

Church Council Minutes
Monday, November 26, 2018

Members present: Pastor David Parker, Bob Wallin, Susan Schopf, Stina Queeno, Erin Tombaugh, Marti Russell, Marali Woessner, Jerry Grunwald, Jim Slowik

New Members present: Phil Hunsberger, Hannah Rogers

Members absent: Lanida Brophy, Cameron Cecka, Jun Sapida, Linda Jury, Julie Palmer, Joyce Atkinson

Non-Members present: Margaret Mordhorst, secretary, Rawson Mordhorst, trustees, Judy Norton

Bob Wallin called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. and welcomed new members Phil Hunsberger, (UM Men) and Hannah Rogers (Youth Representative)

Susan Schopf opened with devotions from Andy Stanley's writings entitled "Irresistible" followed with prayer.

The minutes of the council meeting held October 22, 2018, were approved as presented.

AGENDA: Discussion and action on a motion tabled last month regarding hosting The Haven's overnight program was moved under Old Business.

OLD BUSINESS:

A group of church members met with the representative of Underwood Associates, architects from Anacortes. The group presented a proposal for church renovations. Several projects are under consideration, i.e., extension of the narthex, library/conference room proposal and other improvement possibilities. The Council discussed the potential project. It was emphasized that this is a work in progress. Jerry Grunwald recommended that this project be deferred to 2020 due to the uncertainty of the Conference restructuring decision. It was noted that no money has been committed, and there will be no move forward without Council approval for any decisions made or money spent.

A motion to host The Haven for four months tabled from the last meeting in October was brought forward for discussion. A presentation for the congregation was made after church last Sunday to inform members and to receive feedback. Members discussed the responses. Disruptions to scheduled church functions were concerns identified including Lenten activities and wear-and-tear on the church. Council discussed the issue including potential increased janitorial needs, whether or not a written contract with The Haven is needed setting out requirements, assuring adequacy of insurance and other guidance. It was agreed that a contract was needed. Discussion also included opinions that the church should be used to benefit others in need—not a temple.

Jim Slowik called for the question. **The motion was made and seconded to house The Haven's overnight program for the homeless during the months of February, March, April and May 2019. The motion passed with one No vote.**

Bob Wallin will take the lead on developing the contract with The Haven for use of the building with Julie Palmer and Marti Russell assisting.

It was noted that response from other churches in the community for hosting The Haven was not positive. Only one other church has participated and their continued participation is questionable.

PASTOR'S REPORT/CALENDAR

A copy of the Update from Pastor David Parker dated October 22 - November 26, 2018, is attached marked **Attachment #1**. He reviewed his current and ongoing activities. He noted that our church must prepare for the upcoming conference and the proposals and important decisions to be made. We must be intentional in our process and preparation.

A copy of the church calendar for December is attached marked **Attachment #2**.

MEMBER REPORTS AND BUSINESS

Youth Ministries – Hannah Rogers

- The Turkey Bowl and the Bake Sale were both very successful. Thirty-three people played in the bowl, and the bake sale received over \$700.
- Painting of the youth room is nearly complete. The youth did all the work.
- Attendance at youth events is increasing.

Stewardship and Finance – Jerry Grunwald

- Jerry asked the Council to consider deferring decisions on salaries until the pledges are in and the budget is approved. He noted that the timing is awkward since the All-Church Conference is held before availability of funds for increases is known. The Council discussed the options: (1) ask to move the All-Church Conference meeting to later in the schedule of meetings; (2) do not make salary adjustments prior to the All Church Conference and revisit the issue at a later date when budget information is available. If salary increases are not given, merit increases can be made mid-year as the budget allows. The SPPR will examine these options.
- The current expense goal is \$354,000; pledges for \$336,000 have been received to date. Jerry is optimistic this will increase as some pledges have not been received as yet.
- The proposed budget will be presented at the January meeting.

Treasurer – Jim Slowik

- Jim congratulated Jerry and Margaret Grunwald on their 58th Wedding Anniversary celebrated with flowers on the alter last Sunday.
- Nothing out of the ordinary is evident. It is a challenge to get dollars allocated to the right category.

