

Dunbarton Congregational Church  
Church Council Meeting  
October 13, 2019

Present:      **Moderator** – Linda Morse  
                 **Clerk** – Lynn Leslie  
                 **Pastor** Absent  
                 **C/E & Curios** – Stephanie Herlihy  
                 **Deacons** – Carol-Ann Jane  
                 **Missions** – Patty Shearin  
                 **Stewardship** – Jen Oliver  
                 **Communications** – Linda Morse  
                 **Treasurer** – *Absent*  
                 **Trustees** – Mike Shearin  
                 **Music** – Absent  
                 **Open & Affirming** – Carol-Ann Jane  
                 **At Large** – Margaret Venator & Barb Bennett  
                 **In Attendance** – Scott Leslie

Opening Prayer

September minutes were accepted

**Updates on Old Business:**

- **Open & Affirming:**
  - Lunch to follow after service on October 20<sup>th</sup>. Gerri Cannon will speak about O & A during the service and remain for the luncheon for further conversation. Committees will bring dishes and hot dogs & hamburgers will be grilled.
- **Creation Justice:**
  - Food for Thought on November 9<sup>th</sup> will focus on plant-based cooking. Check with Patty Shearin or Jen Oliver if recipe suggestions are needed. This Food for Thought evening is to educate and explore the various choices and benefits of healthy eating and the importance of supporting local farmers.
  - The “Green Team” will continue gathering information & ideas to bring to the congregation in the future to determine if the church wants to accept a plan for the Creation Justice certification.
  - There was a lengthy discussion about making sure DCC remains all-inclusive and non-judgmental regarding any earth steward initiatives undertaken as part of the Creation Justice process.
- **Communications – Church sign**
  - The new church sign has been donated by Margaret Venator.
  - The sign company has DCC on their schedule and will contact Scott Leslie when they can begin the project.
  - It is still uncertain if the existing granite posts will or can be removed...to be determined once the sign company takes a look.
  - It was suggested that the plants under the current sign be removed and the area be bricked in to make it easier to access the new sign when changing the wording.
  - Linda Morse has said she will be responsible for changing the sign wording as needed and Stephanie Herlihy will also help.

- **Stewardship:**
  - Stewardship Sunday is November 3<sup>rd</sup> with a luncheon to follow. Committees will bring dishes: Stewardship main dishes, CE desserts, Missions sides, Deacons drinks.
  - Pledge request letters will be going out soon and will include a pack of seeds.
  - Stewardship will help with the mailing of pledge statements/reminders.
- **Halloween:**
  - Candy is needed and Patty will check with Danny van Kalken about playing the organ on Halloween night.

## **Committee & Pastor Reports:**

- **Pastor:**
  - Pastor Robert was off this Sunday but sent his report via email, the full report is included with the hard copy minutes in the file. Summary below:
    - On Sunday Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> Robert represented Dunbarton at the Merrimack Association meeting in Laconia.
    - He is continuing to attend the “Newly Called in NH Pastoral Leadership Development Group”
    - On Saturday the 19<sup>th</sup> he will attend the annual meeting of the NH Conference.
    - Wednesdays have been working out pretty well for office hours. Feel free to drop by and visit.
    - In December (Monday nights, 7-8:30) will be adult education Bible study for advent. He has ordered 10 devotionals and will use those as a jumping off point.
    - Reminder: any news for the weekly newsletter needs to be to him by 4:30 to 5:00 on Wednesday .
- **Trustees:**
  - No update
- **Missions:**
  - There will be a presentation on October 27<sup>th</sup> during the worship service by Dr. Larry Hamilton on climate change. The first 48 attendees will receive stainless steel straws.
  - Patty is sending out letters for those people who would like Thanksgiving baskets.
  - Patty will be contacting the school nurse referencing the Secret Elf recipients
  - Flu shots will be November 5<sup>th</sup> from 9 to 11
- **C/E:**
  - Robert will be doing adult education on Mondays in December from 6:30 to 8:00
  - Movie night will hopefully be December 13<sup>th</sup>. Mark Lang purchased a series of recorded live plays. Looking for environmentally theme movies for kids and family.
  - October 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 Mark Lang will do a “Stop the Bleed” presentation in the vestry
  - Ladies Games night will be October 25<sup>th</sup>. This is open to the community and has given us a chance to meet new people.
  - November 7<sup>th</sup> the book club is reading *Real Good Church*.
- **Curios:**
  - Doing good. Volunteers continue to step up when needed.

- **Deacons:**
  - Robert is in contact with St. Johns about doing the Thanksgiving service together
  - Joyce Ray has suggested scheduling Sunday greeters and readers on a monthly basis
  - Christmas music is going to be reprinted because it's in bad shape
  - Caroling will be on December 15<sup>th</sup>. Let the deacons know if there is anyone new to sing to.
  - Expenses have used up the budget so they will wait until next year for the piano cover
  - It looks like the music budget should go up to \$1,800.
- **Music:** *Absent*
- **Discussions:**
  - Don't forget to add events to the website calendar to avoid conflicts for the use of the vestry
  - Barb invited anyone interested to join the book club
  - Mike will check into training for active shooter situations

***The next Church Council meeting is November 10th after the church service.***