

Minutes
Little Home Church Council Meeting
September 13, 2016

In Attendance: Valeri Baldwin, Anne Bouchard, Barb Braulick, Karen Kaluzsa, Kathleen Sullivan Kaska, Richard Malmberg, Jane Shelton, Kristen Thornton, Susi Winquist

Absent: Carol Berger, Bob Kaska, Art Zwemke, Chip Braulick, Ann McLaughlin

Moderator Kathleen Sullivan Kaska began the meeting at 7:12 pm. Pastor Richard led the council with devotion, followed by an opening prayer. Joys and concerns were shared.

Approval of Minutes: No corrections were made to the July and August minutes. Anne B. moved to approve both minutes, seconded by Barb. All were in favor. Minutes approved.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Richard submitted the following report for the past month.

Pastor's Report, September Church Council Meeting - 9.13.16

Since our August meeting I have been largely preoccupied by moving into the office, our townhouse in St. Charles and getting Oscar settled in at DePaul. All have gone well, and it is great to have at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of our family in the same state.

The last couple of weeks have been a chaotic joy as we gear up for the church rummage sale. I have been tempted daily by pre-shopping. I have shown, what is for me, heroic restraint. I have only purchased six items. I have also signed up for a shift grilling hot dogs on Friday.

I have begun having regular weekly staff meetings with Lori and Larry, which has already yielded synergy well worth the effort and promises more. They are great comrades in ministry.

We kicked off the program year with a fabulous outdoor service. The men's group did a fabulous job on logistics and set up. That group also is planning a retreat next month. Signups are slow, so far.

For the past week or so, I have been planning my installation at 4pm, October 2. Still trying to line up the cast of thousands. It is a busy day with World Communion Sunday, Blessing of the Hounds, and the Installation.

Faithfully submitted,
Richard Malmberg

At council, Pastor Richard reviewed his report and announced that his transfer of ordained standing has been accepted by the Fox Valley Association of the Illinois Conference of the UCC. His reminded us that his installation as our pastor will be at 4:00 pm on Sunday, October 4th, same

day as the Blessing of the Hounds. Richard will be the 34th pastor of this church. Plans are being made to have a reception following the installation with Hors d'oeuvres, possibly catered by the Dunham Woods Club

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Art Zwemke submitted the treasurer's report for the past month. The cover of that report is as follows. A complete copy of the report is available from the office. Art was absent.

Treasurer's Report

August 31, 2016

A - 1: Total Operating Receipts YTD of \$151,616 is 61.14% of Total Receipts Budget for 2016 of \$248,000 compared to 63.75%, 3-year average. Total Pledges received of \$120,121 are 63.22% of Total Pledges Budget of \$190,000 compared to 68.67%, 3-year average.

B - 1 – B – 6: Current YTD Net Income (Loss) of (\$7,819) in 2016 compared to Prior Year Net Income (Loss) of (\$30,689) in 2015 and Budgeted YTD Net Income (Loss) of (\$12,797).

C - 1 – C – 2: Comparative Balance Sheets show overall financial position at \$247,305 as of 08/31/2016 compared to \$232,239 as of 08/31/2015 and \$253,496 as of 07/31/2016.

D – 1: Consolidated Fund Activity - Added line for Historic Preservation Fund

In Art's absence, Kathleen reviewed the report and noted that the total receipts are falling behind the three year average. She asked council if there is something that needs to be done to remind the congregation to continue with pledged payments. Pastor Richard suggested that something could be mentioned in the By The Way or in the Bulletin. Discussion followed. A message will be sent to the congregation in some form as a reminder.

Kathleen requested that a final figure of moving expenses be reported next month so that it is included in next month's minutes.

Susi W. moved to approve the treasurer's report for July which was seconded by Jane. The August report will be approved in October because of a question regarding the Historic Preservation Renovation monies and their place in the report. All were in favor. The July report was approved.

Kathleen notified council, on Art's behalf, that the council should start thinking of the 2017 budget. Next month, Art will be distributing budget worksheets to each ministry chair to be

completed by November, reviewed in December, so the congregation can approve the final budget at the annual meeting in January.

Moderator's Report:

Kathleen submitted the following report for the past month.

Wayne Walk

- Carol Berger and I met with Events Coordinator at DWRC to discuss reception.
- Susannah Lesswing and I met with Realtor at third house to discuss tour details.
- August 25, held evening meeting at LHC to recruit volunteers, but with small attendance.
- Designed and produced: Save the Date email blast; Banner; Jumbo postcard

Rummage Sale

- Met with project chairs, Kathryn Karwowski and Cathy Price, along with other volunteers to discuss possible refinements and promotions of this fundraising event.
- Designed and produced: Email blast; Banner; Lawn signs

Blessing of the Hounds

- Met with Congregational life, Barb Braulick, along with Anne B. and Carol B., to discuss fellowship details for this event. Also discuss the new pastor's installation event occurring on the same day.
- Designed and produced a promotional postcard

Pastor Installation

- Met with Rev. Richard and Lori P. to discuss plans for the service and celebration, and communications.

LHC Event Flyer

- Updated this flyer which lists all the LHC events and activities for the remainder of the year.

At Council, Kathleen reported that most items are in place for the Wayne Walk. Focus will now be given on attracting people to purchase the tickets. At present, ten reservations have been made.

