

Holy Covenant MCC Board Agenda

December 19, 2019

- I: Meeting called to order: 7:27 pm
Present: Sue Calahan, Joanie Baird, Martha Daniels, Barbara Adams Latsaras
Regrets: Roxann Victory
Guests:
- II: Opening Prayer – Rev. Martha Daniels
- III: Check in: Barbara and Sue are good, Martha's Christmas concert went well, Joanie is job hunting.
- IV: Approval of the Agenda – Barbara Adams-Latsaras
- Motion to approve the agenda by Joanie, 2nd by Sue, all in favor.
- V: Approval of November Board Minutes – Barbara Adams-Latsaras
- Motion to approve the November minutes by Sue, 2nd by Joanie, all in favor
- VI: Reports
- A. Clerk's Report (verbal)
- a. There are 21 members and 2 children
- B. Treasurer's Report – Joanie Baird
- Tithes update**
- We did not have enough cash in Nov to pay the Oct 2019 UFMCC assessment, so Marina is waiving Aug, Sept and Oct 2019 assessments.
 - We entered a new agreement with UFMCC starting Nov 2019 @ 3.5%, which is \$136 for Nov 2019.
 - The 2018 repayment is suspended for now.
- IRS update**
- Barbara called the IRS and was on hold for over 1-1/2 hours and finally talked to an IRS agent. She was informed that the case was now put on another 15-week hold and not to call back until March. It can take 6-months to a year to get an answer.
- Bills**
- We still owe Dec Com Ed bill \$83 due 12/31, the ACS bill \$31 which is auto paid around 12/30, the estimated Nicor bill \$200, which is probably due 12/31/19, and the ATT bill \$72 due 12/28. The Nicor bill again includes \$65 more for the deposit, so the gas only is \$135, which I am estimating to be about the same amount as November. See the Cash Requirements report for details.
- Insurance**
- We currently owe \$255 for Multi-Peril insurance due 12/18, but that is being renegotiated, so may be less, depending on deductible and co-insurance.
 - Getting other quotes from different companies on church insurance.

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Square

- Worked at the Drag Queen Bingo in December.

C. Pastor's Notes

Worship

December worship planning will be done tomorrow. Rev. Nilsa Irizarry will be leading worship on December 29.

I am still planning on an event for worship leaders (readers, announcements, etc.) in January or early February.

In the week between Christmas and New Year's, I will begin planning for January and February. Ideas and suggestions for Lent worship (Ash Wednesday is February 26) are welcome!

Pastoral Care

I responded to various prayer requests, either privately or via the community prayers on Sunday. I continue to support the two men in Cook County Jail via prayers, court support, visits, letters, and phone calls. I visited and brought Communion to two attendees.

Social Action Ministry

We gathered supplies for holiday baking for Share Food, Share Love.

I met with Kate Spelman from AgeOptions. We are planning two "listening posts" for her to get a better idea of the needs of the LGBTQ+ senior community—Sunday January 19 after worship and Thursday, January 30 (time TBD).

Education/Formation

Financial Peace University, a faith-based financial health program continues. We have had turnout of between two and four attendees each week.

I am looking into a couple of books for a Lent study.

Administration

I will be in town for Christmas this year, as Ben and Caitlin are planning to be here. Rev. Nilsa will be leading worship on December 29. I will be out of town from December 27 to January 2.

Community Outreach

I met with the clergy group for lunch.

The CommUnity Diversity group is looking into organizing some training around restorative justice. I am planning to participate in this—it can be useful not only in community work but within the church as well.

MCC

Rev. Elder Cecelia has been sending out regular newsletters and updates, as has the Governing Board. Our network (North Central) is looking into partnering with the Central US Network (Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, and I think West Virginia). This would let us have gatherings in locations that are more central (think Indianapolis instead of Detroit, for example) and let us do more/larger events.

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Revitalization Team

We had a meeting in early December. We are looking at several possibilities for increasing social connection in the church—not only in coffee hour but socializing with each other beyond Sundays. Some of the ideas included: Ravinia, Lipz (new drag bar), Lyric Theater, local theater (Western Springs/Rosemont/Elmhurst, etc.), and maybe a fundraiser at Zanies. People tend to go where they feel not only accepted and welcomed but made part of a group.

We are also looking into more artwork in the sanctuary, with Mary Ann Latsaras and Amanda Bradley (Doyle Chappell's daughter). Possibilities include a fresco in the alcove behind the altar and a labyrinth on the floor.

Other

My grant work has stalled a bit—in gathering survey responses. I plan on taking the week of January 20 – 24 to regroup and to catch up on research. I will be taking that week away from the church and will have a substitute preacher that Sunday January 26

Motion to accept the reports by Sue, 2nd by Barbara. All in favor.

VII: Continued Items

A. Buildings and Grounds

a. Chimney, sensor light, front door (Grant Ave) light.

- Chimney tabled until Spring.
- Sensor light to be looked at by Sue with the light at a later date

b. Snow removal

- Sue will create forms for people to sign up to fix items in the church and for snow removal.

B. Fundraisers

a. Garage Sale will be May 30, 2020, rain day will be June 13th.

b. Drag Queen Bingo

January 26 – No February DQB

March 22nd

c. Zanies – tabled

d. Deposit slips – Barbara will order new slips from Costco

Fall dance update

C. UFMCC News

- In Pastor's notes

D. Social Media Coordinator

- Asked Martha to update the Pastor's page.
- Looking for something other than Hootsuite to use for posting that does not cost.

E. Revitalization Program

- In Pastor's notes.

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F. Congregational Meeting

Motion to approve the 2019 Congregational Meeting minutes by Joanie, 2nd by Sue.
All were in favor

G. Pastoral Contract

- Barbara to meet with Martha after church to discuss and sign.

H. Event Form

- Form changes made by Martha, Barbara will format, make it fillable, add a submit button to the PDF and send to all Board members to look over

VIII: New Business

A. None

IX: Executive Session if needed (Closed)

Motion to go into Executive Session by Joanie, 2nd by Sue at 9:02 pm.

General personnel discussion

Motion to come out of Executive Session by Joanie, 2nd by Sue at 9:22 pm

Closing Prayer – Sue Calahan

Motion to adjourn by Barbara, 2nd by Sue. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:24 pm