

## MT. LEBANON CHRISTIAN CHURCH BOARD MEETING January 18, 2022

Attendance via Zoom: Janet & Paul Bowers, Rev John Crist, Rev. Cindy McClung, Chuck Sargent, Sally Myton, Verna McGinley, Ed Persinger, Duane Ready, Jane & John McCarty, Barb Scott, Kathy & Tom Spray

Meeting was initiated by Chairperson Rev John Crist with a reading from the Advent Devotional

November Board Minutes were reviewed and approved.

### **Minister's Report:**

- Rev Cindy mention a prayer concern.
- Rev Cindy will be going to the Holy land with a local church Jan 24-Feb 5<sup>th</sup>. 18 people in group.
- While she is gone, she will not answer emails. Only call her for emergency. Erma and Sampson staying at her sisters while she is gone.
- She is in classes the next few days.

**Church Clerk:** no changes

### **Financial Secretary:** Barb Scott

- Printed year-end statements. Barb will try to give to people at church and mail the rest.
- Some donation envelopes for 2022 are still in the back to be picked up. Chuck Sargent said he would check boxes and coordinate the Elders taking them to their sheep.
- Contributions continue to be made with the same consistency as the past months.

### **Treasurer's Report:** Janet Bowers

- Waiting for year-end financials.
- Building maintenance and parsonage expenditures \$35,000. \$15,000 on parsonage and \$20,000 on church itself. Overextended by 20,000
- Received \$2,500 from insurance for kitchen and conference room repairs. Nothing of that spent.
- Biggest concern continues to be building maintenance fund. See Trustees report.

The Officers' reports were approved.

## Team Reports

### **Christian Education:**

- Rev John Crist Wednesday zoom group completed their study on the book "The Call" by Cletus Hull. They will continue to meet and will focus on how the Covid virus has affected us the next few weeks.
- Wed evening "Mission & Identity group" discussed the Mission Statement last Wednesday that they Vision Team has made as a first draft. It has been decided the Vision Team will go forward with their goal to create a mission statement and vision statement.

- Laurie Sargent said she told Rev Cindy that she can help watch children during the 11:00 service and suggests watching younger children in nursery. (It had been proposed that we use the Parlor for this but it seems the nursery is more appropriate.)

#### **Deaconess Report:**

- Communion bread/cups that were on back order have been received.

#### **Deacons:**

- Deacons continue to bring tray for contributions forward during Sunday services. Nice to have Carmine help bring offering a couple of Sundays.

#### **Elders – Chuck Sargent**

- Discussed prayer concerns for the congregation and others in our meeting last week.
- Discussed Rev Cindy going to Israel end of January and beginning of February.
- Jane suggested the Elders do some training on helping people with depression, anxiety and fear in one of our future meetings.
- Discussed the process for developing a Mission Statement and Vision Statement that was started by the Vision Team. This was also discussed at the last Wednesday night meeting. Rev Cindy suggest the Vision Team will continue to develop these statements.
- Rev John Crist mentioned he still wants to meet with the group that has been meeting on Wednesday evenings. They will decide what to discuss at their meetings in the next few weeks.

#### **Membership/Evangelism: Chuck Sargent**

- Cindy wants to have Program Team meeting when she gets back so we can make plans for events in the following months.

#### **Outreach: Jane McCarty**

- January outreach is to collect money for Tornado victims.
- Geri Offenbach has been helping to get ideas.

#### **Personnel: note from Dan Wahl**

- Conducted yearly reviews with Chuck Bieri and Joyce Lackey this past week.
- Looking at installing video doorbell system.
  - Front doors have been found unlocked a few times and printer left on.
  - For safety for Joyce, we should keep front door locks. She is alone in the building much of the time.
  - Dan asked Chuck Sargent for his input. Chuck gave some details about what his research has showed him during this board meeting. Trustees will make the final decision.
- Chuck Sargent asked about what the cleaning people duties are.
  - Paul empties and puts out garbage for Tuesdays.
  - All restrooms need cleaned. Cleaning people clean on Saturdays and are doing all restrooms but behind the baptistry in the sanctuary. This needs to be done.
  - Should we hire someone for snow removal? Paul does it now and uses the snowblower we have.
  - Need someone for grass cutting. Jim Bowers moved to Florida which leaves Paul as the one who is doing it.

