant to be a space where faith based communities can come together for difficult conversations and mutual support as we work to build the Beloved Community. Twelve churches are currently participating. The Council expressed an interest in participating in this group. The meeting dates are May 12, June 9, July 7, August 11, and September 8 at St. Phillips Episcopal Church 730 Bestgate Road, Annapolis, MD. Kris can attend all meetings except May 12. Nancy Beers may be able to attend in June and August. The group is discussing the possibility of developing a banner to be displayed by all participating churches. The group will brainstorm, develop a proposal and then bring it back to the churches for feedback.

Church History Book

Owens is reading the book and when he finishes, he will set up a time to do a video interview with Alberta. He will have more time after the semester is over.

Youth Group Banners and Flags

Corinne had asked us to consider keeping up the banners and flags that the youth group puts up on Sunday nights. Since Corinne was not at the meeting, we decided to table the discussion until she is present.

Afghan Refugee Support

Jackie Britton gave us an update on what Gloria Dei is doing – she is on their family support team. They are sponsoring a family group – helping them find housing, jobs, registering kids for school, etc. They are working with a group called Heart for Refugees which is working with 60 family groups. Jackie will talk to Gloria Dei and find how we can best help them Jen will follow up to get more clarity on the Heart for Refugees group so that we can decide if we would like to make a financial donation.

Reconnecting with members

The Tuesday night Bible study is sponsoring the May coffee hour. Roxanne noted that beginning in the fall, the Tuesday night Bible study will be in-person only instead of hybrid. Jen mentioned that we might want to see if we could also offer a separate online evening Bible study if there is interest.

Next Meeting

May 26 at 7:30.

Elizabeth closed us in prayer and the meeting adjourned at 9:06.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Cody