

## St. John's Council Meeting October 9, 2018

**\*Amended\***

The meeting was opened by President Steve Miller at 6:03 p.m. and prayer by Pastor Charles. There were 8 members present for the opening and 2 arrived later for a total of 10 members.

**Minutes** from the previous meeting were approved with two corrections.

**Treasurer's Reports:** Steve Miller expressed a concern regarding the amount of money expended for "music." Larry Winkelmann will discuss with Bainie Wild. Reports accepted.

**Charity Reserve Committee:** Quarterly report ending September 2018 showed a balance of \$1,076,339.19 in the Moderate Balanced Fund and \$305,953.55 in the Fixed Income Fund. A total of \$40,000.00 has been transferred from the Moderate Balanced Fund to the Burton State Bank and placed in St. John's General Fund with a recommendation to set up a new account at Burton State Bank for the Charity Reserve Money. A new account will be set up entitled, "St. John's United Church of Christ, Charity Reserve Fund," with Ann Pape, Larry Winkelmann and Clyde Engelbrecht having signatory authority. The recommendation was accepted and a motion made by James Press and seconded by Jerry Guelker passed.

**Cemetery Committee/Care Reports:** Cody Fuchs is doing a good job. Ronnie Stanley has completed a comprehensive report of the layout of the cemetery as requested by the County.

**Memorial Fund Report:** The Fund has a current balance of \$22,181.49. There were no expenditures.

**Maintenance Reports:**

**Parsonage:** The kitchen sink developed a pitted hole that could not be repaired. A new sink has been purchased and will be installed soon.

**Church and Family Life Center:** All 19 thermostats have been replaced. Pastor Charles and Suzanne Kessler are now able to adjust each unit using an app on their phones. The old thermostats are available for purchase at a price of \$20.00 each. James Schlottmann will purchase five of them leaving the balance available for purchase by anyone.

**Christian Education Team Report:** There has been good feedback on the Youth Sunday School Class. A motion was passed, not to exceed \$500.00 out of the Youth Fund, to purchase a TV and DVD player for the youth Sunday school class.

**Liaison/Worship Committee Report:** Nothing new to report.

**Spiritual Time:** Pastor Charles read scripture from Matthew 6:25-34 where Jesus talks about "worry." Jesus tells us that we should not worry about anything. This is the longest discourse where Jesus talks about human emotions. The root meaning of worry is to strangle. We need to remember that it is God who lays out our future for us and we need to trust Him and work against worry.

**Pastor's Report:** Worship attendance is down slightly. There has been positive feedback on the Special Music that Sue Johnston has been coordinating for Sundays. There will be one service for Homecoming, October 21, at 10:00 a.m. Mickie Angerame is getting two bids for stripping and waxing the first floor in the FLC. A motion was passed to have Mickie's grandson, Cody, power wash the outside areas of the church and clean the gutters for \$12.00/hour not to exceed 15 hours. Due to inclement weather, only our ad for the Panther football game against Shiner was played.

**Associate Pastor's Report:** Pastor Risa has resigned from St. John's UCC effective December 1, 2018. For the remainder of her time she will be working 10 hours/week. The Council accepted her resignation and requests that Pastor Risa attend the next Council meeting to apprise us of her seminary plans.

### Old Business:

**125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee Report:** A letter with a Memorial/Honor Brick order form will be mailed to all members and confirmands. Steve Miller and Don Kessler are looking into a Veterans' Memorial to be placed at the cemetery. Expense for the Memorial will be paid from cemetery funds.

**Holes in Stained Glass in Sanctuary - On-going:** We have not received the repair estimate from Foster Stained Glass.

**N. Lauter Request for Return of Funds:** The cost of a Columbarium, which will hold 32 urns, is \$1,650.00 plus cost of laying a foundation. Steve will schedule a meeting with Nevi Lauter to see if a Columbarium would fall within her concept of cemetery beautification.

**Remove/Replace Dishwasher:** According to the State of Texas, St. John's UCC is not required to have a food preparation permit in the kitchen so no further action was taken.

**Parsonage Remodel:** Larry Pape has recruited Wanda Whitener, Joan Goebel and Paula Fuchs to coordinate work as it progresses. A motion was made by Dean Fuchs and seconded by Blake Emmett to replace 23 existing windows with Thermal Break windows at a cost of \$9,200.00 (to be paid from the Building Fund). Motion passed.

**Council Table @ Activities Fair:** Fair will be held February 10, 2019. Suggestions include explaining what the Council does, handing out copies of the By-Laws, what is expected from each Council person, etc.

**Homecoming:** Scheduled for October 21 with one service at 10:00 a.m.

**Search Committee:** They have received a couple of new profiles for review.

### New Business:

**Hospitality:** The TV in the Narthex needs to be replaced so that information regarding church activities can be seen. A motion was made by Larry Pape and seconded by Clyde Englebrecht to purchase a new TV using Building Funds. Motion passed.

**Distribution of Special Offering Envelopes:** It was decided that distribution of special offering envelopes be sent to the Conference when they are collected.

**Need Persons to Toll Bell for Deceased:** We will no longer toll the bell at the time of a person's death.

**Washington County Chamber Annual Ad:** A motion was made by Madeline Johnson and seconded by Dean Fuchs to place a ¼-page colored ad in the WA County Chamber Magazine for one year at a cost of \$610.00. Motion passed.

Meeting was temporarily adjourned at 7:40 p.m. and Council was called into Executive Session to discuss a new contract for Pastor Charles as Interim Pastor beginning January 1, 2019. The Council agreed to offer Pastor Charles a new month-to-month contract at a salary of \$5,000.00/month effective January 1, 2019. The Associate Pastor position will not be filled. Meeting was reconvened at 7:55 p.m. A motion was made by Madeline Johnson and seconded by Dean Fuchs to offer Pastor Charles Stark a new contract as outlined above. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.

**\*Amendment:** By email a motion was made by Ina Eckert and seconded by Jerry Guelker for the purchase of new music stands and risers for the Bell Choir at a cost of \$820.49 to be paid out of Memorial Funds. Motion passed.\*

**Pending Business before the Council:** (1) Job description for Building Manager and June Makowsky; (2) Free Legal Service presentation tabled until the Fall.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jerry Guelker, Council Secretary