

WHLC Council Meeting February 22, 2021

Your WHLC met online with Halley Ryherd calling the meeting to order at 6:34 pm. Suzanne Nelson shared devotions related to Black History month and a prayer by Abraham Lincoln.

The agenda was approved. The Secretary's Report of the minutes of the January minutes was approved.

Duane Danielson provided the Treasurers Report. January was a smaller month for offerings due in part to the last Sunday's offerings falling into the month of February. Expenses were in line with budget with a quarterly insurance payment and some additional costs for snow removal adding to extra expenses for the month. Council will keep an eye on income in the coming months but there is no cause for concern at this time. One CD matured and was renewed.

Council was reminded of the personal care kit initiative during Lent and was encouraged to support it.

Pastor Robin shared her report. She included information sent to the synod on attendance and membership. It was different this year in the they asked for in person and online attendance. Additional information on salary, benefits, and other ministerial and educational expense are also provided.

Pastor Chris reported that the Easter Seals had reached out about small groups using our facility. He was going to get more information before any decision would be made. He shared his thoughts on re-integration of the congregation as we move toward meeting in person again. How do we resume our community partnerships and how can we reflect and share our thoughts on the future after going through the wilderness of the pandemic? We need to talk about what has changed (i.e. online worship is likely here to stay) and what won't. Council agreed to spend time on this topic at the next council meeting in March. The last year has taken a toll on everyone and our pastors are no exception.

The Health Advisory team met and decided to continue as-is for the coming weeks. Small groups are now meeting at the church. Small group communion has resumed and small numbers attending service on Sunday (10-15 total) allows for

more participation in the worship service. The team is crafting a message to encourage members to get vaccinated.

Ryherd shared that she is collecting information from Wayne Barrett regarding re-striping the parking lot in the spring.

Ryherd led a conversation about committee assignments for council members in the coming year. Rather than having the current committee structure with liaisons, we may move to more task forces with specific purposes and timeframes. Some standing committees will need to stay in place. This will require more discussion in smaller groups. We also want to be sensitive to various levels of anxiety from members in re-integration. Outreach and re-connections were brought up and encouraged. WHLC needs to leverage our strengths in being inclusive and welcoming. Ryherd is going to have one on one conversations with each council members in the next month to gather feedback and thoughts ahead of the next council meeting.

Summer activity planning has begun for Vacation Bible School and a summer camp for Heartland Youth choir. Plans are flexible depending on the virus situation as we move through the coming months.

The next council meeting will be March 22, 2021. Ambrosion agreed to provide devotions.

Pastor Chris provided a closing Reflection focused on the loss of over 500,000 lives to date due to COVID-19. He shared a verse from Isaiah and John before closing with a prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 7:42 pm.