

Council March 2021: Board and Committee Reports

Deacons (Bruce S.)

- Work continues on establishing guidelines for Deacons' Fund expenditures
- Discussions continue on parish care models
- Planning for Holy Week progresses
 - Propose that we open the sanctuary on Good Friday for individual or family unit vigil between the hours of noon and 7 pm. Preregistration in half-hour segments must be done in advance. Deacons will set up sanitation requirements with clear signage as to what each family must do (use sanitation wipes to wipe down any area touched take wipe out with them to wipe door handles going out) and they will be responsible to turn sanctuary lights on and off and to rope off specific areas.
 - Palm leaves will be available on Saturday March 27 and Sunday March 28 outside stored in a bucket. Outdoor easel will be updated with information about free palms.
 - The wooden cross will be placed outside on Good Friday through Easter Sunday with carnations beside. Signage will invite people to add flowers to the cross.
- A Welcome and Farewell Celebration was held Friday, March 5th - virtually. This was a time to say thank-you to Laura, Noah and Debbie and to welcome Christina and Bruce and a fun way to get to know each other better.

Trustees (Carl W.)

- Cleaning Service – Based on several audits as well as some positive comments Squeaky Clean Cleaning Service is doing an excellent job at keeping the church clean.
- PPP loan / grant application – Worked with Carl Davis and bankHometown to complete the first draw forgiveness application and the application for a second draw. Changes to what is allowed to be claimed as wages between first and second draws reduced our second draw PPP loan amount to \$12,745. All documents signed and sent.
- Refrigerator – Thanks to Suzanne's knowledge and experience with grants a grant application for \$4K has been submitted to Neighbors in Need to replace one of the Avantco refrigerators in the main kitchen. Cost of repair is almost the same as a new purchase.
- Fire Alarm System – Sam Lyman & Carl Wisnosky are now the new call-in list in the event of an alarm. C. Goodrich Alarm Co. to provide quote for repair / replacement of the non-functioning alarm panel located in the side entry hall.
- Church Repairs - Proceeding with getting quotes for several repair projects including: painting and window repair of the north side of sanctuary, gutter replacement, grading in rear to eliminate drainage problem and repair of rotted areas on east and south side exterior. Grant application process has started.
- Property Management – A comprehensive list of recurring tasks (e.g. – inspections, cleaning, seasonal items) has been updated and reviewed. Contacting volunteers is underway.

Outreach (Jennifer)

- Wednesday, March 3rd meeting - Kevin and Lisa led us in a rich discussion of steps we can take to become clearer about our ministry's purpose and how we can begin to move our ministry and our congregation into "Faith in Action".
- Outdoor coffee hour and food collection has been rescheduled to Sunday, March 21st from 11 AM to noon. We will be collecting non-perishable food items for Daily Bread.
- 2021 Outreach Survey was sent to all church members via March Share and weekly "Sunday Worship Information and Announcements" emails. Only 8 responses to date. Developing a short video to create more publicity and answer questions.

Faith Formation (Lisa H.)

- **Family Faith Formation: "Faith Seeds" & "The Early Word"**
 - **Faith Seeds**, using Illustrated Ministry's: The Beatitudes curriculum, modified for Faith Formation at home, in a Newsletter format- sent weekly through MailChimp
 - Children's Message for Worship- "**The Early Word**"- prerecorded & used within worship recording, Godly Play & other stories offered each week to reach a broad age range
- **Report on Events in February:**
 - Collaborated with Woodstock Academy FRESH high school students to create Valentine cards for seniors in the Woodstock area.
 - Fat Tuesday Pancake Party Bundles- for all congregants- February 16, 2021 via *Zoom*
 - Lent-in-a-Bag- collaboration with Rev. Kevin for the Lenten season- spiritual practices during Lenten season.
- **Upcoming Family Ministry-Faith Formation Events/Activities:**
 - International Women's Day appreciation & *#Choose to Challenge!*
 - Easter flowers on the cross in front of the church
 - Decorating wooden crosses provided by a congregant
 - Faith Formation Team identified to identify Community Framework
- **SNEUCC Faith Formation/Youth Ministry Community of Practice, Trainings:**
 - Hosted February FFYM CoP UCC Faith Formation and Youth Ministry leaders
 - Attended the 50th Annual NEAUCE Conference 2/13/21
 - Attended SNEUCC *Making Disciples* Training 2/6/21
 - Attended SNEUCC *Networking in Youth Ministry* Training 2/20/21
 - Attended SNEUCC *Youth Ministry 101* Training 2/20/21