2016 Council
Minutes of Meeting
August 9, 2016
7:00 PM

Present: Patrice McCracken, Barb Martin, Marlene Evans, Stephanie Adelsperger, Charlie Garrison, Denny Crutcher, Jim Fields, Amber Ernst and Gail Garrison.

Meeting Called to Order: Denny Crutcher opened our meeting with prayer at 7:00 PM.

Devotions: Jim Fields began with a devotion read from his favorite devotion book, “365 Devotions”. He read about forgiveness referencing the following verse, Colossians 3:13. This led to a discussion of how hard it is for all of us at times to give unconditional forgiveness as God has told us we must.

God Moments: Council
- Amber Ernst shared with us how her ability to stand for the entire service on Sunday given the week she had was her God moment.
- Denny Crutcher told us he often struggles with a sharp, sarcastic tongue. He felt God during the Congregational meeting and felt that he handled the stress very well.
- Stephanie Adelsperger shared that there are great things happening in her family right now.
- Charlie Garrison shared that they are going through a lot of turmoil right now but they went on a history walking tour last Saturday in Spring Grove Cemetery, which was relaxing and a good experience.
- Jim Fields shared that it was nice to hear that everyone else also struggles.
- Marlene Evans was thankful for their safe travels during the recent trip.

Meeting Minutes: Gail Garrison
- Motion to approve July 12, 2016 meeting minutes as amended was made by Charlie Garrison, second by Patrice McCracken. Motion carried with no objections.

Action Items:
- All Action Items were updated.

- Note that the budget for 2016 has been increased $5,800 as approved at the July 24, 2016 Congregational Meeting, this increase comprises increasing Adult Transformation by $3,050 to $3,500; increasing Small Groups by $250 to $500; and increasing Evangelism by $2,500 to $7,500.
• Giving for the month was $36,623, which is $1,207 lower than budget and $11,735 lower than July 2015.
• Total expenses for the month were $35,351, which is $3,006 under budget. Personnel Expenses are under budget primarily due to the inclusion of the cost of a Families Minister in the budget (not hired yet). Local Ministries is over budget by $2,194 for the month due to heavy spending on VBS and the We Care Fair (included in Evangelism). Note that Local Ministries is under budget on a year-to-date basis.
• On a year-to-date basis, giving through the end of July totals $282,735, which is $17,927 higher than budget and $19,291 lower than 2015.
• On a year-to-date basis, expenditures through the end of July are $41,057, which is under budget as all major categories (other than Mission Outreach) are under budget.
• The net result is that offerings and interest exceed expenditures by $56,517 through the end of July.
• Balance Sheet: At the end of July, we have a cumulative surplus of $164,497 in the General Fund. This is an increase of $56,517 the balance at December 31, 2015.

Ministry Reports – Issues
• Pastors Report
  o No questions.
• Chair Report
  o No questions.
• Vice-chair Report
  o No questions
• Treasurers Report
  o No questions
• Christian Formation
  o No questions
• Adult Ministries
  o No questions
• Giving
  o No questions.
• Stewardship and Properties
  o No questions.
• Evangelism and Outreach
  o No questions
• Worship Committee
  o No questions

Old/Unfinished Business
• No old business at this time

New Business
**Budget Overview** – Art Tucker

- Art Tucker began our discussion by going over the due dates for each step of the budget process.
- He also discussed the line item request form stressing the need to fill out as completely as possible for each addition or change for each Ministry line item that is changing.
- He also discussed the line assignment sheet with us.
- Council discussed the possibility of meeting as a group to assist those new members who have never gone through the Budget process before.

**Outside Audit** – Art Tucker

- It was brought up that an audit being done by an outside person might be in order. Art notes that he thinks this is a very good idea. We will need to make sure that a separate new line item for this is added to next year’s Budget. This would fall under the Program and Operations section of the Budget.
- Marlene had checked and found that this would cost about $6,000 for an audit done for an out of season audit. The recommendation is an outside audit be done once every three years. We will need to set up guidelines so this does not fall between the cracks.
- Barb Martin is in agreement with this process.

