

**PLAINFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 13, 2019 CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**

Those present: John Baer, Bill Edie, Jennifer Finesilver, Bree Dunscombe, Elizabeth Gilbert, Judy Karstens, Ken Loudenback, Tamara Miller, Kathy Perry, Mark Preis, Mary Raver, Ray Shannon, Nikki Shoultz, Shannen Shortt, Vern Sullenger, Jacob Tipantasig-Wolverton, Charlie Wilfong, Kay Korty.

The meeting opened at 7:00 p.m. with devotions by Ray Shannon. The subject was recognizing and giving thanks for our blessings based on Psalms 95.

The minutes of the October meeting were approved as presented.

The group shared Glory Sightings.

Lay Leader reports followed:

Worship report from Jennifer: During Advent this year (the weeks leading up to Christmas) Classic and NewDay Praise Worship will share the theme: The Star: A Journey to Christmas. Christmas is about more than just the destination, it's also about the journey to and through the hope, love, joy and peace that Jesus brings to each and all. Special events for the season include:

Family Experience Night on Sunday, December 8, at 6 p.m. Families will enjoy snacks and the animated movie "The Star." Children of all ages are invited and welcome, but must be accompanied by an adult. Christmas Services: NewDay Praise Christmas Worship, December 21, 6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship on December 24....4pm - Children's Worship, 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. - Orchestra and Candle lighting, 11 p.m.- Candle lighting and Communion. Prior to start of the Advent and Christmas season, the Plainfield Federation of Churches is hosting the Community Thanksgiving Worship Service at a new date and time. This year join with neighbors and friends for Thanksgiving on Sunday, November 24, 7:00 pm at the First Baptist Church (PUMC's next door neighbor). The offering at the community Thanksgiving service will support the community food pantry.

Mission report from Mary: We are still waiting to hear CROP Walk totals. Goal to have the booklet highlighting Missions updated and available for use by February. Bundle EM Up coat drive was low on coat donations this year. Potentially partly due to difficulty in finding the donation boxes. Will be worked on for next year. Individual donors/shoppers were sought out to provide the needed coats for those who still needed them. PUMC's next Family Promise begins November 17. Plans are being made to set up educational events, potentially at the 11 a.m. time slot. Some suggested topic ideas have included the Opioid Crisis, UMCOR, the Stability Builder Network, Human Trafficking, Active Grace. Suggestions and ideas are welcome.

Outreach and hospitality from Shannen:

Our fall food drive continues to support St. Mark's food pantry. Donations of non-perishable food items can be dropped off in donation depot or monetary donations can be made using the securegive app. GriefShare surviving the holidays will have 2 sessions coming up. The first is November 24th and the second is December 8th in the Wesley room from 11:15 - 1:15.

Mark Preis reported that the restroom remodeling project was still underway. As predicted surprises are common in a project on an old building. Nikki led a discussion of the next steps for T4T, the 2020 operating budget and the need for a roof replacement and replacement of the HVAC system. The T4T financials are: Cash and pledges \$477,890, cash received \$261,361, giving units 102, line of credit balance \$91,500 and the major maintenance fund \$40,540. After a thorough discussion of these three subjects the operating budget was approved as presented including the clergy salaries as will be acted upon at the Charge Conference.

Additional T4T projects beyond what is in progress will be placed on hold until the roof and HVAC needs have been addressed. We are waiting on an estimate for the HVAC project from our current maintenance contractor. We will meet with the congregation at which time our recommendation will be to start fund raising for the roof and HVAC and finance what is not raised. At current giving levels, any financing will require further operating cost reductions.

Tamara presented the following for Staff Parish: We made our recommendations for clergy and staff increases. Steve Manning has resigned, and we have posted the position to replace him. We will be collecting resumes through 11/22. We hope to fill the position quickly. We will be taking another look at the vacation policy to clarify some things. With budget cuts, we need to find a way to show our staff further appreciation. Clergy is putting in a lot of extra hours.

Bill distributed the finance report without discussion.

MONTH	BUDGET TO DATE	CONTRIBUTIONS MONTH	CONTRIBUTIONS TO DATE	EXPENSES MONTH	EXPENSES TO DATE	ENDING BALANCE	BALANCE CHANGE
JAN	\$83,820	\$123,055	\$123,055	\$83,877	\$83,877	\$39,178	\$29,909
FEB	\$167,640	\$82,372	\$204,427	\$82,862	\$166,739	\$37,688	(\$1490)
MAR	\$251,460	\$95,910	\$300,337	\$85,253	\$251,992	\$48,346	\$10,658
APR	\$345,949	\$72,559	\$372,896	\$78,775	\$330,537	\$42,359	(\$5987)
MAY	\$432,436	\$62,210	\$435,106	\$76,700	\$406,887	\$28,219	(\$14,490)
JUN	\$517,272	\$82,166	\$517,272	\$80,586	\$487,473	\$29,799	\$1,580
JUL	\$605,410	\$68,914	\$586,186	\$71,539	\$559,012	\$27,174	(\$2,625)
AUG	\$691,897	\$71,232	\$657,418	\$71,980	\$630,992	\$26,426	(\$748)
SEP	\$778,385	\$67,346	\$724,764	\$94,643	\$725,635	(\$872)	(\$27,298)
OCT	\$864,872	\$84,107	\$808,870	\$84,805	\$810,441	(\$1570)	(\$698)

Under New Business, the nomination of Shannen Shortt as Certified Lay Speaker and Bree Dunscombe as continuing Lay Servant were approved. The nominations report was approved as presented. These actions as well as approval of clergy compensation was in preparation for the Charge Conference which will take place on Wednesday, December 4 in the Worship Annex.

Charlie closed us in prayer at 8:45 p.m. by remembering our opening devotions.

The next meeting is scheduled December 11, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Vernon Sullenger—secretary

APPROVED 12/11/19