

Council Minutes October 11, 2022

In attendance: Jay Meservy, Christy Reinking, Catheryn Carlson, Kevin Clarke, Doug Muschett, Ben Little, Pastor Kate Davidson, Ruth Hendricks, Craig Bolt *Excused:* Lydia Ziauddin, Julie Cope, Amie Branson

1. The meeting opened with a prayer and devotion by Ruth Hendricks with quotes by Kate Hurley and Fred Rogers. Themes include listening and being understood and valued. Ruth challenged the group to think about someone they appreciate.
2. The September council meeting minutes were approved.
3. Pastor reported the church is hiring a new office administrator while Jenny continues to work on bulletins and e-news (from home) in the interim. Three candidates have applied for the position and interviews will begin soon. Advent worship will take place mid-week, and a mid-week service may continue after Advent. Pastor Kate is looking into starting a Monday evening Bible study in 2023. Pastor will be away Nov 10-14 and again the week of Thanksgiving. Frances McWilliams will preach on Nov 13 with Darlene presiding; Darlene will preach and preside on Nov 27.
4. Committee Reports:

Worship and Music – All Saints Sunday will be celebrated on Nov 6 with remembrances of loved ones who have died in the last year. Additionally, people are invited to bring framed photos of loved ones for a special altar. Kevin suggested including a remembrance of people around the world who have experienced devastating loss of life, ie Ukraine, Pakistan, Hurricane Ian.

Finance - Craig shared that in Jan – Sept, income is ahead by 16K (7.5%), especially the loose-offering which is up 83%. Expenses are \$18K under what was budgeted. The current year's budget had an 82K deficit from the operating reserve; this current trend in giving will help minimize the gap. Finance committee is struggling to find counters and invites volunteers to help count the offering on Sunday mornings (or shortly thereafter). Ben and Kevin offered to help. Discussion ensued about the process for deciding on the fee structure for building use with encouragement for the facilities committee to review the process and policy.

Stewardship – Current status of the campaign based on a report from Ron is that 47 pledges have been received thus far which total \$177,000; this means an average of 7% increase per pledge. Last year, 60 pledges were received.

Facilities – Highlights from last week's meeting include working with the Town of Dillon on the upcoming roundabout; the Town will pay for LOTM's new sign. A facilities subcommittee is determining best course for repair and/or replacement of windows.

Adult Education – A representative from Colorado Cease-Fire will present at the Table-Talk on Oct 23. The purpose is to help people identify and connect with those experiencing mental illness and is related to a new law in our state.

Personnel – Before exiting, Jenny reviewed and revised office admin job description with help of the Personnel Committee. The new version has been approved. Ferol has been the administrator of Safe

Gathering (background checks). Office administrator interviews will take place soon with 2-3 interviewers for each candidate.

5. **Other business:** Ben and Karen Little will offer a second annual cider press event at their home in the next few weeks, date TBD. The annual congregational meeting will take place on Jan. 29, 2023. It was decided for the next council meeting to take place on Nov 8 per usual and the Dec meeting will be a celebratory meal which the Littles offered to host.

6. Ruth closed this meeting by inviting people to share specific appreciations which included calm problem-solving, a spouse drying a pillow, a lesson about helping people grow, thanking essential workers, a spouse putting things in perspective, and a spouse who is affirming and kind.

Next council meeting will take place on Tue, Nov 8 at 5:30 pm. Kevin Clarke will lead devotions.

Respectfully submitted,

Lydia Ziauddin with help from Jay Meservy's recording