



Board Meeting – Dec. 18, 2019

Our Mission: To be a compassionate, welcoming community that nurtures spiritual growth and practices justice.

Meeting Minutes

Board: Gail Bishop, President; Ann Hutton, Vice President; Rob Harveland, Treasurer; Greg Turosak, Secretary; Kim Reid, Dave Siljeborg, Joe Lobl, Molly Dingel and Sarah Hayes, Members at Large; Rev. Luke Stevens-Royer, ex officio

Absent: Greg Turosak, Secretary

1. **Call to Order and Chalice Lighting:** Gail called the meeting to order and the chalice was lit. Dave provided the reflection on this month's theme, Integrity, drawing upon an April 2017 sermon by Rev. Fritz Hudson and a reading from Ben Soule – *As the Wild Wind Bites (on the wonder and awe of who we are together)*.
2. **Consent Agenda:** Motion by Ann, second by Joe to approve Consent Agenda and minutes from November. Approved.
3. **Financial update:** Rob reported we have received most of the auction payments. Revenue, at this time, exceeds expenditures. The Finance Committee spent time discussing budget planning for next year and the change to a programmatic budget. Committees will still be asked for their financial needs. These will then be incorporated into larger program amounts rather than being representing as individual budget line items. Staff and congregational leaders working with each of the program areas will oversee expenditures.
4. **Minister's Report:** Rev. Luke shared his minister's report with updates on staffing, the Shared Ministry Team, and recent Building Our Future activities.
5. **Old Business: Liaison reports:**
 - a. **Property:** Greg reported (via email) they are waiting bids on remodeling the chancel to make it accessible.
 - b. **Sanctuary:** Nothing new to report
 - c. **RE:** Sarah reported there is a need for more teachers. Gail encouraged board members to consider this fun activity, especially knowing the curriculum is well developed and easy to use.
 - d. **Stewardship and Endowment:** Joe reported that planning continues for the February 29 kickoff of this year's campaign. The event will once again be inter-generational and include a talent show. They are reviewing pledging materials and trying to simplify the process. They would appreciate everyone returning their stewardship card, even if there are not any changes. Everyone returning the form will be eligible for Peter Mayer concert tickets. The concert will be Saturday, April 4 and he will be our guest musician for Sunday worship. The Board agreed to assist with thank you and reminder emails as the pledge campaign proceeds.
 - e. **Personnel:** Nothing in addition to what was covered in Rev. Luke's report.
 - f. **Safe Congregation:** Nothing new to report.
 - g. **Nominating:** Gail reported that work on the proposed 2020-2021 board slate of nominees is complete. She thanked the board members who have agreed to continue for their dedication.

- h. **Shared Ministry Team Update:** Kim reported the work has been rewarding and they will have more to report to the Board and the congregation at a later date.
6. **Old Business: Sex Offender Risk Reduction Policy, forum / process and follow-up plans:** Gail and Rev. Luke will meet with Teri Aldred to review and, as needed, edit our proposed draft policy, as well as outline follow-up steps in preparation for and then following the forum that will be held on Sunday, January 26. Teri will not be able to attend that day but Alex Bunger from Community Corrections and who presented at an earlier discussion will be available.
7. **New Business: Building and Visioning Next Steps:** Ann shared details of the group's recent visit to Duluth. Rev. Luke indicated he would like the Building Visioning Team and the Board to meet in January to identify next steps. As we move forward with any discussions and plans, communication with the congregation will be essential. Ann will re-introduce *Building Our Future* to the congregation in the next issue of *Grace Notes*. Gail has prepared the quarterly board letter that will be shared via email which also touches on the topic.
8. **Other:** Upcoming Soul Matters themes include: February – Resilience and March – Wisdom. Ann will share the worship resources as they come available.

Respectfully submitted, Ann Hutton, Vice President