

Church Council Minutes
Wednesday, March 2, 2016

Present: Anne Lehman Shenk, Brian Bither, Bob Love, Cheryl Martin, Jeanne Smucker, Jim Martin, Jim Showalter, Kristen Metzler-Wilson, Phil Shenk, Rod Maust

Rod opened with a Lenten reading of Psalm 32.

Ministry Reports

Pastor Elder Team—Cheryl Martin

Visitation teams have been formed to help with pastoral care during this time of transition. Some training sessions are being planned for those involved. Cheryl and Kristen will be attending the IN-MI Mennonite Conference cluster meeting on March 12 in Kokomo.

Adult Education—Jeanne Smucker

Have planned the spring offerings and are working on the summer sessions.

Buildings and Grounds—Jim Showalter

Hope to have front retaining wall fixed so plantings can be completed. Did install new projector in sanctuary. Along with Creation Care, are evaluating options for solar panels but will also need to consider reroofing options. May eventually bring a proposal to the congregation if it seems worthwhile moving ahead with these projects. Continue to investigate sign options. Reviewing WiFi coverage. Sam Bixler is contact for the ministry while Jim is on an MDS assignment.

Child and Youth—Anne Lehman Shenk

Planning a Jr youth/HS youth activity for sometime in March.

Fellowship—Jim Martin

Had a successful Family Fun night. Working on Easter breakfast. It was decided Easter breakfast would start at 8:30 and the worship service at 10:00.

Outreach/Welcoming—Phil Shenk

Making some connections with IndyCan events. Meeting with Gifts Discernment soon to look at ways to connect with congregational passions/assets. Hope to get a new picnic table sometime this year.

Worship—Kristen Metzler-Wilson

Lenten services are planned. Preaching schedule is falling into place.

Treasurer—Bob Love

Reviewed the Account Balance Report as of 3/1/2016. Offerings are ahead of expenses although a bit behind budget.

Gifts Discernment Ministry

Linda Showalter has agreed to complete Rachel Maust's term on the ministry.

Transitional Pastor Update

A Memo of Understanding with Gary Martin has been finalized and will be available after it is signed. He will begin on May 1, 2016. Bob Love will f/u with The Corinthian Plan so that health care coverage is in place.

Mara Christian Church—Brian Bither

Brian reviewed the request from the Mara congregation to use our facilities on Sunday afternoons for their worship services as their current space is becoming increasingly limited. They hope to eventually find their own facility on the southside where many of their members live, but would like to use our facility in the interim. We have had some connections with this congregation in the past and they are hoping for closer Mennonite affiliation. There was clear affirmation to pursue such an arrangement with them. Suggestions were offered to Brian as he works out the details with them. After further conversation with their leadership, Brian will draft a written agreement outlining the arrangement. The arrangement will be reviewed in three months to assess how it's working.

Next Meeting—Wednesday, May 4, 7pm