

Red Lodge Community Church Council Minutes, January 16, 2020 at 5:15 PM

The meeting was called to order by Moderator, Jim Brown. A quorum was declared. Those in attendance were Jim, Karen K, Debbie A, Lauri J, Audrey C, Debbie T, Donna R, Mark S, Renee G, Jay W, Linda H, and Pastor Pam who led us in an opening prayer. The minutes of the meeting held on October 24, 2019 were approved as read.

Financial secretary, Debbie T reported that as of this date, 56 pledges totalling \$136,726.00 for the year 2020 have been received. A gift of \$10,000.00 has been received with half of it being designated to be used for everyday expenses of the church, and half of it to be designated to the music fund. The New Year's Eve party brought in \$194.00

Treasurer's Report . Laurie would like training to better meet her responsibilities.

Pastor Pam's report was emailed to all council members prior to the meeting. The full report will be published in The Shalom. Pastor Pam recommended that the church purchase The "Breeze" Administrative program at a cost of \$60.00 a month. It is much more affordable than similar programs that seek to unify the church's various data sets . This program would encompass the church Directory, Calendar, Membership, Facebook Page, Online Giving, and internal church communications. A motion was made to this effect and was approved unanimously. Pam reported that she had volunteered our church to host the Annual Conference Meeting from September 18th through September 20th, 2020. A motion was passed to this effect. Five coordinators will need to be recruited. Expenses are covered by the conference, except for utilities and possibly special music. On March 19th, 2020 the conference financial adviser will host a teleconference, in which we can participate.

Moderator's Report. Jim explained that at the October council meeting it was recommended and approved to fold the Finance ministry into the Executive committee, centralizing financial management of the church's resources. This proposal would necessitate a change in bylaws, thus requiring a vote by the congregation. Jim will be meeting with Dixie McCampbell, Mark Shubert, Debbie T., and Pastor Pam to work out the details of this transition. Due to miscommunication, a written Finance report was not available.

Vice Moderator, Donna R. reported that formal job descriptions/covenants need to be finalized. This process had been initiated last fall. She and Karen Kinney will follow up on this.

Diaconate report was given by Renee G. She reported that there were 156 people in attendance at the Christmas Eve service. There were 5 Sundays in December, with communion being served at each one. The deacons will be contacting greeters prior to Sunday services to remind them of their commitment. Randy and Stephen Vaile have resigned, and Martha S. and Debbie B's terms are up. Debbie Awes and Lori Floyd have agreed to serve. A training will be scheduled in the near future. Hopefully, more deacons can be recruited.

Facilities Management report was given by Jay W. Sanctuary lights are being updated to LEDS. A battery powered snow blower will be purchased. They are working on installation of a keyless entry system. A new computer was purchased to replace one that was not working. All costs came from reserve funds. The pedal on the grand piano is sticking. Jim Guimont of the music festival will be consulted on how to proceed. A quaker group is meeting in the Upper Room for four Wednesdays in January.

Christian Education report was given by Pastor Pam. There are 3 confirmation students. They meet twice a month. Several acolytes are being trained.

Finance Ministry report was given by Mark S. He stated that the financial statements were accurate and up to date. He and Jim B will be meeting with Dixie Debbie T, Debbie A, and Ken A, to discuss the history and functions of this ministry and to create a path going forward.

The Annual Report was distributed, with the notation that the financial reports will need to be updated due to the confusion regarding the finance ministry.

Linda H. reported for Stewardship and Missions. They are reorganizing the structure of their ministry as follows. The year will be divided into three segments. The first segment will be directed by Linda H and Carol S, focusing on endowments and charitable giving. The second segment focusing on outreach and Missions will be led by Juila C and Joann E. The final segment which will focus on Stewardship will be led by Diny G and Russ. They hope to streamline to Five for Five giving process. There will be a Northern Cheyenne Outreach planning session held on February 23rd.

Pastor Parish Relations ministry has a meeting scheduled for February 23rd.

The vote to become officially an open and affirming congregation will be held on January 19th, via secret ballot. Proxy votes are allowed.

Shrove Tuesday is February 25th, and plans are in place to host a pancake supper once again.

A motion was made to update signatures at First Interstate Bank to those currently elected to serve in transacting church business. They are Karen Kinney, Jim Brown, and Lori Judd. Former signors will be removed. Debbie Awes thanked everyone for their support during her term as moderator. The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Audrey Clark Secretary