

December 2021 Council Meeting

Opening Prayer: Rick Burnett

Rick opened the meeting with a prayer that the Council makes decisions tonight that bless the church and bring our church into a position of strength in 2022.

Opening Comments: Rick Burnett

Survey is going out on January 3, 2022. In light of the new Omicron variant, it is felt the survey is still appropriate.

A brief review of the audit was provided. Council members are working with their appropriate staff counterparts to prepare their annual reports.

Stewardship Update: Kevin Hawkins

Rick made enhancements to the spreadsheet to further identify people who may be good candidates to reach out to see if they could pledge for 2022. Council members were given a list of nine to ten families to call to see if they could pledge for next year. Pastor Fritz came up with a script for Council to use to help them make their calls. There was some discussion about what information would be included when making calls. Eric recommended attaching the QR code that we could send callers that would include the link on where to make their pledge. Rick was going to make a spreadsheet for each Council member with their callers information.

Financial (Mark): Refer to the November Financial Review for specific financial information. November was an excellent month for the church.

Pastor Fritz: Reviewed that we will be calling 140 people to see if they can commit to our Stewardship campaign.

Two motions to hire new Contemporary Worship leaders. Luanne Harms would be hired as the new COS Director of Contemporary Worship. Luanne will serve as the point of communication for the praise band throughout the year. Dana Fricke would be hired as the new COS Assistant Director of Contemporary Worship. Rick made a motion to approve the hiring of Luanne Harms. Mark asked if they were being hired as employees or contractors to make sure we are in compliance of the law. Mark recommended we hire them as 1099 contractors. It was suggested the motion should be amended to include the 1099 language. Rick suggested the language be cleaned up to specify the effective start date and language to include the 1099 criteria. It was decided that Rick would create two motions that would have them as 1099 contractors and send them out tomorrow for council to decide on.

Due to the recent upticks in Covid we have decided to move the Moravian Love Feast to January. IN addition Pastor Miriam will record reading the first lesson for Christmas Eve. Review PF report.

Pastor Miriam: Pastor Miriam presented her slide show detailing some of the events at COS during the last month. On December 12, in lieu of the Moravian Love Feast which was cancelled, Dana Fricke,

Kendra Willburn and Sarah Juhasz performed to make that weekend a beautiful event. New Piano by Delores Daniel and Piano Recital by Annette Day were well attended. We had an Eagle Scout project in the fellowship hall. Robbie had a Christmas workshop. Canvas has turned into a larger group of mixed ages. There have been over 60 families in the congregation that have lost a loved one this year. They were all invited to the Blue Christmas. There was a very well attended party for Melissa in recognition of her service to the church.

Rick covered that we lost Bill and Sandra but replaced them with Brad, Luanne and Dana. What gaps do we have to fill? In addition we lost Shelly and Melissa. Those positions are open. Laura Hawkins is the interim replacement for Shelly. Last week we had a full room of parents and volunteers ready to help take on the high school and middle school kids.

Nomination Committee: Sue

We have three people assuming roles in Council.

Omicron Variance and latest effect on COS: Rick

Next item was Omicron variant and the effect on the church. Rick talked about the only time we had masks mandatory was in July of 2021 when worship resumed at the church. That was lifted when the vaccines came out in alignment with the CDC guidance. In light of the Omicron variant and the rise in infections does Council want to amend our policy? The consensus is to encourage mask wearing but not require it. Sue thought it might be a good idea to have people spread out in the sanctuary rather than herd close in the middle.

Mission Endowment Fund and Church Council: Scott

The endowment fund is a separate non-profit corporation. There's a separate BOD that runs it. You cannot serve on the Endowment Board and Council simultaneously. Rick asked how well we advertise about the endowment fund to the congregation. The endowment fund is a benevolent type outreach. The yearly money made goes to global, national and regional benevolence. The endowment fund is for causes outside of COS. The Apple Tree Society takes gifts from people and that money can be used within COS.

Administrative Items: Rick

Rick made a motion to approve the minutes. Eric seconded the motion. The motion passed and the minutes were approved.

Put on your calendar that January 29 is the offsite retreat. Scott has volunteered to be the Vice-President next year and then in 2023 assume the role of Council President.

Rick asked how staff evaluations are being handled. In January, we will celebrate a successful year but also do evaluations and goals for next year.

Pastor Fritz reiterated that Eric, Robbie and Mike really embody the Holy Spirit with their service to council.

Annual meeting is 1/23.

Motion to retain Luanne Harms as COS Director of Contemporary Music and Dana Fricke as COS Assistant Director of Contemporary Music was approved by Council on January 3, 2022.

The meeting concluded with the Lord's Prayer.