

Dunbarton Congregational Church
Church Council Meeting
November 11, 2019

Present: **Moderator** – Linda Morse
Clerk – Lynn Leslie
Pastor Robert Vodra
C/E – Susan Johonnett
Deacons – Marsha McKay
Missions – Anne Zeller
Stewardship – Jen Oliver
Communications – Linda Morse & Bob Ray
Treasurer – *Absent*
Trustees – Scott Leslie
Music – Lizz Ferdina
Open & Affirming – Joyce Ray
At Large – *Absent*

Opening Prayer

October minutes were accepted

Updates on Old Business:

- **Open & Affirming:**
 - Dr. Leonard Small will speak on Sunday, November 17th after church service in the vestry. He will speak on the biological facts concerning gender identity. A lunch of soup/bread/dessert will be served.
 - Joyce stated that all members should attend at least one informational session to be informed and have the opportunity to ask questions.
- **Creation Justice initiative:**
 - Each committee will be approached to discuss how they can participate in creation justice.
 - There will be a discussion with each committee to determine that there is enough energy to continue.
 - A survey/questionnaire will be distributed to address concerns.
 - The creation justice team is to educate and set goals and a vision for the church.
- **Christmas Concert: December 8th at 4:00 pm**
 - Lizz is doing all of the organizing this year but does not want to do it alone next year.
 - Choir practices have been on Tuesdays and Wednesdays
 - There will be volunteers to decorate and the balcony will be used this year.
 - Advertising is a money-maker. There are forms to bring to businesses online.
 - The Curios volunteers will get free admission
 - More raffle baskets are needed. It was suggested that each committee make up a basket to be donated. Jen will help.
- **Communications – Church sign**
 - The granite posts have been removed and donated to the historical society.
 - The plants and bulbs have been removed
 - The wiring for the electricity still needs to be dug up.

- **Active shooter training:** Mike Shearin spoke to the police and will line up a date in January, probably on a Thursday night. It is recommended that all the trustees and deacons take the training and any other church members who are interested.

New Business:

- **Website/Social Media:**
 - It was suggested to get pictures of council and committee members on the website. Also, take pictures during activities to post online.
 - **Each committee needs to assign one person to be responsible for updating the calendar and Bob Ray will train.**
- **Curios door repair & invoice:**
 - Scott will submit an invoice for the repair window in the door of the Curios. The amount will include the cost of the glass and labor. The total amount will be deducted from the rent payment.
- **Communications/Stewardship budgets:**
 - It was approved that the extra funds in the communications budget can be charged by Stewardship to cover the costs of printing and postage.

Committee & Pastor Reports:

- **Pastor:**
 - Robert went to the Conference Annual meeting on October 19th. He was elected chair of the Wider Church Relations Ministry for another year.
 - Suggested some kind of DCC advertising when giving out candy for Halloween next year.
 - Continued to attend most church meetings. Appreciates guest speakers as it gives him a bit of a break, but still does the bulletins and leads other parts of the services.
 - Worked on Facebook stuff.
 - Robert will join in the service at St. Johns on Thanksgiving morning.
 - Bible study will start in December.
 - He is making some small changes to the worship service. Please let him know if you like, or don't like, the changes.
- **Trustees:**
 - Budgets due December 15th.
 - No financials available.
- **Missions:**
 - A curtain will be added to the window behind the piano.
 - Thanksgiving baskets foods need to be brought to the vestry by November 24th.
- **C/E:**
 - The Food for Thought was poorly attended, but there were competing activities in town.
- **Deacons:**
 - No news to update
- **Music:**
 - Caroling will be on December 15th
 - Musicians for church services are lined up for the rest of the year.

- **Stewardship:**
 - Pledge reminders for 2019 have been mailed, as well as the Stewardship pledge mailing for the upcoming year.
- **Discussions:**
 - Joyce suggested the church offer the vestry for use to the Town Hall Restoration committee and other community venues no cost. This is to be passed to the trustees for consideration.

Closing prayer

The next Church Council meeting is December 8th after the church service.