

Minutes

Leadership Council & Trustees Meeting

Thursday, Dec. 17, 2020

Trustees 5:30 PM

Joint 6-6:30

LC 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Join via Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/93021354453?pwd=S3FQMEdRazlrYmExZmJaT2IGL3ITQT09>

Cut and paste the link into your browser

Attendees: Lynn Gall, Lex Liberatore, Karen Torvell, Marifran Cataldi, Mike McKelvey, Jenny Rodefeld, Bob Naylor, Fred Kane, Chad H. , William Hutchinson, and Mark Tormey

Absent: Anne Schoenemann, Carol Steckel

5:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting [agenda](#) [minutes](#)

6:00 p.m. Joint LC and Trustees Meeting

1. Opening Prayer – Lex
2. Approval of [November 19, 2020 minutes](#)

No feedback: Approved

3. Financial Report

Highlights – Mark – “a decent month”; insurance may be +\$1100 than budgeted

Giving Plans: for 2021, under discussion by Lex and Anne:

- 63 pledges to date; an accounting through Aplos by Sue BZ; about 16 people to contact about continued support of \$10-\$20/week; Lex and Amy will pledge this year (\$20/week);
- Lack of funding for music in the budget? Because no music during first half of year because the church building is closed;
- Question raised about an empty building and possible decrease in insurance premiums – Bill Hutchinson worked in claims and underwriting at West Bend, lots of insurance companies are reducing premiums for underused buildings and vehicles.

Insurance: per Bill.

- UCC is considering insurance pricing. Does our church belong to a UCC franchise type of business arrangement or do we buy our own for 4200 Buckeye. There are several questions to ask. Are there UCC liability requirements? Limited insurance companies for churches and several are in the Midwest. We should check our policy and see how it was written for both liability and property. Bill volunteers to look at our insurance policy.
- Last year it was \$16,000 premium. We were told 10 to 30% increase in the future. So we added 15% to our 2020 budget. Mark called about a discount but \$20,024 (20% increase over 2020) is projected for 2021 according to our insurance agency. Suggested we replace our policy. Agent in Iowa...he gets a % of the premium. Bill suggests we investigate alternatives. Bill volunteered to investigate options.
- Mike says Insurance Board is an ecumenical nonprofit that works with insurance for mainstream religions. The Insurance Board is a resource, but Mike thinks there are no UCC insurance requirements.

- Next steps: Bill to talk to Deforest UCC office and identify the current insurance coverage.

The cash on hand per the bank equals \$116,623. This agrees with the church books which has a Ministry balance of \$46,382 and other fund combined balances of \$70,241.

This is an increase from last month of \$11,342. \$5482 of this increase was in the other funds and the rest, \$5860, was in the Ministry fund.

Total income for November was \$32,322 for Ministry and \$5482 for other funds for a total of \$37,804.

Total expenses for November were \$15,083 for Ministry and \$0 for other funds for a total of \$15,083.

Net Gain/Loss for November was \$17,239 for Ministry and \$5482 for other Funds for a total of \$22,721.

The total year to date through November gain/loss for the Ministry fund is \$1572 and other funds were -\$5171 for a combined total of -\$3600.

This was a good month.

The \$14,100 we received via the PPP loan has officially been forgiven and has been added to the Ministry income in November.

Other Income: Project Babies continues to pay \$700/year.

Review [Final Budget 3](#) - Mark and Lex
Budget Hearing Highlights - Jen ([Anne's Highlights](#))

4. JGB Updates - Lex (Bill, Steph and Sue BZ)

- LC meet with JGB – ongoing challenges with communications between our churches. Rock administration contributes to the bottleneck. The two pastors plan to establish a communication hub and develop a communique to explain the communication hub for both churches. Expect to spend the next 6 months on the formalized means of inter-church communications.
- Living God's Shalom – Hope to pull a team of three reps of each congregation to identify the characteristics of the person to hire for leading the Living God's Shalom.
- Collecting food for some Rock congregants for Christmas. Sister Sable is leading this. Many turkeys are held at other churches who have freezer space.
- think about how often and when via Zoom – Lex expects that he and Pastor Mitchell will meet by Zoom on the third Sunday.
- JGB asked CTSR Trustees for separate meeting times, too
- Mosaic Backyard project - Anne spoke with Barb Williams, Trustee at CTSR, we will wait until new year to start looking at this project
- Update on closed FB group? Link yet?
- Alliance Library and Book Club updates - next book club Jan.7, 1:30 contact w.tretheway@uwalumni.com for Zoom link - a small selection of BLM movement books on display, donations are welcome

6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Leadership Council - [Shared Folder](#)

1. Capital Campaign
 - a. Slide show review of process – Lex –
 - There was a capital campaign for roof repairs. Fundraising effort to create an endowment, repairs, expansions, new employees. Etc. For LEUCC capital campaign is to reduce debt. It may be several months before was start asking for money. We have a Capital Campaign consultant to help us raise the money LEUCC needs. About 15 week-duration campaign. Money is raised over 3 years; \$100,000 /year.
 - Church Building and Loan Fund is our consultant service. Regional Mission Interpreter (RMI). Church must agree before RMI will formally partner with us. RMI can do a feasibility study and the chance LEUCC can meet its goals. LEUCC must establish an internal team to work with our consultant. Hope to raise 50% of yearly goals from major contributors.
 - Living God's Shalom with our partner church is the long range goal that will be facilitated with an elimination of historic debt.
 - Will be Lay-based effort. Not pastor-led.
 - Key is to want to raise the money. Asking is not unseemly. Money is not dirty. Our Leader Board must WANT to raise money to retire our mortgage.
 - Most capital campaign reps make a % of what is raised. Not the Building and Loan organization. 60% of our flat fee goes to other churches in their mission ministries. They add up LEUCC offerings and pledges and 10% is the fee. Will be ½ of what was paid to the consultant used to raise the money for the roof repair. With 10% paid up front. 12 monthly payments starting after the 15 week campaign is completed.
 - b. Next steps based on conversation with executive board and Chuck Schummer at the Building and Loan Fund - UCC
 - c. Any questions or suggestions from LC and Trustees?
2. Annual Giving Campaign
 1. Review [timeline](#) - Jen
 2. Update 61 pledge cards for \$118,480, usual in church donors have not been giving, Give+ Incentive with Lex and Amy - Lex
 3. Phone call plan - call non pledge card/EFT donors and those who give in church, there will be a script to mainly hear their story, need two volunteers
3. Weekly worship update – Lex
 1. Advent events – nothing planned out of the ordinary. Lori Aiken to engage our members to dress as Christmas story characters for the 7:00 Zoom service. Carols at 6:30. Candlelight service.
 2. Pageant
 3. Other - no bag in lights Christmas Eve, Anne unable to collect and disperse white bags plus hard to find battery candles - plan for next year
4. Communication

Digital Strategies for Reaching new Communities webinar - Anne share in January
Website updates - Lynn and Anne are looking at ways to build up communication, Amy and Lex do a great job posting info on the site, right now the website is our front door
Other nts:

Grants

First Congressional Foundation - Seeds of Hope Grant [Application Here](#) Open now to January 30, 2021. Marifran was tasked with looking at the requirements for this grant within the next two weeks.

Genesis fund which is a National UCC fund

2021 meeting dates: January 28, February 25, March 25, April 22, May 27, June 24, July 22, August 26, September 23, October 28, November 18* December 16*

Executive Board meeting Jan. 6, Feb. 3, Mar. 3 at 6:30 (Lex, Anne and Jen)

Adjournment - Merry Christmas!