

(The October minutes were approved at the Church Council meeting on November 14.)

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Church Council Minutes

October 10, 2024, 6:30pm

Call to Order – (Jodi) Called by Jodi Cowen, Moderator, @ 6:41 pm.

Jodi Cowen, Tracy Greymont, Bill Bond, Jennifer Dimmer, Jeanne Mantsch, Matt Riemer, Louise Mollinger, Amy Gilhooly (staff), and Rhonda Thompson.

Opening Meditation – (Jennifer) - Jennifer read a daily devotional titled, Good To Be Seen, by Rachel Hackenberg the scripture is from Exodus.

Approval of the Council Minutes – September 2024 (Rhonda)- Bill Bond motions to approve the September minutes and Jennifer Dimmer seconds the motion. The minutes are approved.

Treasurer Financial Updates (Phil) -

Financial Statements- Gross Profit total of \$158,571.13 (2024 Budget is \$148,087.75), Total Expenditures come to \$133,314.39 (2024 Budget is \$151,913.72). The checking account has a balance of \$37,296.41; the Mission account has a balance of \$200; the Cornerstone account balance is \$25,876.05; the savings account balance is \$34,706.80 and the RaiseRight checking account balance is \$2,882.13.

Contribution statements-The idea is to get them sent out in the next week October.

Insurance claim update-Once we complete the repair, have a working elevator and invoices submitted, the insurance company will work on payout to church. We need more than one copy of the insurance settlement paperwork.

Loan update- We are waiting for a closing date.

Old Business

1. Transition Updates: Consultant reached out - Is this something we want to consider? - After some discussion, it should be considered. Jodi will reach out to the consultant. Erik Walker will be helping out with Guest Leadership on November 17.

2. Property Team - Stained Glass updates- The work is complete. They repaired a total of six windows.

3. Property - AC quote- The HVAC guys were here, looked at the existing heating unit and took measurements to get us a quote.

4. Additional Team Updates if needed -There is an exploratory conversation with a local daycare about renting some of our space.

Outreach - Find a meeting time with Phil, to define where outreach money from families goes. Amy would like to be included. There is a nook to highlight the giving that is done.

Stewardship- The thought is to have smaller, more gradual amounts for the steps of the ladder. Imagine Together is the theme for the year. One change for Stewardship might be to include a reference for ways we support local organizations and what the money goes toward. Publicity should show what we do for support in the community.

Breakfast with Santa on the Hill. Flyers have been created.

Tracy would like other Council members to help with announcements at Sunday services.

5. 2025 Budget plans - Each committee should think about new requests and present them ASAP. The Property Team will have reductions. The Executive Council will work on the budget at the next executive meeting.

6. Technology update - Milwaukee PC was onsite a couple weeks ago. For right now Milwaukee PC listed some short term solutions, like faster wifi. Some needed OS updates will need to be talked about as they may impact next year's budget.

New Business

1. Baptisms - Saturday after Thanksgiving 11/30 and Sunday 12/1 during service.
2. Request for use of Fellowship Hall for party - follow up needed? 11/16 or 11/9. We will also need some help for Breakfast with Santa. Tuesday night should be set up. The high school students can help while they get a piece of pizza after unloading the trees.
3. Discussion on second Sunday service held in Sanctuary now that windows are complete. Guest leaders and music need to be considered. Tracy motions to hold a second service on the first Sunday of the month at 10:30 am if guest ministers and musicians agree that is acceptable. This will be evaluated again in February. Bill seconds that motion. The vote passes.
4. Any other new business to come before the Council? Jennifer is thinking about swag making November 17 due to the Congregational Meeting on November 24. It was discussed how the Thrive team might be a part of a conversation for Interim search and worth a conversation with a consultant. Thrive Team tools could be shared with Council and other key members.

Closing Prayer and Adjournment

Submitted by Rhonda Thompson - Clerk