

Dunbarton Congregational Church
Church Council Meeting
December 8, 2019

Present: **Moderator** – Linda Morse
 Vice Moderator – Jen Oliver
 Clerk – Lynn Leslie
 Pastor Robert Vodra
 C/E & Curios – Stephanie Herlihy
 Deacons – Carol-Ann Jane
 Missions – Anne Zeller
 Stewardship – Jen Oliver
 Communications – Linda Morse
 Treasurer – *Absent*
 Trustees – Tom Bennett
 Open & Affirming – Joyce Ray
 At Large – Barb Bennett

Opening Prayer

November minutes were accepted

Updates on Old Business:

- **Christmas Concert:**
 - Next year, in September, it is imperative to begin a committee for organizing the Christmas concert. A list should be created for tasks and responsibilities to avoid any confusion as to who is doing what and when things should be done & completed.
- **Creation Justice:**
 - Next meeting will be January 19th. No update – taking a Christmas break.
- **Open & Affirming:**
 - The soup luncheon with Dr. Small was a success. Can these sessions be videoed in the future for those who are unable to attend? Might Dr. Small return for another session? If Dr. Small is giving another presentation in the area might some people from DCC attend? Carol-Ann will check these possibilities.
 - The January Food for Thought subject will refer to O&A.

New Business:

- **Annual Meeting:**
 - Scheduled for January 26, 2020. Snow date will be February 2, 2020.
 - Reports from the committees, officers and pastor should be sent to Linda by January 10th.
 - The overview presentations at the annual meeting from the committees should focus on goals and plans for the coming year.
 - Finger foods and snack will be needed that day.

- **Budget and Pledges:**
 - Twenty-two pledges have been received for a total of \$27,000. There are 20 more missing that are involved with the church that should be pledging, and 12 of those have been recent pledgers. The trustees expect another \$8,000 will come in, topping out at \$35,000, so we are below expectations.
 - It appears this past pledge reminder did not make a significant change, although there was a bump in income in October when the notices went out. We are behind about \$3,300 for 2019.
 - The stewardship committee will make personal contact with those who have not yet pledged. It appears that there may have been situational changes for some people, and it has affected their pledging amounts.
 - Income from the Curios continues to increase each year, and the store was able to give \$4,000 more to the church.
 - The church will need to do more fund raising overall.
 - Pledges for the vestry renovation came up short about \$7,000.
 - Resolve the difference by:
 - Fundraising?
 - Payment from the capital reserve?
 - Items sold in the Curios?
 - Loan?
 - Profits from DCC Breakfasts will go toward the vestry renovation loan because the campership fund is stable at this time.
- **Discussions:**
 - A donation was given by Greta Cook and family in appreciation of the church.
 - An **executive session** consisting of quorum members only will meet **Sunday, December 15th at 9:00** (before church service) for discussion of the pastor's compensation package for 2020. Pastor Robert stated he did not feel that his attendance is necessary this year. A vote will be taken on a recommendation to the Trustees.
 - A PRC member will attend but not have a vote as that committee is not a CC quorum committee.
 - Robert will attend the Trustees meeting on the 18th and be informed of the recommendations.
 - The PRC will complete a formal pastoral review for presentation at an upcoming CC meeting, as stated in the Call, to help establish pastoral and CC goals for 2020.
 - The missions committee is no longer responsible for community Christmas baskets. This will now be done by the town.
 - Carol-Ann has been updating a paper copy calendar for posting in the church and finding that there are too many entries (particularly for December). It was suggested that she keep it focused on the basic monthly events and to let the communications committee deal with any other items, also noting that the website calendar should be up to date.
 - Robert mentioned that there was a nice Thanksgiving Service with St. John. It was great to take time to honor long term members last week and he's looking forward to the Christmas Concert. December is a busy month.

The next Church Council meeting is January 12th after the church service.