

Church Council
January 14, 2015

Present: Dagne Assefa, Wilma Bailey, Brian Bither, Jay Brubaker, Bob Love, Jim Martin, Reuben Maust, Carl Rhine, Phil Shenk, Linda Showalter

Dagne opened the meeting with prayer.

Treasurer - Bob Love

- Bob shared a summary from the 2014 budget. This information has been sent to the congregation.

Pastoral Team - Brian Bither, Dagne Assefa

- Dagne shared that an at-large delegate is needed for conference representation. Some names were suggested; Dagne and the Pastor Elder Team will follow up. The IN-MI Delegate session will be at First Mennonite on March 21. IN-MI Conference meeting will be in Indianapolis June 18-21.
- Brian shared that the Mara congregation will be joining Shalom on March 1 for a worship service, Sunday school hour and a carry-in meal. Their pastor, William, will bring the message. Some discussion took place re: logistics, especially for the education hour.

Ministry Reports:

Adult Education - Jay Brubaker

- The winter quarter will extend to March 1. Two classes are planned for the spring quarter. American Sign Language training is being considered as a summer class.
- The ministry is looking at a future time for conversations on homosexuality. These would be conversation/listening sessions, not conclusive policy making.

Buildings & Grounds - Reuben Maust

- There are small green bins with lids in the office area, fellowship hall (under the bench on the north side), by the mailboxes, and in the youth classroom for recycling paper and cardboard.

Children and Youth Nurture - written report

- New Shine curriculum for the youth will move from Old Testament stories to the life of Jesus. The Shine curriculum is working better for the youth group than the younger children due to attendance, etc. Emily Fox and Phil Shenk have taken leadership for the youth class.
- Winter youth retreats are the weekend of January 18 at both Amigo and Friedenswald and will be attended by Grace, Zeb and Mercy Lederach. Emily will attend Friedenswald with Zeb and Mercy; Mary and Olivia will not be able to attend. Grace will attend Camp Amigo with First Mennonite's youth group. Signing assistance by Goshen College majors will be provided at both camps, 2 per student.

Fellowship - Jim Martin

- Goshen College Men's Chorus will be at Shalom on Saturday, February 21. The ministry will provide an evening meal; the group prefers to lodge at the church, and will leave Sunday morning.
- May/June - baby showers and engagement showers will be planned.
- A discussion on whether or not to plan an evening to watch the Super Bowl game was inconclusive. It cannot be called a "super bowl party".

Outreach/Welcoming - Phil Shenk

- The ministry is wondering if the streets signs on 30th and Arlington Streets can be made more noticeable. There may be size restrictions. Perhaps the Seventh Day Adventist group would allow us to put a sign on the corner of their lot.
- Discussions on a revised outreach proposal will be in mailboxes the end of January in preparation for discussions during the Sunday School hour on February 8. Further discussion and a vote is scheduled for February 22, also during the SS hour.

Worship - Linda Showalter

- The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 18.

Other

- Doug Kauffman will be invited to join our next council meeting if possible to begin the process of pastoral transition.
- No one has yet volunteered to type the bulletin while Linda is gone for the month of March. Perhaps a couple people (or more) could share the responsibility rather than one person doing all 4 weeks?
- There are 5 tables in the basement that are heavy and whose legs do not fold for easy moving. Since there is a good supply of lighter-weight, folding tables available, the 5 were offered to anyone who could make good use of them. Jay Brubaker will take them for Central Indiana Clubhouse.
- A new email provider and phone service will be transitioned in soon.
- The meeting closed with the group praying the Lord's Prayer together.

Next meeting: Wednesday, March 4, 2015, 7 - 9 pm