

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

Corrected\*

The meeting was opened by President Steve Miller at 6:00 p.m. and prayer by Pastor Charles. There were 10 members present.

**Minutes** from the previous meeting were approved with one correction.

**Treasurer's Report:** \*The cost of the cemetery survey will be reimbursed to the General account from the Cemetery account.\* Reports accepted.

**Charity Reserve Committee:** The Fund year-to-date balance is status quo. The committee is visiting each applicant's location to assess the work being done and should have all 12 visitations completed by September.

**Cemetery Committee/Care Reports:** Larry Pape has contacted Roger's Tree Service regarding trimming of the bushes. A motion was approved to hire Roger's Tree Service for the work using their professional judgement to make it a very attractive cemetery at a total cost of \$3000.00 or less.

**Memorial Fund Report:** The Fund has a current balance of \$21,776.49.

### **Maintenance Reports:**

**Parsonage:** Pastor Charles replaced the pool lining at his expense. There haven't been any water problems from the recent rains.

**Church and Family Life Center:** There is a problem with the drain in the large kitchen sink. A motion was approved to purchase a commercial garbage disposal to be installed by the part-time maintenance person. The edge of the front left pew is splintering and needs to be repaired.

**Christian Education Team Report:** The Bike-A-Thon for Adam's Angels photo that was in the Brenham Banner Press on June 28 is available on-line. Contact Pastor Risa if you want to see it. The current estimate for VBS attendees is 101 plus volunteers. A meeting to discuss this year's confirmation class is scheduled for July 15 at 9:15 in the FLC (none of the potential confirmands are from Burton).

**Liaison/Worship Committee Report:** No meeting in June. It was suggested to leave the projector running longer at the end of the worship service for those who may have missed the earlier viewing. There was a lot of discussion about where the ushers should sit during the summer months. A motion was passed that four ushers sit near the back of the Sanctuary and the fifth usher will stay in the Narthex.

**Spiritual Time:** Pastor Charles read an article entitled, "What is the Church?" It's not a building, not an event that takes place on Sunday, even though that's how many people think. Writings in the Bible describe the Church as a community, little fellowships of the heart that are outposts of the Kingdom, a shared life. The vitality of a church is dependent on small groups.

**Pastor's Report:** There is a small decrease in attendance compared to last year. A Hymn Sing is scheduled for July 22. Pastor Charles will be conducting two weddings outside of our church. Larry Wild has been doing small maintenance jobs around the facility. We will have an article in the Area Church Directory published by the Banner Press. The Pastor's Emergency Fund has a current balance of \$8,712.54. Pastor Charles will be on vacation July 26 through August 1. A motion was approved for Pastor Risa to move from full-time back to part-time status effective July 16, 2018, in accordance with the duties outlined in the Part-time Proposal.

**Associate Pastor's Report:** Continued visits in the Care Facilities and also shared surgical visits. There is a need for re-visioning of the youth group since attendance has been very poor. Completed three Blocks (LM, IF, IP) for a total of six classes over the course of 10 days at Lexington Theological Seminary. Will be finishing up six finals, two of which include teaching volunteers about Christian History (the UCC's) and Christian Salvation during July. Will be having surgery with an estimated full recovery time of four-six weeks but is hoping to be back in the office after two weeks. Will be eligible to start work on her Master's degree in April 2019.

**Old Business:**

**125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee Report:** They are working with Ryan Pape on the price for the placement of the Memorial/Honor Bricks.

**Constitution and By-Laws:** Corrections were made to the proposed Amendment. After a lot of discussion, it was decided to eliminate gender neutral language and use the original language adopted and declared in force April 19, 1964, with a statement inserted at the end as follows: "The words 'he, his, or man' are to be considered gender neutral."

**Membership Audit Committee:** We currently have 306 active members and 182 inactive members. Up-dates will be made as needed. THANK YOU Suzanne for a job well done!

**Holes in Stained Glass in Sanctuary:** No report.

**Hire P/T Maintenance Person - Update:** We had 15 applications which were narrowed down to three applicants. Two will be interviewed, the third person didn't respond to the interview request.

**Church Security:** A motion was passed to have all Church doors, with the exception of \*one side\* of the two front doors, locked at 10:15 a.m. for Sunday services. If only one person is working alone in the church buildings, all doors will be locked. The congregation will be notified of the new procedure.

**New Business:**

**Building Managers/Custodian Payment Plan:** In order to alleviate discrepancies between the Building Manager and FLC Custodian, the Council approved the following:

- Each position will be paid in accordance with the number of hours worked and rules for Contract Labor. The \*Church custodian\* hourly rate was increased to \$14.00.
- Each of the staff members report directly to the Senior Pastor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.

**Pending Business before the Council:**

- Job description for Building Manager and June Makowsky.
- Consider replacing 12 thermostats with Eco Bee thermostats.
- Free Legal Service presentation tabled until the Fall.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jerry Guelker, Council Secretary