

**Congregational Council Meeting**  
**March 17, 2025**  
**Minutes**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m., by Darryl Anderson, Council President.

**Attendance:** Pastor Jean Hansen, Lori Ashenfelter, Darryl Anderson, Joe Antal, Duane Daily, Nicole Vincent, Tom Payton, Fedearia Sweval, Nancy Hooper, Wendy Gajarsky

Guest: Dineen Dowling

**Devotions:** Pastor Jean

**Review of Minutes:**

Lori motioned to accept the February 17, 2025 minutes; Fedearia seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed. Wendy motioned to accept the Council Executive Meeting minutes for March 10, 2025; Lori seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

**Staff Reports:**

Treasurer: Report submitted. The Monthly Financial Report page was reviewed. Nicole motioned to accept the treasurer's report for review; Joe seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Pastor Jean Hansen: Report submitted. She will be out of the office March 21-23, 2025. Pastor Mitch Phillips will lead services on Sunday. She discussed the attendance at both services.

Eric Jezewski: Report submitted. The fundraiser went well.

David Simpson: Tom talked of a new system for LoF to be better organized and more cost effective. Tom complimented Dana for her excellent work.

**President's Report:** Report submitted focusing on listening.

**Old Business:**

Pastor Jean reviewed the request from Holy Land Christian Solidarity Cooperative to share during worship and sell items in support of the Christian families living in the Holy Land, particularly Bethlehem. She contacted churches that had hosted the group, many reported positive interactions. Tom motioned to invite them for a presentation and to provide a donation from Outreach. Joe seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Pastor Jean talked about including biographies of the Council members in the Beacon of Faith. She passed out the form to be completed.

## **New Business:**

Pastor Jean gave a follow up report on the Collaborative Ministry Listening Sessions which included 80 people. She will give a summary to the Council and the Congregation.

Darryl spoke of the extensive clean-up following a recent sewer back up. The Executive Committee ratified the Roto-Rooter Expenditure of \$2,200. Tom motioned to approve the authorization of payment; Nicole seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Darryl addressed the status of Property Insurance including the comparison of current coverage from Church Mutual and the proposal for Cincinnati Insurance. The cost proposed is \$32,463. A question was raised concerning if the policy is 80/20 coverage. Also, if the amounts should be decreased for the stained glass and the organ to lower premium costs. There are two other companies that will be providing quotes by 3/25/2025. Darryl asked for Council to meet on March 27, 2025 at 7 p.m. to review these quotes. He motioned to approve the Executive Committee's acceptance of the Cincinnati Insurance Proposal if no competitive quotes are received by March 27, 2025; Tom seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed. Joe made a motion that if the meeting is held on March 27 to review additional quotes, but there is not a quorum, that the Council authorize the Executive Committee, with consultation from the Finance Committee, to accept the proposed insurance quote; Nicole seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed. It was noted that if one or both of the other companies are delayed in providing a quote, and assuming there is not a significant discount to pay the annual premium at once and there are options to pay in installments, we should do so in case a better quote comes in after March 31, 2025.

There were grant requests that have been approved by the Faith Endowment to consider, including from the RIC Team for the Pride Festival in August, 2025 for \$750. Nicole made a motion to approve the funds. Lori seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed. The Community Garden Team requested \$1,261.88 for soil enrichments and garden supplies. Nicole made a motion to approve these funds. Wendy seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Dineen presented a funding request for the Preschool Staff for Professional Development/Teacher Training on April 24, 2025. Lori made a motion to approve the requested \$2500 for the preschool staff from the Preschool account; Tom seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed.

## **Ministry Area Reports:**

Care and Nurture: Wendy Gajarsky

FFF met on February 27, 2025, addressing the upcoming Interfaith dinner, as well as Daughter's of Faith Banquet on May 15, 2025, Porthouse Theater outing on June 18 and Church Picnic on July 27, 2025. Discussion was held about including HTLC.

Communication: Duane Daily

Duane reached out to them; no report.

Celebration and Memorial Courtyard: Nicole Vincent

No report.

Faith Endowment: Darryl Anderson

Report submitted. The two grant requests were approved and they will meet again June 3, 2025.

Growth and Learning: Nancy Hooper

No report.

Ministry/Staff Development: Fedearia Sweval

Fedearia spoke to Mark about the need for an IT Coordinator. It was decided that needs will be triaged to volunteers, and if needed, professionals will be hired on an as-needed basis. The Nominating Committee has already been meeting to get a jump start on their tasks.

Operations:

Property: Joe Antal, Nicole Vincent

Sewer issue was addressed.

Financial: Darryl Anderson

Insurance issues were discussed and a subcommittee for insurance was suggested.

Outreach: Tom Peyton

No report

Preschool Board: Lori Ashenfelter

Next meeting in April for end of the year planning.

Worship: Joe Antal

There is a need for new volunteers to be recruited and trained for the tasks for running the traditional service. Several Council members have agreed to strip the altar for Maundy Thursday.

Adjournment/The Lord's Prayer/Next Meeting:

Nicole motioned to adjourn; Fedearia seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m. Next meeting is April 28, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by Wendy Gajarsky, Council Secretary