

## St. John's Council Meeting September 11, 2018

The meeting was opened by President Steve Miller at 6:00 p.m. and prayer by Pastor Charles. There were 8 members present.

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

**Treasurer's Report:** Reports accepted. A new signature card at Burton State Bank is required for the Safe Deposit Box. A motion was made by Blake Emmett and seconded by Ina Eckert to remove the names of Glen Schoeneberg, Sandra Brouillette and add Suzanne Kessler, Larry Winkelmann and Sally Dunford. Motion passed.

**Charity Reserve Committee:** No meeting in August. Bill Comiskey reported that all reviews of the 12 applicants have been completed. A motion was made by Dean Fuchs and seconded by Larry Pape to distribute varying amounts to the applicants, totaling \$40,000.00, by the end of the year. Motion passed.

**Cemetery Committee/Care Reports:** Everything looks good.

**Memorial Fund Report:** The Fund has a current balance of \$22,151.49. There were no expenditures. Discussion followed regarding how Memorial Funds should be used (tabled to a future date).

### **Maintenance Reports:**

**Parsonage:** Nothing significant to report.

**Church and Family Life Center:** A garbage disposal has been installed under the kitchen sink. An emergency exit sign on the second floor of the FLC has been repaired. Brenham Heating and Air replaced a sensor on one of the outside units.

**Christian Education Team Report:** Chelsea Michalak and Whitney Glenz have volunteered to lead the Youth Sunday School class. A confirmation class has been added to our Sunday School program and is being taught by Keith Kelm, Amy Fritsch, and Christy Moran. The purpose of this class is to work on preparation for the upcoming Wednesday Confirmation session.

**Liaison/Worship Committee Report:** The Worship Survey has been completed and all comments reported. The congregation will no longer be ushered out at the end of the service. Council members will be sitting in the back of the sanctuary.

**Spiritual Time:** Pastor Charles reflected on events of 9/11/2001 followed by a moment of silence and prayer. Scripture was read from Matthew 5:38-48 reminding us of lessons from Jesus on what to do when faced with adversity in our daily lives.

### **Pastor's Report:**

-Attendance at the 8:00 a.m. service is down.

-Announcements will no longer be made from the Chancel since they are listed on the screen.

-We have four families who have expressed interest in becoming members. A "New Member" Sunday will be scheduled for either the end of October or first part of November.

-The free plan for our three security cameras will no longer be available if we install more cameras. The Extended Plan which covers 5 cameras is \$9.99/month or \$99.99 for an annual subscription. The decision for installing a camera in the kitchen was tabled.

-Equipment to beam Wi-Fi from the church to the parsonage has been purchased for \$200.00 and installation should be completed sometime this month saving the church \$50.00/month when Texas Broadband is cancelled. Pastor Charles will be reimbursed the cost of the equipment.

-A quarter-page color ad will be published by the Banner Press in their Fall/Winter Newcomer and Visitor Guide for a cost of \$230.00. The guide is distributed for six months.

-We are sponsoring the KWHI broadcast of the Burton Panther Football game on September 21 for a cost of \$72.00. This includes three 30-second ads and Sponsor Billboards before and after the game.

-Assistance to a homeless family was given in the amount of \$80.00 which leaves a balance of \$9,840.00 in the Pastor's Emergency Fund as of August 31, 2018.

**Associate Pastor's Report:** Pastor Risa will be returning to work September 12 from paid sick leave following surgery.

**Old Business:**

**125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee Report:**

-It has been proposed that a monument be erected at the cemetery honoring our veterans who served our country during times of war from World War II to the present.

-Beginning in November there will be a short Power Point presentation on one Sunday a month during both services highlighting significant events in our 125-year history. Tentative schedule is: January - Our Founding Fathers; February - Traditions and Keepsakes; March - Anniversary Mementos; April - Photo Canvas of Easter Crosses; May - Tribute to Veterans; and June - Dedication of 345 Memorial/Honor Bricks.

**Constitution Approval:** Council approved the amended Constitution and By-Laws printed on September 11, 2018, based on three changes that will be made prior to submitting the document to the congregation for approval.

**Membership Audit Committee - On-going:** As of 9/11/2018, Suzanne Kessler has completed and printed the first Active/Inactive Member list. Changes are continuing. GREAT JOB SUZANNE!

**Holes in Stained Glass in Sanctuary - On-going:** Foster Stained Glass in College Station reviewed all of the windows needing repair and is working on an estimate. It was suggested that the cost of repairs be paid from Memorial Funds.

**N. Lauter Request for Return of Funds:** Following consultation with our Association Lawyer, a meeting of the Elders and a meeting with Dr. Dietrich, it was decided to consider different things that could be done to "beautify" the cemetery. We will be gathering information and cost estimates needed to build a Columbarium.

**New Business:**

**Council Table @ Activities Fair:** Tabled to October.

**Remove/Replace Dishwasher:** A motion was passed to remove the dishwasher and use the space for storage.

**Establish Parsonage Remodel Committee:** Larry Pape will chair a committee of three total members. There is some work that can be completed now.

**Homecoming Date:** Homecoming will be held October 28 with one service at 9:00 a.m. Lori Krolczyk will be coordinating the event.

**New Thermostats in FLC:** A motion was passed to purchase 19 ecobee3 lite Smart Thermostats to be installed in the church and FLC for a total cost of \$3,211.00.

**New Contract for Interim Pastor:** Pastor Charles is willing to work on a month-to-month basis with a salary increase. The contract will be discussed by the Executive Committee.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.

**Pending Business before the Council:** (1) Job description for Building Manager and June Makowsky; (2) Free Legal Service presentation tabled until the Fall; (3) Council table at the Activities Fair October 21, 2018; (4) How should Memorial Funds be expended; (5) Installation of kitchen security camera.

Respectfully submitted, Jerry Guelker, Council Secretary