Lay Leader – Susan Schopf

- No report

Worship Team – Stina Queeno reported in Joyce's absence

- During the Advent season, the offering will be taken during the anthem at the beginning of the service.
- There will be a sanctuary decorating party on Friday at 10 a.m.
- CPR training will be held in the near future.

Music Ministry – Stina Queeno

- The choir performed at the Thanksgiving service with one singer joining from the Lutheran Church.
- An opportunity to go caroling to shut-ins will be held on December 15.
- The Wednesday Kids sang in the service on Sunday.
- The next opportunity being planned for the kids will be a ring-n-sing.
- The piano will be tuned before Christmas.

Family Ministries – Erin Tombaugh

- The Stop, Sip and Go Halloween event had about 35 people from out of the church attending together with church attendees. The team is evaluating whether to restructure or discontinue the event. No decision has been made.
- Adventure to Christmas is being planned with crafts and activity stations.
- The Wednesday night parents group is preparing 25 stockings for 6-12 year olds in foster families as a part of "Kids First."
- A Christmas Eve pageant is being prepared.

Mission Outreach – Bob Wallin reported in Julie’s absence

- The Christmas Eve offering will be given to The Haven and will be matched by an unknown donor.
- \$1,000 will be donated to Help House for Christmas baskets.

Membership and Evangelism – Jun Sapida

- Absent, no report

Staff Pastor Parish Relations – Judy Norton reported in Linda’s absence

- The Team is working on the budget.

All job descriptions have been revised. Desk guides have been established for all employees except Peggy, Stina and Sandy which are in process. Upon request, “Desk Guide” was defined for Council members as a more detailed job description, i.e., “a journey through a week of work.”

- The Team is in the process of hiring an additional nursery worker.
- Both new- hires, bookkeeper and custodian, are in the learning stages of their jobs but are doing well.
- Wage increases for staff are on hold awaiting budget information.

Marti Russell asked that the custodian be under the supervision of the Trustees. Council discussed this request. It was concluded that the SPPR has responsibility for Human Resources matters for all employees, but better communication with the trustees regarding the duties of the job would be beneficial for all.

Trustees – Marti Russell

- The new shed requested by the Garden Club is in place and in use on the back parking lot.
- Erin currently has no carpet in the Scott house. A vinyl, wood-look flooring is scheduled to be installed.
- Bids on painting of the sanctuary have been requested.
- The dishwasher is in working condition, but new parts have been ordered and will be installed.
- AT&T will install a wireless contact in the bell tower.
- Jason Jury is preparing a Bus and Van Policy and Procedure manual.

UMW – Marali Woessner

- The UMW has decided to meet every other month due to the difficulty of securing interesting programs.
- A Cookie Exchange will be held on Tuesday, December 11 at noon.

United Methodist Men – Phil Hunsberger

Bob Wallin announced that Phil has taken on the responsibility of revitalizing the United Methodist Men and asked him to discuss his plans.

- Phil reported that his vision is to build trust and friendship in a group of men interested in spiritual growth and community service, giving back to the church and the community
- A brunch is planned for Saturday, January 12, 2019.

Conference Representative—Susan Schopf

- In preparation for the changes ahead of us, the Conference has recommended participation in a year-long personal devotional journey with a book by Brian McLaren, “We Make the Road by Walking.”

Membership and Evangelism –

There is a need to re-evaluate the focus of the Team. The duties of the Team are extensive and often more than individuals want to take on. It has been suggested that the Team be divided into two separate teams, i.e., (1) Membership and (2) Evangelism, with duties divided between the two. Information on the teams goals and responsibilities was made available. A copy is marked as **Attachment #3** to these minutes.

Bob Wallin suggested that we are better together and asked us to think about why church membership matters.

Pastor David gave words of wisdom as to how to live: With Gratitude for the past and Hope for the future.

The meeting was closed with prayer at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Mordhorst
Recording Secretary

Attachment #1: Pastor's Activity Report dated October 22, - November 26, 2018
Attachment #2: Activity Calendar
Attachment #3: Information on Membership and Evangelism Team Goals and Responsibilities