

MT. LEBANON CHRISTIAN CHURCH
BOARD MEETING minutes January 21, 2025

Attendance via Zoom: John McCarty, Cindy McClung, Tom Spray, Cathy Snyder, Janet Bowers, Kathy Spray, Chuck Sargent, Jeff Hawn

Meeting opened with prayer by Cindy.

November Board Minutes were emailed to all before this meeting. The minutes were approved with the exception that Greece trip for bible study not sermons as it was mentioned in Nov minutes.

Minister's Report:

- Paul had a couple of tough days since his surgery.
- John did Ron Browns memorial service while Cindy was on vacation.
- Amy is at her sister's.
- Drake rejoining the church. Voted on it.
- Cindy's vacation to Puerto Rico and Caribbean.

Church Clerk: Cathy Snyder. Ron Brown death and Drake joining.

Financial Secretary: Kathy Spray

- Janet and Kathy sent out yearly reports for giving for 2024 to all members. Janet has been doing checks while Edna is off for surgery.
- Offering boxes for the new year are being distributed Janet & Kathy.
- Quickbooks is almost up-to-date. Kathy did a huge effort to get all the missing information into the system. Edna will do the input monthly now that all is up-to-date.
- Investment changes still need to be updated in the Quickbooks.
- Investments did well this past year which will help offset our increased expenses.
- Chuck asked for reports at board minutes of weekly/monthly giving. Kathy will provide what Chuck requests similar to what we have done in the past.
- Chuck asked about papers left out on secretary desk. It was discussed that Edna should lock them in the file cabinet.

Treasurer's Report: Janet – reports in Quickbooks for 2024 are almost completely done. Will be finalized the next month or so. Personnel costs were higher than 2023 because of all the circumstances with a new organist & a new secretary and money that was not spent on parts of 2023 when we did not have an organist.

The Officers' reports were approved.

Team Reports

Christian Education: Cindy

- Bible study – starting tomorrow – Steps of Paul – Cindy will have pictures from her trip.
- Dining Disciples luncheons and dinners continue each month.

Deaconess Report: Deaconesses are taking turns setting up communion trays each Sunday.

Deacons: Deacons continue to help during Sunday services with Communion and the offering.

Elders – Chuck

- Discussed prayer concerns

Outreach: John McCarty

- Get information from John
- Christmas caroling and gifts to Kane went well
- Caring Connections - The group is going to send out cards (to Kane).
- Week of Compassion – collection for Fires in California

Personnel:

- Edna is improving after knee surgery. Dr Appt next Tuesday to see if she can come back to work.
- Samuel planning on staying with us for another year after he gets his degree. Wants his green card but employer must sponsor the person for the green card. Cindy knows somebody at Friendship Village who does this for Duquesne so she is going to check with him.

Pastoral Relations Committee: Nothing new to report.

Program team: from Rev Cindy

- Meeting Saturday morning to make plans for the year.

Property: Tom

- Chuck asked about a temporary cover on the floor in room off of the parking lot.
- Jim Bowers now home and helping with snow clearing.

Stewardship: Need a volunteer to chair team.

Trustees: Tom Spray

- Pentecostal Romanians - Mike has not heard any follow-up from them regarding the use of our church; we believe there is no longer any interest from their party
- Appraisal Report received from Appraisers and distributed to the Trustees and Discernment Committee - Concluded that the market value of our building and location is \$1.23M
- Contractor Walkthrough Update. Previously communicated rough idea of repairs; Property and Discernment should be able to ballpark large repairs needed for purposes of reaching a congregational decision on the building.
- Prescott Roofing visited, cleaned gutters and noted some damaged tile on the roof. They will revisit in the spring and will quote cost of replacing damaged tiles.
- HAFHS (Samantha Lee) asked if they can have use of Fellowship Hall one day per week. Since late Fall last year to this year, they have gone down from three days per week to two days per week.
 - They would like to use Fellowship Hall one day per week and even pay more to do so. Maybe pay \$400 instead of \$320 per month
 - They have a physical education requirement and this will help to satisfy that req.
 - We need an idea of the PE activities; Mike to follow-up

- Boehmer Heating and Cooling came to inspect boiler. Wants to replace boiler that services Fellowship; received \$8K quote from them for a new pump. It's so old that they don't make replacement parts for our particular boiler.
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Worship – Cindy

- Lent coming – theme of “walk a mile in my shoes”
- Judgement and how we deal with other people
- Rachel Neal filled in on Jan 12th while Cindy was on vacation.
- Chuck thanked John & Cindy for sharing parts of the Sunday services.
- Mt. Lebanon Evangelical Presbyterian is using our baptismal Saturday 3:00. Tom will be setting up water/heater. We discussed changing rooms are full. John can empty one.

Special Teams: Kathy Spray

- Discernment team met a couple weeks ago to get restarted. Meeting on the 27th to plan more. Will be looking at the financials as they are almost finalized from last year. Probably report something in February to the congregation. (Anne, Jane, Kathy, Cindy, John, Tom)

Old Business: John McCarty

- Google Workspace initiative is dealing with some technical issues. Still need more testing. (Chip, John M. & Chuck)
- There was a question in Nov about all trustees being able to sign checks.
 - Samaritan Fund – Paster and one Trustee can sign checks
 - Treasurer and any Trustee can sign checks.
 - Treasurer signs almost all checks. Because of our outside accountant and reporting system, there are cross-checks to make sure money is being distributed correctly.

Rev John McCarty closed in prayer.

Respectfully Submitted by Chuck Sargent

Google Workspace for Non-Profits recommendation at July Board Meeting

What does it cost and what are the benefits of using Google Workspace?

- ▶ There is no cost for Google Workspace for Non-Profits
 - ▶ A simple application which confirms we are a non-profit is all that is required
- ▶ Benefits
 - ▶ 100TB free storage per organization (30GB per user)
 - ▶ Create Shared Files to improve collaboration
 - ▶ Improves communication
 - ▶ Can be accessed anywhere using a computer or smartphone
 - ▶ Secure storage with two-factor identification
 - ▶ Integrates easily with Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint
 - ▶ Shared calendar can be used for Worship (Elders, Worship Leader, Tech assignments)
 - ▶ Calendars can show when staff and leaders are out of town

Pilot Project

- ▶ To determine if rolling out Google Workspace for MLCC as a whole, we are suggesting to do a Pilot Project which would pull together a team.
- ▶ This team would perform the initial setup and use the tools on a small scale for 30 days. During this time, the team may decide to pull in a couple of other people to help evaluate the feasibility and investigate other possibilities.
- ▶ At the end of the period, the team would give a report to at the September board meeting.