



North Haven Congregational Church

Church Council Minutes

Meeting of June 16, 2009

ATTENDING

Beth Anderson (Trustee), Martin Benassi (Music), Jim Bennett (Deacon), Priscilla Bradford (Clerk), Chris Corcoran (Outreach), Philip DiPeri (Moderator), Care Goodstal-Spinks (Associate Pastor), Eleanor Harple (Women's Fellowship and Memorial Gifts), Phil James (Building and Grounds), Barbara Marks (Christian Education), Scott Morrow (Senior Pastor), Sally Pallatto (Finance), John Tibor (Treasurer)

CALL TO ORDER

Philip DiPeri called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm. and Eleanor Harple led us in prayer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the May 19th meeting were accepted as printed on a motion made by Beth Anderson and seconded by Jim Bennett.

TREASURER'S REPORT

John stated that the report is current to today on expenses but does not include Sunday's collection. Basic Support payment has been made. Half of the ICM dues have been paid. Special collections have been dispersed. Report accepted on a motion made by E. Harple and seconded by J. Bennett.

SENIOR PASTOR'S REPORT

Scott reported that six young adults were confirmed and three new members joined in the past month. He will be away from July 5-8, July 25-Aug 8. Care will be away from Aug 2-24. Nancie's vacation is July 25-Aug 4. Summer events: Office hours 8:30-12:30 beginning June 22 and ending on Aug 17. Vacation Bible School Aug 10-Aug 14. Church Leaders Calendar Retreat Aug 29. Remind members of your board to be careful with equipment. The sound system needs repair. Cards to sign to support universal health care were passed out.

ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S REPORT

Care reported that the final junior high youth group meeting was held. She joined the deacons and confirmation class during their dessert meeting. She has

also attended a consociation retreat and an environmental workshop at Spring Glen Church. John Tibor and Care visited a program called 'Rebuilding Together in New Britain' as a place for the youth mission trip. She met with the associate pastor search committee and has scheduled weekly staff meetings with Scott. She met with a wedding couple in preparation for a June 26th wedding. Recruiting continues for Sunday School, Summer Sunday School, and youth advisors for youth groups. She facilitated a brainstorming session for adult education and a meeting with parents of youth who will be in the youth groups in the fall. She will attend the mission trip from June 23-26. They will report at the service on July 5th. Pastoral Relations committee will meet on July 2nd.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building and Grounds

Phil James stated that the roof replacement has been finished. With Martin Benassi's help, they are looking for a proposal to refurbish the wooden part of the steeple. The quote to repair the wall and steps leading to Carroll Hall is \$1,400. Emergency lights are being replaced with Donald Geissler's help. They are looking for a painter to paint the windows on the south side of the sanctuary. Work was done on the garage door opener at the parsonage.

Deacons

Jim reported that the deacons hosted the confirmands for dessert. They are looking for input as to the preference for the location of the postlude in the service. Implementation of taking attendance in church will happen shortly. Starting in October children will share communion with adults in the sanctuary.

Christian Education

Barbara said that the board will meet on Wed, July 8th. A tree was planted on teacher appreciation day. They are looking at how to deal with Sunday School attendance and will encourage parents of Sunday School children to host coffee hour. They are encouraging parents to register for VBS.

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Christian Outreach

Chris reported that DESK is going smoothly. The committee is considering writing a grant for a new stove for our kitchen. November 30 is a Red Cross Blood Drive at NHCC. Look for more information about fair trade coffee in the fall. A CPR class is too expensive to host. Members of NHCC are encouraged to sign up for the Habitat Sleeping Giant Build on July 11th. We are not able to get the defibrillator from Chris's company. An article about ROOF (a program to help prevent foreclosures) will be in the Window.

Finance

Sally said that the special appeal was short \$5,000. The Board is looking for further ways to cut expenses. Jody is sending out pledge status reports. Boards are requested to have their 2010 budgets to the Finance Board by their September meeting. Nextel funds will be used for programs to grow membership. Betsey Reid attended a workshop on stewardship and the capital campaign.

Music

Martin reported that the end of the year choir party will be August 9th. Exploring incorporating contemporary music into worship is on hold. The organ has been tuned. Pierpont Concerts are scheduled for October 24 and December 5. The board is looking into maintenance of the chimes.

Trustees

Beth reported that the bond funds are stable. The stock fund is coming back. The restricted funds are in CDs that are earning good interest.

Women's Fellowship

Eleanor thanked everyone who worked on the tag sale. A profit of \$1,000 was realized.

Memorial Gifts

Eleanor reported that Martin Benassi is working on a new outside sign.

Food Closet

Eleanor reported that the Food Closet is being well used. Contributions are keeping up with the need.

Pastoral Relations

A meeting is scheduled for July 2.

MODERATOR'S REPORT

Philip DiPeri is looking forward to celebrating the 300th anniversary of NHCC. He has been evaluating the

committee structure of the church and feels it would be beneficial to add an associate moderator to help create seamless year-to-year leadership continuity through mentoring and limited hands-on experience. A self-evaluation of the Council will be forth coming in the form of a survey near the end of the calendar year.

NEW BUSINESS

Director of Music Search Committee. The committee continues to interview with an interview scheduled on July 1. Two candidates have been asked back for a second interview. One candidate has withdrawn. The committee is continuing to talk with the other candidate.

Clergy Credit Cards. Motion M. Benassi moved that the credit card with Lucia Jackson's name be cancelled and a new card be obtained with Care's name. Betsey Reid will make the change. Seconded by E. Harple. Passed.

Church Calendar Retreat. Scheduled for August 29. Specific logistical details will be available at the next meeting.

Welcoming Project. Scott said that the Board of Finance will be starting a program that will reach out to new members. This project will also involve the Deacons and others.

O&A Statement. A copy of the statement written by the three-member committee was distributed to the Council. It is written in two formats - a statement and a confession. There will be two steps to making a decision on adoption of this statement by the Congregation. The first step will be discussion. Sessions will be scheduled at various times. Lists of resources will be available. Multi-sessions on related topics will be held during adult education times. The second step will be a vote by the Congregation at a Congregational meeting. Motion: J. Tibor moved that the Covenant of Membership statement passed out at the Council meeting on June 16 be placed on the agenda for vote at the 2009 Annual Meeting. J. Bennett seconded. Passed.

ADJOURNMENT

Next Council meeting is July 21 at 6:30 at Betsey Reid's house. Also meeting August 18 and 29 (calendar retreat).

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.