

**MT. LEBANON CHRISTIAN CHURCH
BOARD MEETING minutes March 21, 2023**

Attendance via Zoom: Rev Cindy McClung, Janet Bowers, Chuck Sargent, Sally Myton, Tom & Kathy Spray, Barb & Ralph Scott, Cathy Snyder, John McCarty, Chris Wagner, Verna McGinley, Ed Persinger

Meeting opened via prayer from Rev Cindy.

January Board Minutes were emailed to all before this meeting. The minutes were approved.

Minister's Report:

- Thankful for the birth of Persinger's new baby Caleb
- Ed Pajak came home from hospital
- Daryl is doing better
- Cindy was on Zoom call with the region today. Bill Allen is doing better.
- Cindy is going to conference in Atlanta on revitalizing congregations.
- Cindy and John are going to DOC General Assembly (July 29-Aug 1)

Church Clerk: No report. No change in membership.

Financial Secretary: Barb Scott

- Feb 2023 donations \$200 more than Feb 2022
- Cindy asked for number of families that give for her to give to region.

Treasurer's Report: Janet Bowers

- Spending a little more than we are getting this year.
- Have year-end reports - Harold emailed them out.

The Officers' reports were approved.

Team Reports

Christian Education:

- Bible Studies on Wednesdays. Cindy doing during Lent.
 - John will do a bible study after Lent.
- Dining Disciples luncheons and dinner are going well. Probably take a break in the summer.

Deaconess Report:

- Amy got biodegradable bags for communion and gave them to Roz.
- Communion cups juice seems bad. Going to refrigerate them.

Deacons:

- Deacons will pass offering plates during services starting in 2 weeks.

Elders – Chuck Sargent

- Updated our prayer list.
- It was suggested Chuck send a thank you to St Clair Foundation for the AED he got from them.

Membership/Evangelism: Chuck Sargent

- Mardi Gras party went well
- There will be “Game & Pizza” day on Saturday May 6th
- Strawberry Fest scheduled for June 10th.

Outreach: Rev Cindy reported

- We are giving \$295 for a camper to go to Laurelview
- Road cleanup scheduled for April

Personnel: A new computer for the church is being ordered by Chuck for Joyce. (see Trustees report)

Pastoral Relations Committee: no recent meeting.

Property: Paul Bowers

- Jeff sanded men’s room door on first floor so it would close.
- Chuck got AED from St Clair – It is in the copier room for now. We need to get a case to mount it somewhere. We also discussed the need for training.

Stewardship: Need a volunteer to chair team.

Trustees: Ed Persinger

- Chuck removed the Covid policy from our website.
- Discussed putting the “Use of Building” documents in public view. It is only on members only page now. Ed suggested putting on ABOUT page. - ok

Trustees Votes/Approvals:

- Trustees voted and approved a \$150 budget for AED Case using property funds. Trustees recommend the AED be mounted in a prominent area on a wall in the main hall near the parlor or stairs.
- Trustees voted and approved a \$1,000 budget using undesignated special gift funds for the purchase of a new office computer, applicable software, and software installation.
- Trustees voted and approved of using memorial funds for the previously approved Bibles purchase. Cindy to speak with those individuals with ties to the funds being used.

Other items of Trustees

- Trustees (Ed) completed a survey with the Commonwealth of PA for the opportunity of potentially receiving a \$5K grant from PA for safety and security updates; we should hear back in April if we qualify and have been selected. At that time, additional registration with the state will need to be completed.
- A Chess tournament was held in Fellowship Hall for approximately 65 kids. The organization gifted \$225 for the use of the hall and included an additional \$50 donation. Thanks to Mike Philippon for coordinating.

Recommendations from Trustees to Teams & Board:

- At the recommendation of the Trustees, Property (Tom) is working with Bridge City Electric on exterior lighting issues. They got the spotlight on the post by Cedar working during an initial diagnostic appointment. Bridge City to give us an estimate to get the remaining lights working.
- Trustees recommend Property (Paul) move forward with getting a couple of quotes for general wall/ceiling repair and painting throughout the building as needed
- Trustees recommend Property (Tom) to obtain estimates for lawn care service, particularly for the back hill.
- **LENGTHY PROCESS:** Trustees recommend a **Steering Committee** be formed and *include multiple members of the congregation serving in different capacities*. The objective of this committee would be to provide for a period of discernment and outlook in assessing the building and our congregation. The Trustees recognize that the building is becoming too large for our congregation's use and upkeep/maintenance is becoming an issue. This an attempt to be proactive and realistic considering the age and size of the congregation, giving, and the size and age of the building.
- Recommend that a comprehensive analysis be done to determine the viability of (1) proceeding with the church and maintenance as-is or (2) selling the building
- Recommend committee considers all potential pros/cons of this decision to include but without limitation:
 - Have a contractor examine the building and determine potential needs in the next 5 to 10 years and estimate the cost of that maintenance
 - Have an appraisal of the building completed
 - Examine existing funds and giving trends
 - Alternate sites to worship; cost; availability; size; technical capabilities for broadcasting
- The following members were suggested for this Steering Committee. We will also ask the congregation if any of them would like to participate.
 - Janet Bowers
 - Ed Persinger
 - Mike Philippon
 - Chuck Sargent
 - Ralph & Barb Scott
 - Kathy Spray
 - Tom Spray
 - Anne Totin
 - Final list for the team to be formed by Easter
 - Plan to meet by end of April
- **Motions & Approvals for the steering team**
 - Tom motioned that we contact the Disciples of Christ Extension Fund – approved unanimously – Brock McCracken (Mid-west regional)
 - Tom motioned we create a steering committee. – approved unanimously
- Cindy will make an announcement to the congregation that the team plans on coming up with an analysis and plan in a year or less.
- John McCarty mentioned – revitalizing congregations Disciples plans

Program Team

- Meeting March 27th

Vision Team: Rev Cindy

- Has not met recently.

Worship: Rev Cindy

- String players at Ash Wednesday service. – went well.
- John will do service on Maundy Thursday.
- Prayer stations on good Friday at church. 10am-2pm
- Sunday – last day to order flowers for Easter
- Pentecost – May 28th – Dan is working on a play during service.
- Stewardship service in April.

Old Business:

New Business: see above notes on steering committee

Rev Cindy closed in prayer.

Respectfully Submitted:

Chuck Sargent – Recording Secretary