

Council Minutes

November 16th, 2023

Present: Anne Baunach, Jonathan Baunach, Rev. Chuck Harris, Rev. Susan Kirlin-Hackett, Janene Nelson, Josh Luebke, Shannon Spicciati, and Ernest Thomas

Absent: Sheilia McLaughlin, Rev. Bridget Jones, and Lauren Mendez

Gathering Time

- **Book Study**
Anne led the group in book study, *Post-Traumatic Jesus* Introduction and Ch.1
- **Call to Order**
Anne called the meeting to order at 6:55 pm.
- **Adoption of Agenda**
Motion of to adopted agenda with adding Messiah van funds to financial report. (Susan/Jonathan). Motion passed.
- **Approval of Minutes: October 19, 2023**
Motion to approve the minutes as presented. (Janene/Shannon). Motion passed.
Made corrections to September minutes with word correction and financial report.
- **Financial Report**
Jonathan presented the financial report for November. Income for the month: \$55,623.20.
Expenses for the month: \$62,016.58. This is a difference of \$-6,393.38.
Motion to approve the financial report as presented. (Susan/Ernest). Motion passed.

Messiah van was sold for \$7800. Financial committee wants to know what to do with the money. Either holding the money in a reserve fund or put it towards general funds. Motion to move funds to the general funds reserve (Pastor Chuck/Pastor Susan). Motion passed.

Reflection on Mission, Vision & Core Values

Accountability

- **For the Good of Messiah**
 - Faith in Action is wanting to focus on meeting the needs of those who are hungry specifically teens who are experience homelessness. They want to do more with the backpack program which is in partnership with the YMCA. On Saturday, December 9th, at 11-2pm come help YMCA on helping the youth in their program at Messiah.
 - Endowment committee is meeting this Sunday, November 19th. They will have a good amount of projects to consider. After this granting endowment will be wrapping up for the year.
- **Pastors' Reports**
 - **Pastor Susan** is pulling lectionaries to change some of the language used back than to be more contemporary to language today. She is almost done with this process. She has also been thinking about Hampers. She made of list of what Messiah members can do to help with meeting the needs of Hampers. Pastor Susan is wondering if Hampers could be put

under the same umbrella as the YMCA in assisting families and youth. Finally, Pastor Susan visit a church last Sunday and noticed that they had a display of books that the church members were currently reading and allowed for members to take a book if they like. She recommend that council does the same with showing the book we are currently reading as well as upon completion of the book allow for it to be lent out to others to read.

- **Pastor Brigett** was not present due to graduating from civic academy during the night of the meeting left the following report. The Redeemer Players performance of No Body Like Jimmy is happening tomorrow night, November 17th. The Elementary Retreat with Saint Mark's & Mountain View is on Saturday, November 18th. Faith Formation is on Sunday, November 19th, following service. Look for take-home Advent soon.
- **Pastor Chuck** is going to come up with a list of targeted households for their letters of intent. After a conversation Pastor Chuck has an interesting conversation about presenting the bible as a overall narrative or chapter inverse. He decided he wants to focus on how presenting the bible as an overall narrative can be more enriching. Pastor Chuck is also wanting to be more in front on expressing what is acceptable and unacceptable when it comes to social issues or current events (i.e. openly expressing negative opinions on LGBTQ+ community) as a church. Columbia Theology in Atlanta has a foundation called the Lily Foundation are offering grants for churches to be giving financial support when it comes to helping their community outside the church.

Implement Our Mission & Ministry

- Retreat Groups - Time for Updates
 - Will be moving this to next council meeting to go over.

Sending

- **Review of Assignment & Tasks**
 - Read chapter 2,3, and 4 of Post-Traumatic Jesus with Ernest leading.
 - Plan/ Create the "What Council is Reading" display
 - Pastor Susan is going to talk to Shelia regarding Hampers.
 - Meeting date for December will be on December 14th and not the 21st due to Winter Break.
 - A vote on the Child Safety Plan will happen next meeting. Email will be sent out again on the update of the plan. Please review by the time of voting next meeting.

- **Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn the meeting. (Josh/Jonathan). Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

- **Lord's Prayer**

Pastor Chuck led the group in the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Ernest Thomas

Ernest Thomas
Council Secretary