Anne mentioned that Carol may be needing help at the church's table at the Dunham Horse Show and the Wayne Day this Saturday, September 17, in the afternoon.

Moderator Elect: Anne Bouchard provided a facilities report.

Power assist door installation postponed until after the Rummage Sale.
Work day planned for Saturday, Oct 1: 8:30 – 1:00.

150th Anniversary Restoration Report: Contract has been signed with the architects, Sharp Architects, Inc. We are working out the schedule for site visits and meeting dates. We hope to conclude the three phases of work by mid December.

MINISTRY REPORTS

Christian Education: Karen Kaluzsa submitted the following report

The Christian Education Committee of Kathy Haben, Lori Heseltine, Pastor Richard and me met on August 14th to plan for the coming year. Larry Dieffenbach was unable to attend the meeting but sent his ideas via e-mail. We discussed:

Children's Sunday School

- Lori will look into ordering a new curriculum in sync with the lectionary calendar
- Larry will teach music to the children this year.
- We are soliciting teen volunteers to help Lori teach Sunday School
- If there is any interest we may organize a teen group

Adult Christian Education

We will host four field trips throughout the year, on either Saturday or Sunday afternoons, carpooling to sites in the Chicagoland area:

- October 29th - to the Baha'i Temple in Wilmette to correspond to World Communion Sunday which is in early October
- January or February - to Fermilab in Batavia, for a tour led by Lori Haseltine tying religion to science
- March or April - to the Holocaust Museum in Skokie during the somber season of Lent
- Summer - to the BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir Hindu Temple in Bartlett

Richard will check into video sources for short adult education sessions to follow fellowship on certain Sundays, since the Fox Valley Illinois Conference of UCC no longer has a lending library.

We discussed organizing an evening bible study for those unable to attend the Wednesday morning sessions

Congregational Life: Barb Braulick provided the following report.

Upcoming events:

Sunday Oct. 2 – Blessing of the Hounds

Refreshments – 10:00 am

Blessing 10:45 am

Technical aspects (podium and sound) , refreshment set up, advertisement post cards of upcoming church events, some limited seating for senior members of church to be set up away from street have been addressed and volunteers in place.

Refreshments - E-mail blast to congregation as well as announcement during church to appeal for bakers or donators

Installation of Rev. Malmberg

Service - 4pm - Reception to follow

Letter of invitation will be mailed to congregation and local UCC dignitaries

Details of event were discussed at meeting including logistics, speakers and who would be involved in leading service, and reception details

Evangelism: No Report.

Facilities: Anne Bouchard reviewed her Facilities report and added that the carpenters are coming next week to hang the power assist door. The doors' installation will be completed by October 1st in order to satisfy the grant.

Facilities Report:

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Anne also reported that she will be contacting contractors to make an exact map of the septic field

Anne also updated council on the Women's Interfaith Event which will be held on Sunday afternoon, November 20 (Susi's Birthday). The day will be focusing on sharing information between the different religions of Islam, Christianity, and Judaism. Nancy Schatzeder has agreed to present information regarding Christianity.

Outreach: Valeri Baldwin submitted the following report.

- Bridge Communities/Transitional Housing Ministry – emailed reminder about the Rummage Sale.
- Community Crisis Center - emailed reminder about the Rummage Sale.
- Fox Valley Hands of Hope (formerly Fox Valley Volunteer Hospice) - emailed reminder about the Rummage Sale.
- Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans - emailed reminder about the Rummage Sale.
- Neighborhood Food Pantry (formerly Feeding Northwest DuPage) - emailed reminder about the Rummage Sale.
- Playdate - will start Sept. 21.
- Renz Addiction Counseling Center – emailed reminder about the Rummage Sale.
- Miscellaneous - Bookmark for pew Bibles & Hymnals. Need an update from Kathleen.

Stewardship: Bob Kaska was absent. No report.

Worship and Spiritual Growth: Jane Shelton submitted her report for the past month.

- Ushers/PA's are mostly secured through October.
- New Choir folders are underway.
- Met informally with Richard and Larry regarding service order. Ringing of the bell has been put back into the Order of Worship; see if you can hear when it is.

Members at Large: Carol Berger was absent.

Communications: See Kathleen's moderator report.

Re-Visioning: Susi reported that the committee is very close to finishing plans for the re-visioning.

OLD BUSINESS:

Search and Call: Jane moved to dissolve the Search and Call committee with love and gratitude. Susi W. seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Men's group: Kathleen spoke for Frank Muno, who is seeking support from council for the use of Pilgrimage church funds to be used to cover expenses of the Men's Retreat. The Men's retreat is planned for October 14-15 at Tower Hill. Last year the cost of the Tower Hill Retreat was approximately \$1200 where 10 men paid \$60 each to cover some of the expenses. As a result, approximately \$600 of the pilgrimage funds were used to cover the expense which was not covered by the participants' payments. Council supports the use of the funds to do the same this year.

NEW BUSINESS:

Employee Pet Policy: Nancy Alex came to meeting to express concern regarding having pets in the workplace for various reasons, including lower productivity and liability. The personnel committee is in the process of reviewing the issue.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 11, 7:00 p.m.

A motion to adjourn was made by Valeri and seconded by Karen. The motion passed. Meeting was adjourned.

Pastor Richard gave the closing prayer at 8:45 p.m.:

Faithfully submitted,
Kristen Thornton
Church Clerk