**Outreach Idea** – Barb Martin

- Barb Martin began her discussion by mentioning that we ended 2015 with $107,000 in the General Fund.
- She suggested that we take 10% of that surplus to give to others in need through GLC. She reached out to Garth McGrath, our Superintendent, at the GLC to see where it might be best to direct this gift. See attachment One:

  ![Barb Martin Proposal.png](attachment:Barb Martin Proposal.png)

- Barb suggested that either the GLC Scholarship Fund or Struggling Church Fund might be good places to direct this gift.
- Council suggested that this represents a “true tithe” and we should take this request to the Congregation at our annual meeting for discussion and voting.

Barb Martin made the following motion: At the Annual Meeting in December, Council will ask the congregation to donate to the Great Lakes Conference 10% of the ending balance of the 2015 General Fund. The Evangelism and Outreach Committee will recommend the GLC project/projects to receive the donation. Charlie Garrison made the second to this motion. Motion carried with no objections.

**Stewardship Sunday** – Denny Crutcher
Marlene offered to do box lunches again for our Stewardship event. Gail will help with this.
Charlie Garrison will work with Art Tucker and Pastor Joe to put packets together.
Denny will do the letter that goes out with the packets.

Realignment of VBS – Denny Crutcher
- It has been noted that Vacation Bible School should truly be under Evangelism and Outreach rather than Christian Formation going forward.
- It was decided to make this change for our 2017 Budget process.

Marlene Evans made a motion to move Vacation Bible School Budget line from Christian Formation to Evangelism and Outreach to include the 2017 budget. Amber Ernst made the second to the motion. Motion carried with no objections.

Safety Committee Recommendations – Charlie Garrison
- Charlie gave each of us a copy of the Church Safety/Security Program Proposal. See attachment Two:

attachment Two:
- After discussion of the proposal for setting up a video surveillance system for protecting our church, especially during church on Sunday. Council agreed to have the Safety and Security Team to go forward with getting the data needed so Council can review the cost of equipment as well as the cost of installation of this equipment.

Nominating Committee Proposal – Charlie Garrison
- See attachment Three and Four:

attachment Three and Four:
- Charlie Garrison went over changes on both of these documents.

Jim Fields made a motion to approve the changes to the By-Laws to be presented to the Congregation for a vote at our next business meeting. Patrice McCracken made the second to the motion. Motion carried with no objections.

Other Business
- Leadership Connection Event is scheduled for November 12, 2016. Pastor Joe will handle most of the details and Marlene has offered to handle putting together lunch and snacks.
• Family Promise Update – E & O propose that we shelve this for the present. They suggest that we could offer individual commitments to the center of time rather than material goods. We are not currently in a position to do more. Patrice will notify Family Promise of our decision.

• Denny asked if anyone knew anyone knew anything about the possibility of breakfast being served on the first day of The Story being served on that day. At this time no one is aware of any plans.

At 9:30 PM, we went to closed session for the remainder of the meeting.

Next Regular Council meeting – September 13, 2016

Devotions – Charlie Garrison – Healthy Missional Marker #7 - Heartfelt Worship

Minutes Submitted by:

Gail Garrison
Recruing Secretary

Action Items

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Comments</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Realignement of Council jobs</td>
<td>Pastor Joe</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Tabled until fall</td>
<td>09/13/16</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Background Checks for New Hires</td>
<td>Stephanie Adelsperger and Charlie Garrison</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Write up bullet points for background checks for new hires, legalese to be added by Charlie</td>
<td>09/13/16</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Minister to Children and Families</td>
<td>Susan Zaffiro</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Committee in process of interviewing applicants, pending responses to emails</td>
<td>09/13/16</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Communication issues</td>
<td>Stephanie Adelsperger and Susan Zaffiro</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Clarify with Pastor Joe</td>
<td>09/13/16</td>
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