

Church Council Minutes
Wednesday, September 14, 2016

Present: Abri Houser, Bob Love, Brian Bither, Gary Martin, Jim Showalter, Joann Buerge, Kathryn Bachman, Kristen Metzler-Wilson, Krystal Johnson, Phil Shenk, Rod Maust

Rod opened with some thoughts about journeys and a paraphrase of Hebrews 12:1-3.

Disability Advocacy Team—They have questions about where they might fit in Shalom’s accountability structure? How they might proceed with congregational awareness? Should Shalom formally join the Anabaptist Disabilities Network and provide some monetary support? Since Mary Albrecht (Disability Advocacy Team) was not able to attend council because of illness, they will work with Outreach/Welcoming until more discussion can surround these questions.

Pastoral Staffing Model during Transition—Abri reviewed the transitional staffing model that is currently functioning where Brian and Gary are working as co-pastors, tasks are divided, but mutual accountability for overall pastoral workload is accomplished. This information has been sent to the congregation. Council affirmed the model.

Transition Dialogues—Gary reviewed a proposed schedule for further transitional dialogues. After discussion it was decided that the second Sunday of the month SS hour would continue to be used through December. During this quarter we will work on both the mission statement (congregational) and passion/spiritual gifts discernment (individual). In January, the entire month of SS time will be used for transitional work (four Sundays). There will be no formal transitional dialogues in February. The monthly pattern will resume in March. Council agreed with this plan. Gary continues to include summaries of our listening/discerning dialogues in his mile-postings.

Budget Process/Treasurer’s Report—Bob reviewed the Account Balances Report as of 9/14/16. Shalom remains in a good financial position. Shalom has been blessed with a surplus of funds over expenses. What might be done with these funds will be addressed at some future time after mission/vision/transition work has been done.

Bob reviewed the budget process. Budget packets will be provided to each Ministry by October 2. The tentative budget will be reviewed at the Nov 2 council meeting. Congregational review and approval will be scheduled for Dec 4.

Ministry Reports:

Pastor Elder Team—Abri

Rose Love has joined the team. Are working on transitional issues.

Child and Youth Nurture—Joann

Joann will be convening the Ministry. Safety Awareness training will be offered Sept 18. Sunday School classes have resumed a weekly schedule.

Fellowship—Krystal

Krystal will be convening the Ministry. Chuck Dunn is the liason with Outreach/Welcoming Ministry. The joint meal with the Mara congregation went well. Oct 2 will be an international meal in connection with World Communion Sunday. No pitch-in meal in November because of the church retreat. Thanksgiving meal and Christmas banquet are in the planning stages.

Outreach/Welcoming—Phil

Phil will be convening the Ministry. Mary Albrecht will normally be the council representative although Phil was substituting for this meeting. A Community picnic/festival is planned for September 18.

Worship—Kristen

Rod will be convening the Ministry. Communion will be held on Oct 2 (World Communion Day). The Sunday morning schedule may need some adjustment in timing for worship, fellowship time, and SS time. Worship Ministry is looking at ways to adjust the worship time. Announcements during the service may be phased out in an attempt to shorten the worship service and to improve communication through other venues. Adult Ed may consider shorter SS duration to allow for adequate fellowship time.

Buildings and Grounds—Jim

The chair/council representative has not yet been chosen. The shingles will be replaced in mid-Oct. The heating system will need some updates. Rod will contact Creation Care re: status of solar panel proposal.

Adult Education—Kathryn

Martha will be convening the Ministry. Regular adult SS classes will run from Sept 25 until November 20 with a special Advent series during Dec. There will be no adult classes on Nov 27.

Next Meeting—Wednesday, November 2, 7pm