**Pastoral Relations Committee:** no recent meeting

**Property:** Paul Bowers

- Boiler pump that we thought was backorder has been discontinued. We are trying to find new pump with the help of Gary Schwartz. Ours is probably 20 years old.
- Paul has been slowly taking care of mold in basement. More to be done.
- Humidifier in meeting room does not seem to be working. Paul will check into it.
- Gutters that backed up and water leaked into Chapel on outside window. Paul is guessing the window was not complete shut.
- Chuck asked about our current doorbell which is not working. Paul thinks it is battery operated. (We need to confirm to see if we have a wire by it that we can use for a video doorbell.) See Trustees report.

**Stewardship:** Jane has done for the past years. Need a volunteer.

**Trustees:**

- Servpro \$20,000 estimate to get rid of mildew in Fellowship Hall and other items.
- Trustees approved moving funds from the general fund into building maintenance fund to balance building maintenance fund.
- Purchase of new bibles – Rev Cindy is looking into the version to use.
- Trustees believe a Video doorbell is a good idea. To be finalized in next meeting. (See item under Personnel above.)
- Vanguard account needs Mike added and Jinny removed. **Board voted to approve the change.**
- Tom Spray got a quote Baker's Waterproofing to put in sump pumps \$6,400 estimate. Site prep needed also separate from above. Cindy suggested Trustees check Mike Rusko (a church member) who might be able to help or suggest people for us. Mariani & Richards, Inc. suggested by Barb Scott if we want other estimates. Sally Myton suggested Ever Dry company.
- Joyce has asked for a Motion detection light for her when she comes into work?
- Someone there is a \$5,000 estimate to go to court about the neighbor behind the church and their infringement on our property over the past few years. Mt Lebanon won't do anything unless there is some court type papers. Suggestion made to meet and talk with the neighbor. Defer until something else happens and/or Covid slows down.
- Handle on inside of door in old Fellowship Hall. Nothing discussed in Trustees last meeting. Paul was asked to get an estimate.
- Duane Ready suggested all church locks get replaced because there are so many keys floating around and the locks have not been replaced for quite a few years. Trustees should discuss.

**Vision Team:** Rev Cindy

- Started discussion and created temporary Mission Statement and have started on a Vision Statement
- Next Meeting for two hours Feb 12<sup>th</sup>, 10-12.

**Worship:** Verna McGinley

- Verna did children's moment during advent service.
- Discussed people talking during beginning of services while they are in the sanctuary. Not much we can do. They can't talk in parlor now since Covid.

- Chuck asked about status of microphones working/not working in sanctuary. John McCarty was not in the meeting to respond. Chuck will send John and email or talk with him.
- Verna did special Christmas display in front of the communion table.
- Luminaries were done by Sally, Verna, Geri & Jane on Christmas Eve. They were very nice.
- Bibles were put back in the pews per request last meeting.

**Action on Team reports:** John suggested we consider doing this “action item” at the end of board meetings per the By-laws. (We usually take action on any needed items during each team report.)

**Old Business:**

- Discussed activities we did in December. Women’s Retreat went well. Chrismon Tree lit outside the church and activities that night went well. Singing around the tree was nice. Verna’s Facebook sessions about Chrismon Tree meanings was nice to have. We did not formally advertise much ahead of time and should have.
- We liked Verna’s display inside the church.

**New Business:**

- John Crist asked about any thoughts we had about the Leadership email he sent in November. There was not much discussion.
- John Crist asked about the letter Cindy sent to the Worship Team that included paying guest speakers. (He thought it had been sent to the board but it was only sent to the Worship Team which is who usually who handles this type of thing.) Discussion followed related to people getting paid for preaching and/or playing organ/piano during services. It was mentioned we kind of have an unwritten policy that we do not pay church members when they are guest preachers or musicians. Rev Cindy will look into what other churches do. Worship Team will then look into it and formalize a policy.

Rev John Crist closed in prayer.

Respectfully Submitted:  
Chuck Sargent – recording secretary