

**PLAINFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**MINUTES OF DECEMBER 12, 2018 CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**

Those present: John Baer, Tony Doster, Bree Dunscombe, Bill Edie, Jennifer Finesilver, Bob Milligan, Kathy Perry, Mark Preis, Mary Raver, Ray Shannon, Shannen Shortt, Nikki Shultz, Melissa Shriner, Mike Simek, Charlie Wilfong, Jacob Tipantasig-Wolverton, Christie Wright.

Nikki opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and Jennifer Finesilver presented devotions with story of the song O Holy Night.

The minutes of the November meeting were approved as presented.

The group then shared Glory Sightings.

Following are the Lay Leader Reports:

Mary Raver for Missions: Deliveries of Mitten Tree items, food, and a few Christmas gifts have been delivered to Fletcher Place, IPS 34, Ashley Motel, Maple Grove trailer park and St. Marks.

Family Promise week went well. We host again starting Jan 20, 2019. We'll plan on sign-ups starting at the end of December.

The Bishop's Christmas Offering for Children will be this Sunday (Dec 16) - envelopes will be in the worship folder.

The Christmas Eve offering will be distributed to local ministries helping children and families.

The MMDC trip for April has a full roster with persons on a waiting list.

Jennifer Finesilver provided times and locations for Christmas services including service at the high school and service for the longest night.

Shannen Shortt reported that the "Surviving Holidays" series is complete. It was a small group setting; good for the attendees. Tentatively planning to start the 13 week class in January.

Charlie mentioned that he is grateful for the congregation's support of the Scrooge series and other messages that have evangelism message tied to culture in order to create a meaningful connection. Thanks for the support. Especially likely to connect to "unchurched people" at Christmas with message tied to something familiar. Fun to do, it has an impact and it is still biblical preaching.

- Transforming for Tomorrow Update – Mike Simek offered thanks for the hard work and mentioned some of the notable achievements to date.
- Summary of updates from committees:
  - Fundraising report offered Bill Edie –Pledges: \$432,298.50 from 91 giving units  
Cash received: \$136,115.99, Draw Balance: \$72,000, Available for new projects: \$138,595.24.
  - Project report offered Mark Preis; likely next project is remodeling of bathrooms; the committee is seeking competitive bids at the request of the steering committee
  - Nikki reported she has engaged with an interior design to provide a master palate (paint, carpet, etc.) in order to develop a comprehensive design that can be followed throughout all phases of the T4T initiative. Nikki mentioned the consultant has been wonderful in providing guidance and direction.

Consecration Sunday Update: Total pledged: \$833,187 from 203 giving units  
73 giving units increased their pledge this year. We also had 10 first time pledges

With total pledges and anticipated giving for 2019, Finance is establishing a budget with \$1,042,151 in income for 2019.

- Staff Parish – Bob Milligan
  - Able to move forward and provide eligible employees with 3% bonus; associate pastors 2% b/c of pay raise was increased by 1.5%. In both instances, senior pastor declined those raises.
  - Organ scholar. Jamie did not get release from doctor at this point so that position is open. If she does get that release, she can apply if she’s interested.
  - Simon resigned. Many were surprised & disappointed. Simon decided it wasn’t a good fit.
  - Weekday children’s ministry. Sigrid has resigned as her husband has taken a job out of state. Currently in process of finding her replacement. Melissa Shriner has stepped up to fill some of those voids. Sigrid will continue to support the program remotely from Savannah, GA.
  - Thanks to Jacob – all three of these open positions are in his wheelhouse so he’s doing a lot of additional work.
  - Great staff parish. Making the best decisions we can for the church. Knows there are rumors, and unfortunately they may not be true.
  - Jacob mentioned that service is still moving forward and that we’re still moving forward. God’s got this in his hands.
  - Charlie mentions that Simon was treated well. Had creative license expected of his position. When you hear information, ask a reliable source. Within HR best practice, we’ll share what we can share.
  - Discussion around plan moving forward. Jacob talked through process of finding a replacement and mentioned the two appropriate times to resign include after Christmas and after Easter so there might be more candidates after the holidays.
  
- Trustees Report – Mark
  - Walls at Clayton hall. Contractor can teach in one day instead of 2 to get panels out of there. Mike Simek to help recruit. January for training to remove. Mark would like 5 – 6 people
  - Authorized by council to spend \$3k
  - Also interested in carpenter to help build the platform

• Finance Report – Bill

| MONTH | BUDGET TO DATE | CONTRIBUTIONS MONTH | CONTRIBUTIONS TO DATE | EXPENSES MONTH | EXPENSES TO DATE | ENDING BALANCE | BALANCE CHANGE |
|-------|----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| JAN   | \$87,122       | \$142,843           | \$142,843             | \$87,628       | \$87,628         | \$56,859       |                |
| FEB   | \$174,244      | \$84,718            | \$227,561             | \$91,646       | \$179,274        | \$49,931       | (\$6,928)      |
| MAR   | \$261,367      | \$93,057            | \$320,618             | \$76,054       | \$255,328        | \$66,934       | \$17,003       |
| APR   | \$348,498      | \$86,752            | \$403,235             | \$79,999       | \$334,052        | \$73,318       | \$6,384        |
| MAY   | \$435,612      | \$65,093            | \$472,463             | \$79,858       | \$413,910        | \$58,553       | \$14,765       |
| JUN   | \$522,734      | \$78,986            | \$551,449             | \$78,589       | \$492,449        | \$58,950       | \$397          |
| JUL   | \$609,586      | \$76,772            | \$628,221             | \$74,204       | \$566,703        | \$61,518       | \$2568         |
| AUG   | \$696,979      | \$78,036            | \$706,257             | \$79,740       | \$646,443        | \$59,814       | (\$1,704)      |

| MONTH | BUDGET TO DATE | CONTRIBUTIONS MONTH | CONTRIBUTIONS TO DATE | EXPENSES MONTH | EXPENSES TO DATE | ENDING BALANCE | BALANCE CHANGE |
|-------|----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| SEP   | \$784,101      | \$74,202            | \$780,458             | \$84,267       | \$730,710        | \$49,748       | (\$10,066)     |
| OCT   | \$871,223      | \$73,745            | \$854,203             | \$85,665       | \$816,374        | \$37,828       | (\$11,920)     |
| NOV   | \$958,346      | \$76,384            | \$930,587             | \$107,494      | \$923,869        | \$6,718        | (\$31,110)     |

- Questions regarding why were expenses so high in December? Missions & other expenses hit at one time; staff bonuses, \$4k spent on islands, \$1500 on postage which serves into next year
- Old Business
  - Nominations Committee – Committee Adjustment; clean up items from Charlie. Safety committee (Lance Burris) was one member not part of group nominated for 2019; Lance really wants to continue.
  - Second one. Rachel Dunlevy has agreed to serve on children’s council
    - Motion to approve moved by Bob & Seconded by Bill
- New Business: Vern will have devotions in January and will bring a signup sheet for the remainder of the year.

Charlie closed the meeting at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Our next scheduled meeting is January 16, 2019 – 7:00 p.m. (Note: This is a week later than normal)

Recorded by Mike Simek:

Respectfully submitted by: Vernon Sullenger—secretary

**APPROVED 1/16/2019**