

Dunbarton Congregational Church
Church Council Meeting
November 18, 2018

Present: **Moderator** – Alexis Wallace
Clerk – Lynn Leslie
Pastor Chris Owen
C/E & Curios – Stephanie Herlihy
Deacons – Marsha McKay
Missions – Anne Zeller
Stewardship – Jen Oliver
Communications – Linda Morse
Treasurer – Absent
Trustees – Dean Bacon
At Large – Margaret Venator
Music – Lizz Ferdina
In attendance – Bob Ray & Jeff Wallace

October minutes were accepted.

Reports:

- **Treasurer: Report accepted**
 - There is a deficit of \$1225
 - Statements were sent out to those who pledge. The stewardship committee helped with the mailing.
 - Pledges are down
- **Trustees:** Committee budgets are needed by December 12th
- **Pastor Chris:**
 - Met with Dan Andrus of St. Johns regarding the Thanksgiving Day service. Pastor Chris will participate in the service. Keep in mind the Dan is a good connection to St. Johns
 - Met with Robert Vodra and will be available to him as needed.
 - Roger and Gwen Rice have transferred their membership from Lee Church Congregational and will be accepted into DCC next Sunday, the 25th
 - In lieu of an exit interview, Chris and the council discussed his impressions of the last two years. Chris has had a nice two years with this church that saw him through some personal losses. He was thankful for the level of competence in the church. Reminding us that we do not need to manage on our own. We want to connect as gifted people and share those gifts with each other and the community.
 - Comments from council members:
 - “Blessed to have him with us. He’s been a great role model”
 - “Appreciate the sharing and adult ed.”
 - “helped us to focus”
 - “enjoyed the Quaker circle that can help with problem resolution”
 - “wonderful on a personal level and sharing”
- **C/E:**
 - Eleanor will be making ornaments with the kids and would like to put them on the tree in the church.
 - The bulletin board will cost \$250 without the whiteboard and cork. Mark Lang offered to donate the bulletin board in memory of Nancy. Dean suggested that the cost be covered from the memorial fund that has \$3,000 available. Motion was made and approved to cover the cost from the memorial fund that will include a name plate in memory of Nancy Lang.

- **Curios:**
 - There was a returned check in the amount of \$81 plus a bank fee of \$20. Stephanie has followed up with the writer of the check several times, but he has not reimbursed the Curios for the amount due. Further action may be taken with the police.
 - There's a large amount of Christmas decorations available at the Curios, so there will be a sale on the first Saturday of December. A suggestion was made to use some for a raffle prize at the Christmas Concert.
- **Communications:**
 - Linda asked for ideas for the annual report cover. Suggested to grow the plant from last year's annual report to a full blossom.
- **Deacons:**
 - They're coordinating the timing to get the kids back from church school to communion in time
 - Working on name tags
 - Thinking of using a separate envelop for community fund collection. May be passed out with the bulletin
 - Piano was tuned last week
 - A suggestion was made to have a monthly pot luck luncheon after service
 - There was training on how to run the music program
 - The Christmas Carol books are being redone
- **Music:**
 - Caroling will be the 9th or 16th
 - Stephanie and Jen volunteered to serve refreshments in the balcony for the Christmas Concert
 - Looking for more kids to sing in the concert
 - Barb, Anne and Sue Bracy will decorate the church for the concert
 - Lizz will be meeting with Robert on Monday, regarding the music for his service
- **Missions:**
 - The flu clinic was done; there was a smaller turnout from last year
 - Shelley did a food drive at the school that will be donated to the food pantry
 - There was a request for 18 Thanksgiving baskets. The Silver Birch 4H and St. Johns also contributed
 - The Secret Elf included 13 families with 33 kids. Capitol Well and the Dunbarton PD are contributing, also
 - The mission board account balance is \$712.
 - Missions will sponsor a \$50 ad in the Christmas Concert program in support of Fresh Start Farm.
 - \$368 was used for utility assistance
 - 2019 mission focus will be "Climate Change"
- **Stewardship:**
 - Pledges have dropped by 20% yearly for the past few years

Discussions & old business:

- Reception / luncheon next week, the 25th, after church for Chris' last day. Barb and Stephanie will coordinate
- The sign is still on hold

Next Church Council meeting December 16th at 9:00 am