

**PLAINFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2019 CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**

Those present: John Baer, Bill Edie, Elizabeth Gilbert, Judy Karstens, Ken Loudenback, Tamara Miller, Mark Preis, Nikki Shoultz, Shannen Shortt, Mike Simek, Kelli Snow, Vern Sullenger, Jacob Tipantasig-Wolverton, Charlie Wilfong.

Nikki opened the meeting at 7:05. John Baer presented devotions based on his experiences with daily Bible reading. John encouraged each of us to have a Bible reading plan that included daily reading.

The minutes of the August meeting were approved with minor corrections. Thank you Kelli for attending to those in my absence.

The group shared Glory Sightings.

Shannen reported for Outreach and Hospitality that we are still collecting school supplies to be used as needed.

Elizabeth presented the following Worship report for Jennifer.—

Currently in both Classic and NewDay Praise Worship, Pastors Charlie and Elizabeth are leading through the "Called" curriculum that is also being used in small groups. Exploring God's call to six iconic Bible characters: Abraham, Samuel, Esther, Jonah, Mary Magdalene, and the Beloved Disciple John, we'll explore God's call to each us to live our best lives, answering God's unique call on our own lives. Just one highlight of this series will be an all-church worship experience on Sunday, October 6. Classic and NewDay Praise Worship will combine in the sanctuary at 8:45 and 10:00 a.m. for a Gospel-style, musical worship experience. This worship that will engage all the senses will include lively music provided by the PUMC sanctuary choir, the NewDay Praise Team, soloists and special guest musicians; an extra special communion observance; and so much more. KIDS@PUMC will also worship in the sanctuary at 10:00 that morning. The series will culminate on Consecration Sunday, October 27, with special worship experiences planned in all worship venues. Looking ahead to Advent.... Classic and NewDay Praise will both feature the series "The Star: A Journey to Christmas."

Jacob reported as follows—

**Sunday School Teachers needed:**

We need your help once per month on Sunday mornings! Our wonderful children would love to hear from you as we teach them more about God. The curriculum to teach is provided to you along with fun activities that motivate children to learn.

**Preschool Programs** is serving 120 children & families, a record high for enrollment numbers. We held a wonderful Open House on August 27th where families came into our church to meet their teachers and see the newly renovated classrooms.

**Kids Connection** is also serving a record high for enrollment with 36 kids in grades K-6th grade. We continue to provide a safe & loving environment where children are able to complete their homework with tutors followed by fun activities that are engaging to this age group. Due to the increased vehicle demands, Kids Connection could use a new 15 passenger van so that we can better serve the children of Plainfield.

### **Sunday Morning:**

Kids \$586,186 are learning about the connection between trust and God's character as shown through God's big story. Key scriptures in week 1 are based out of Genesis 24, 27, and 28 where we learn that you can trust God no matter what. In week 2, key scriptures are Genesis 37 and 39:1-2 where we learn "when you think you're alone, you can trust that God is with you." In week 3, the key scripture is Genesis 40 where we learn that "when life doesn't make sense, you can trust God is with you. Lastly, in week 4, key scripture is Genesis 41 where we learn "when the pressure is on, you can trust that God is with you."

We are preparing for a community collaboration with the Public Library & First Baptist Church for Trick or Treat on Simmons Street set for Thursday, October 24th from 5:30pm-7:30pm. Throughout the month of October, we will have a church-wide candy drive where we are asking PUMC to bring in large bags of candy that will be distributed to kids during the Trick or Treat on Simmons Street. If you are able to bring your car in for this event, we will utilize our south parking lot for Trunk or Treat.

Please reach out to Jacob Tipantasig-Wolverton, Director of Children's Ministries if you would like to participate in this fun event or if you are available to help teach on Sunday mornings!

A summary of the T4T progress was made by the committee. Bill reported: Pledges of \$475,754. Cash Received \$237,916. Line of credit balance is \$91,500. There have been 100 Giving Units participate. The Major Maintenance Fund is now \$27,791. Mark reported that the restrooms across from the office should be complete in September and the construction on the ones in the old part of the building to begin in October. When these projects are complete we will have exhausted the funds pledged to date. Nikki went on to explain that we have learned that the various roof sections of the entire church are in need of replacement soon. The Steering Committee has decided to pause T4T activities for a period of discernment. A number of members will be contacted to share their thoughts on what we should do next. After considering that input the committee will decide on next steps.

Tamara gave the following report for Staff Parish: Updated handbooks are being distributed to the Weekday Children's Ministry staff. Rebecca has not received any additional 403B forms, so Tamara will follow up on the missing forms. Rebecca will pull a list of hire dates for the staff so we can track anniversary dates. Tamara asked if there is a possibility of increasing the budget for the Accompanist position by \$2,000. (We have a donation of \$1,000 for this year.) Tamara will work with Jacob to determine the number of months per year and how many days per week will be required for the position and discuss again at the next Finance meeting.

Mark reported for Trustees that termites were found in the wood under the window in the Prayer Chapel. That area has been treated for termites and the wood is being replaced by volunteers. Carpets are to be cleaned September 20. There was an overheating problem with the bus. Repairs are underway or possibly complete. The Plainfield Christian Church helped out with the loan of a vehicle. An additional vehicle would be very helpful.

Bill presented the following financial report:

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)

Under new business, Ken reported that the all church study will begin this Sunday and is based on the book *Called* by Susan Robb. At present there are 12 active study groups participating including 6 Sunday school classes. Teachers have volunteered for all of the groups.

Charlie closed us in prayer at 8:00 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 9, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Vernon Sullenger, secretary

**REVISED AND APPROVED 10/9/2019**