

Dunbarton Congregational Church
Church Council Meeting
March 11, 2018

Present: **Vice Moderator** – Jen Oliver
Clerk – Lynn Leslie
Pastor Chris Owen
C/E & Curios – Stephanie Herlihy
Deacons – Marsha McKay
Missions – Patti Shearin
Search Committee – Jen Oliver
Stewardship – Linda Morse
Communications – Linda Morse
Treasurer – Absent
Trustees – Tom Bennett
At Large – Barbara Bennett & Margaret Venator
Music – absent
In attendance: Scott Leslie

February minutes were accepted.

New Business:

- **Membership:** Letters will be sent to people who have moved or have not attended church requesting if they want letters of transfer, no response to letters should put these members on to an inactive list. The list will be reviewed, verified and updated by the moderator, vice-moderator and clerk hopefully before a new pastor starts. Additional lists of inactive members and “friends” will also be prepared.
- **Vision/Mission Statement:**
 - It was agreed the current mission statement will remain as stated in our bylaws: *To live according to God’s teachings, believing in the worth of all persons, to build an outreaching, supportive community, to foster individual spiritual growth, and to provide for all ages the experience of Christian values through teaching and example.*
 - A vision statement will be developed after input was received by committee members including:
 - Community church
 - Giving opportunity to grow in Christ-like life
 - Outreach – neighborhood support
 - Mission work in coordination Fresh Start Farms – educate, advocate
 - Increase church visibility
 - Teaching church – pastoral students

Reports:

- **Treasurer:** Absent
- **Trustees:**
 - Looking at insurance quotes to compare to current provider
 - Tammy Bowne was voted on and accepted as a new Trustee
 - The Trustees recommended the idea of an ad-hoc committee-- consisting of a Trustee, the Moderator, and the PPRC-- to do the pastoral compensation review in Nov/Dec.
 - The vestry is ready to rent out. The Trustees will develop the terms & agreement for functions to present at the next council meeting. A person is needed to market, schedule and provide information for the use of the vestry.
 - March 24th from 8 to noon will be clean-up day. An assignment list will be made.

- **Missions:**
 - The committee is going to purchase & donate a collection of books on diversity that will be available to the town library and school
 - Planning a reception for Fresh Start Farms
 - Merrimack Conference has asked for church stories of the three great loves; Love of Neighbor, Love of Children, and Love of Creation. Portions of the annual report covers this information and will be used.
- **Deacons:**
 - The baptism is February identified the need for new materials
 - Getting ready for Easter. Sunrise service will be at 6:30 am. Breakfast was previously provided by the Trustees. Tom will check with the other Trustees to see if they are able to do it this year.
 - Blessing of the Animals will be April 29th.
- **C/E:**
 - The resurrection walk will be on Palm Sunday (weather & snow permitting)
 - Easter bags on the 31st and Easter egg hunt on Easter Sunday
 - There are three prospects for the Horton Center camp
- **Curios:**
 - February income was \$1,251 before expenses
 - Closed the late shift one day due to the snow storm
- **Pastor:**
 - Focus has been on adult study
 - Thought: first invite to newcomers might be to a church function rather than Sunday service
 - Recommends attendance of "Part Time Pastor/Full Time Church". The best workshops look to be on Saturday. (Barb Bennett, Jen Oliver and Linda Morse will be attending)
- **Stewardship:** no update
- **Communications:** no update

Discussions:

- Barb Bennett will check with the town to verify rules and regulations for installing a sign.
- Advertising for church events can be forwarded to Anne Zeller for posting in local news announcements.

Next Church Council meeting April 15th