

## **Council Minutes**

**10.15.18 @ 1:00 pm**

### **To assist our congregations in NURTURING FAITH – MAKING DISCIPLES – MEETING NEEDS**

Members present: Joan Brode, Matt Skolnik, Kathy Kettlewell, Tom Houston, Ben George, Tricia Petraven & Dave DeVries. Via Zoom: Tim Pollock & Wes Jones. Excused: Sheila Ellenberger, Tim Schenkel, Frank Walburg & Mary Jane Knapp. Minutes Recorder: Bev Potts

The meeting was opened by Moderator-Elect, Ben George at 1:13pm, and Joan Brode offered up devotions and prayer. Using a verse from Proverbs 26, a meditation from Molly Baskette, author and Sr. Minister of the First Church of Berkeley, CA. Just as things seem to be getting better, they suddenly get much worse. This is known as an “Extinction Burst” – an increase (or burst) in negative behavior just before the positive change. A message of hope in the midst of current political climate.

Stated Clerk, Tim Pollock declared a quorum.

**Motion:** To approve the docket as presented. **Motion carried unanimously**

Relationship Building & Support – Members gave personal check-ins and Matt led in a pastoral mutual prayer.

#### Visioning and Planning

Matt presented “Growing in Grace & Mercy – Equipping the Saints, Multiplying Community” using Jonah 4 as a guiding scripture finding the Hebrew word חַנּוּן (channuwn) meaning grace & mercy. Healing, helper, offer refuge, give strength, raise-up, save. What does it mean to love our community? In Luke 18:10-14 “have mercy on me”. One can use the tool of prayer beads as a way to spend time in prayer in asking mercy for people or situations. Sharing meals with people without using an agenda, but just to spend time with them. It’s an important step with building relationships with people. Ministry is about people.

- Equipping the Saints – Ephesians 4:11-13. Matt continues to pray that God will raise up Apostles in our Presbytery – How do we structure ourselves? Not the right question. What are we doing, is the correct question. Eating with (being with); Training (formal teaching); Mentoring (walking with); Gathering (learning with) – What can we do as a church to help people with their next step?
- Equipping Goals – Reading Scripture Together, Building Community, Praying as the Church, Next-step Mind-Set, Session Leadership, Deacon Care. We need people to invest in other people. Matt wants everyone to start thinking about what their own strengths are and how they can help others in using those strengths. We can reach more people when we “go”, rather than asking them to “come”. Council could meet only 6 times per year instead of

monthly, and use the “off” months to do equipping work at churches. We need to ask the churches “what do you need?” or “how can we help you?”

- 101 Worship Communities – Inside Out Communication
  - Stage 1: Helping our Churches Build Internal Community – people who love each and enjoy serving and learning together. Being able to naturally pray for one another.
  - Stage 2: Creating Learning Communities among our Churches – how to build up community within the churches
  - Stage 3: Building Community For and With Others – building skills inside and transferring those skills outside
  - Stage 4: Formal 101 Worshipping Communities – requires processes & leadership funding structures

Stated Clerk, Tim Pollock was excused from the meeting. Council elected Tom Houston to be the Stated Clerk pro-tem for the remainder of the meeting. Bev Potts agreed to continue to be the Recording Secretary.

#### Organizational Business and Action Items

**Motion:** To approve minutes from September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Council Meeting. **Motion carried unanimously STOPPED AT 2:32:16**

#### Financial/Administration: Kathy Kettlewell / Joan Brode

- **Motion:** To receive the MVP Financial Report. **Motion carried**
- **Motion:** To change the second paragraph, second sentence, of the Employee Handbook to read: However, 3 unused PTO days may be carried into the subsequent ~~calendar~~ **Employment year** ~~Year~~ with supervisor approval, but will be forfeited if not used by ~~Jan-31 the end~~ of the subsequent ~~Employment year~~ **Year. Employment Year is based on the calendar year or the term specified in an applicable Terms of Call, whichever applies. Motion carried unanimously**
- Kathy and Matt will develop ministry project codes for tracking spending
- There was discussion concerning the sale of piece of PHOC property. Discussion will continue.
- **Motion:** To approve grant for Wayne Presbyterian Church. Council approves up to \$1000.00 for a fireproof safe upon presentation of a receipt. **Motion carried unanimously**
- **Motion:** To approve grant for Pioneer Presbyterian Church for a Men’s Outreach Ministry. **Motion tabled.** Council would like to invite Rick Hastings to speak further about the project.
- Personnel – Joan reported Bev’s scheduled PTO days. Administration will research what other Presbyteries do concerning stipends for their Stated Clerks

#### Information Sharing

- Family Day at Southeastern Correctional Center – Lancaster, **December 1**, 12:30-3:30
- Family Day at Noble Correctional Institution – Caldwell, **December 2**, 12:30-3:30
- Stated Meeting of MVP – Westminster Wooster PC, **December 8**, 10-3

The meeting was adjourned at 4:18 pm with Ben George leading the closing prayer.