

## St. John's Council Meeting April 10, 2018

The meeting was opened by President Steve Miller at 6:00 p.m. and prayer by Pastor Charles. There were 11 members present. Steve suggested that all presentations made to the Council be limited to 10 minutes.

**Minutes** from the previous meeting were approved with one correction: changed the date from June 9 to June 8 for majority of events during the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration.

**Treasurer's Report:** Accepted.

**Charity Reserve Committee:** Accepted.

**Cemetery Committee/Care Reports:** Nothing to report.

**Memorial Fund Report:** A motion was approved to purchase a Communion Table with a memorial plaque in memory of Greg Felder.

**Maintenance Reports:**

**Building Manager Report:** Mickie Angerame submitted a report requesting a church work day to thoroughly clean: kitchen cabinets inside and outside; mini-blinds; baseboards; kitchen stove and to organize upstairs storage area. She also listed the following major work areas: floors need to be re-done in FLC; outside doors need painting; power washing; repair ceiling in sanctuary; painting in some rooms; carpet cleaning; and painting of car stops in the back parking lot. Steve Miller will coordinate these concerns with Mickie.

**Christian Education Team Report:** They are making summer/activity plans. The Annual Bike-A-Thon is scheduled for May 6. A planning meeting for VBS is scheduled for May 20.

**Liaison/Worship Committee Report:** Family Day is April 29 with one service at 9:00 a.m. Council members need to arrive by 8:00 a.m. to set up chairs. The Council discussed concerns regarding the serving of Communion to members not seated in the sanctuary. It was decided that the No. 5 usher will leave the bread tray in the back of the church for serving at the same time as the wine.

**Spiritual Time:** Pastor Charles read scripture from Exodus 16: 1-3 when the Israelites left Egypt and wandered in the wilderness. He then used some references to adapting change in church systems from a book entitled, "Teaching Fish to Walk." Churches today that are open and innovative in their approach to change will be here in the long run. He encourages the Search Committee to start working no later than May 2018 on the profile we want for a pastor.

**Pastor's Report:** Attendance is down slightly compared to 2017. Suzanne has compiled a wonderful yearbook directory of organizations and those serving in leadership roles - copies are available to all. Easter services were well attended. Setting up and taking down chairs for the sunrise service should be coordinated by the Council. We need more people to be trained on the A/V system. The Council has decided to have a "meet, greet and welcome" hour with the Confirmands (scheduled for May 20 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 148) instead of subjecting them to an hour of questions. Madeline will check with the Hospitality Committee to furnish refreshments. The 3 new security cameras are installed and working really well. Two to three Council members need to meet with Mickie and develop a job description that is satisfactory to all concerned. Bobby Garza has resigned as our Maintenance Supervisor and returned the checkbook and Lowe's credit card. Pastor Charles will meet with Larry Wild to see if we can develop a regular schedule for him going forward. Publicity for the church continues in the Banner Press and on the radio with the help of Madeline Johnson. Pastor Charles is serving on the Annual Meeting Planning Committee. The meeting will be held at Camp Allen near Navasota on June 1-2. They will be installing our called Conference Minister, Reverend Don Longbottom, at the meeting as well as focusing on a vision for our Conference. We need a Delegate volunteer to attend this meeting. Pastor Charles will be attending a seminary reunion April 19-22 which will complete two weeks used of his 4-week annual vacation time.

**Associate Pastor's Report:** Not available.

**Old Business:**

**St. John's Signs:** A motion was passed to purchase three United Church of Christ Logo signs at a cost of \$237 each (2 to be placed on Hwy. 290 and 1 on FM 390W) following approval of the Memorial Committee to use Memorial funds. A motion was approved to purchase 10 directional signs guiding people to various locations within the church. Estimated cost is \$411 plus hardware and posts.

**125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** They are still compiling addresses. A motion was approved to use engraved memorial/honor bricks as a fund raiser. It is suggested that the bricks be laid in the front of the Church.

**Gravel Road at Parsonage:** In process.

**Cemetery Fence:** Mr. Ray Dietrich met with the Council to update status of the proposed fence. He brought 4 samples of fencing; Council members chose one. He also stated the family suggested this project to enhance the looks of the cemetery. He had a meeting with Joy Fuchs (County Commissioner) scheduled for April 13 (time not determined) and asked that 1-2 Council members be present (Larry Pape volunteered). After much discussion, it was approved that the Church would take the lead on the project using funds from the Nevi Lee Lauter Cemetery fund; the family will reimburse the Church for all expenses paid. Mr. Dietrich is to furnish the Council a notarized and dated Power of Attorney for Ms. Lauter.

**New Business:**

**Join Washington County Chamber:** A motion was passed to join the Washington County Chamber of Commerce at a cost of \$375 per year.

**Membership Audit Committee:** A list of 19 people has been compiled who will receive a letter from Pastor Charles asking if they are still interested in membership at St. John's.

**Holes in Stained Glass Windows:** Steve Miller will coordinate the repairs.

**Giving Envelope Order for 2019:** Generic envelopes will be ordered for the children.

Security issues need to be addressed. One pro-active suggestion is that Usher #5 lock the covered driveway door, the main door and the entry door near the office area when the service begins.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jerry Guelker, Council Secretary