

Approved Minutes

**FCCW Church Council
March 9, 2021 via Zoom**

Present: Laura Bond, Charles Bottieri, Rev. Kevin Downer, Tom Duggan, Lisa Haupt, Bob Kirk, Debby Kirk, Bruce Lyman, Sam Lyman, Ginny Moylan, Leilani Nixon, Jim Nowak, Karen Olah, Jeff Perkins, Rick Singh, Tom Singleton, Bruce Staehle, Charlene Swanson, Holly Ware, Paula Wilmot

1. **Welcome:** Moderator, Bob Kirk opened the meeting at 7:04 PM.
2. **Opening Devotion:** Rev. Kevin Downer shared a reading entitled *True Greatness*.
3. **Clerk's Report:** Clerk, Laura Bond noted one correction for the February minutes: Tom Duggan was not in attendance. Laura will send corrected record to Rev. Kevin. Council Minutes, once approved, will now be posted on the church website. A summary will be prepared for SHARE.
4. **Treasurer's Report: Assistant Treasurer,** Tom Duggan presented a summary for the two months. Report is posted on the website. Tom will look into Rev. Kev's question about net operating income showing -1%.

MOTION to approve: Tom Singleton/Sam Lyman 2nd, unanimously accepted, no abstentions.

5. **Outreach Updates:** Ginny Moylan reported that Outreach will host a coffee hour after worship on March 21, at which food items will be collected for Daily Bread. Outreach survey is still open. Team wants to support needs of local community in light of pandemic. They will follow up with discerning questions from Kevin and consider rebranding. Is there a name other than Outreach that better describes the work? They seek to be welcoming and inclusive, as well as provide congregants with opportunities to put faith in action.

6. Pastor's Report: Rev. Kev

- Website work: Council page has been added and Kevin is beginning to make other changes that invite, inform, and inspire folks from the community. We are trying to move away from language that speaks only to members. Each group should have a page that states their purpose, ways to get involved, so that ministry, programs, and services, etc. are transparent and visible. There seems to be a challenge with google calendar updates. Looking into Web commerce for forms and payments (Italian dinner). Next step is to create instructions for to posting agenda, Council minutes, etc.
- Mailchimp is now used for all church email. Christina M has been coaching Ellen.
- Worship: Will send special version of SHARE for Holy Week. Ecumenical Easter Sunrise service at Woodstock Academy, in person with social distancing. All other services remain online for present.
- Summer schedule will continue our tradition of collaboration with East Woodstock. July (East leads) at FCCW. August (FCCW to lead) at East. Kevin will take some study leave during summer to do fall worship planning.

- Committee on Ministry has finalized Kevin's transfer of status to Windham Assoc. Kevin and Toby closed on a home in Woodstock and expect move in by Easter. Kevin's parents will move in around Memorial Day.
- Bob expressed thanks to Kevin for his leadership of worship and also work to shift communications format.

7. **News Briefs**

- Board and Committee Reports were shared in advance and will be posted on website.
- **Community Kitchens:** Bruce Lyman reported that 166 meals (new record) were served on March 8, and 154 on March 1. Thanks expressed to Charles Bottieri for cooking on March 8 as well as to our regular team of volunteers. The food insecurity continues to increase and the guests are very grateful.

8. **Old Business**

- **Italian Dinner:** Chef Charles Bottieri reported these stats: 16 volunteers, 23 pasta pals, 180 meals served, including 34 orders for new menu item, Ziti al forno. Raffle basket went to Diane Miller. Good to see people. Credit card payments worked.
- **2020 Annual Report Ad hoc Committee:** Group consists of Jim Nowak, Jeff Perkins, Rev. Kevin and Noah Gourlie (for Trustees). Jim reported that they have been assembling a timeline and have invited Ted Bradley to speak to the group. They will discuss Music Committee summary in the 2020 Annual Report with Ellen and present a summary statement to the congregation.

9. **New Business**

- **October 2021 Craft Fair and Art Show:**

Karen Olah represents the local crafters group and requested that the church host a craft fair on October 16-17, the same weekend of Roseland Fair. There was discussion around Covid-19 Guidelines, safety, Roseland Cottage event, parking, etc.

Questions:

- Can the group have access to Harrison Hall? (There are usually 10-12 vendors inside).
- How many vendors can we accommodate outside, especially if we use the south lawn area? Karen will measure and map out the space to allow for more social distancing.
- Will the church offer food as in the past?
- What is our commitment to Roseland event? Parking has been an issue and perhaps church crafters can park at Historical Society to relieve crowding on common. We have provided some compensation for constables in the past. Bruce Lyman provided details below:
 - Saturday: One constable for 7 hours, the other for 4 (total of 11 hours).
 - Sunday: One constable for 5 hours, the other for 4 (total of 9 hours).
 - Our cost at \$24.95/hr. x 20 hours = \$499.00 total.

Due to uncertainty of Covid, those present agreed that B&B for Roseland Crafters is NOT a good idea this year. This request was referred to the Covid Admin Team for review. We will discuss their recommendations by next Council meeting.

- **Opening the Sanctuary with Restrictions for Good Friday Vigil**

Bruce Staehle reported that Deacons would like to hold a Vigil on Good Friday. Council had previously agreed to allow small groups to enter the building, so it was determined that it would be safe to offer a vigil from 9 PM Thursday to 3 PM Friday to keep watch in solidarity with Jesus. Deacons will set up a sign-up genius to take reservations to keep the number to 1-3 participants in the sanctuary at a time.

10. MOTION to adjourn meeting at 8:28 PM, followed by closing prayer led by Rick Singh

NEXT MEETING is Tuesday, April 13

Submitted by Debby Kirk, acting clerk. 3/19/2021