

Dunbarton Congregational Church
Church Council Meeting via Zoom
December 13, 2020

Present:

Moderator – Linda Morse
Vice Moderator – Scott Leslie
Clerk – Lynn Leslie
Pastor Robert Vodra
C/E & Curios – Stephanie Herlihy
Deacons – Carol-Ann Jane
Missions – Anne Zeller
Stewardship – Linda Morse
Treasurer – *Absent*
Trustees – Tom Bennett
Communications – Bob Ray
Music – Lizz Ferdina
Members at Large – Barb Bennett
In Attendance – Joyce Ray (PRC), Marsha McKay, Mark Lang

Opening Prayer: Pastor Robert

November Church Council minutes were approved

Christmas Eve Service:

- The Christmas Eve service will be live via zoom at 7:00 pm
- The readers are set. Those participating in the virtual service will be encouraged to have a candle ready for lighting at the end while singing Silent Night.
- The zoom invite goes out to everyone on the DCC email distribution list. Robert will check a way to include others while maintaining security and avoiding a zoom “bomb” or takeover of the meeting and look to record and post to YouTube.
- Bill Zeller will ring the church bell on Christmas Eve at 6:00 pm for 2 minutes as part of the community bell ringing idea

Christmas Concert update:

- Lizz had enough musicians participating.
- Last checked there were about 260 views of the concert on YouTube. At least three DVDs will be made to give to people who are not able to access the internet.
- Sponsors contributed \$450
- Lizz will send out thank-you emails to the musicians. Linda will send thank-you notes to the sponsors.

Stewardship:

- Pledges received so far for 2021: 22 units equaling \$26,762, currently behind last year
- It was questionable who orders the pledge envelopes. Lizz would send an email to ask Pam.

Trustees:

- Wreath sales reached \$973. Not as much activity as last year.

Curios:

- The sale in November made \$1,992, along with cash donations given to the Curios, brings the account balance to \$3,200. This will cover some of the expenses during the shutdown.

- The storage area in the barn has become unsafe. A beam has fallen, and the floor is getting questionable.
- Jen Oliver's property may be ready by next August, but it will take a lot of work to get it presentable. The Curios insurance is covered by the current church policy.
- Stephanie will get together with Jackie McCarthy and Don Larson to approach the owner of the gas station building about a rental possibility.
- Bill Zeller has volunteered some of his barn to use as storage for the Curios overflow items.
- The Curios received a nice thank you note from a woman who frequents the shop saying how delighted she was to be able to get a lot of her Christmas shopping done during the November sale.
- The lease on the current location ends on September 30, 2021.

Annual Meeting Reminder:

- The annual meeting will be on January 31, 2021. Committee reports should be to Linda by January 16th.
 - Budgets needed:
 - C/E = \$150
 - Open & Affirming – annual contribution to the national O&A = \$100
 - Fundraising next year estimate of \$7,000
- Nominating Committee:
 - Patty Shearin will stay on one more year in Missions
 - Two deacons are needed, who are available during the summer months

Pastoral Relations Committee:

- Recommendations include:
 - Additional money to cover the increase of insurance
 - A cost-of-living increase
 - An additional week of vacation (total 5 weeks) due to the messed-up year of 2020

Discussions:

- Think of priorities for the church in the coming year(s)
- Can more community members be recruited to assist on committees?
- How can we encourage more community involvement?
- When mail is sent out from the church requesting a response, be sure to indicate whose attention it should be addressed.
- Be sure to close the church and vestry doors quickly to avoid critters from entering while you're not looking. A cat recently got trapped in the sanctuary, unknown from whence he came.

Closing Prayer

Next Church Council meeting will be January 10th at 11:00 am via zoom.