

Lord of the Mountains Church Council

Tuesday, April 11, 2023

In attendance: Craig Bolt, Lydia Ziauddin, Ben Little, Alicia Dunn, Kevin Clarke, Ruth Hendricks, Amie Branson, Jay Meservy, Catheryn Carlson, Pastor Kate Davidson *Excused:* Christy Reinking

The meeting opened at 5:35 pm with a devotion led by Ruth Hendricks reading the Resurrection story from John Chapter 20 and inviting the council to consider what qualities are associated with gardeners: images include soil, nurturing, faith, endurance, humility, dirt, unglamorous discipline, etc. Ruth encouraged us to have hope for what God is growing and cultivating in our lives and prayed with thanksgiving for this new life.

March minutes and March 17 special council meeting (for Fellowship Hall windows) minutes were approved. Craig shared the update that we have a signed contract for the windows, and the windows have been ordered (first Capital Campaign expenditure at \$73,000); it will be 10-12 weeks before they will arrive.

Pastor's report: **Pastor's main attention has been on leading Holy Week and Easter services.** There was brief discussion about the attendance at both Easter morning worship services; Pastor noted there were over 100 people in the first service, and 45 in the second service (a significant increase for the 11 AM from last year's 20+). Both services had families with children in attendance. It was suggested we advertise on our sign when we are having a worship service in addition to the 9 am time.

Personnel report: Per Ben, "everything is great!" Choir is reinvigorated and supportive of Caroline's new role. **Donna has committed to fill the office administrator role.** Personnel committee will meet with Donna on April 23 to go over her duties; Donna will eventually take on Jenny's tasks (mainly the e-news).

Worship Committee: No official report. Ruth appreciated Christy's education of the congregation about music selections that fit the themes and stories of Lent and Holy Week.

Finance: Catheryn reported **we are \$18,000 behind projected income** (this includes both pledged and unpledged giving) for this point in the year. Quarterly statements were sent out today to everyone who pledged. An email will be sent out from the finance committee to congregation members informing them of our current financial status. Building usage income is slightly up. The year's budget was set knowing we would need to use reserve money. A QR code will be included in the bulletin for visitors who wish to give but don't have cash. There was discussion about online givers placing a card in the offering plate when it is passed. The total number of pledges was up this year. Expenses for staff are slightly down (due to changes in music/worship leadership and administrative staff).

Education: The Earth Day speaker is no longer able to come to Lord of the Mountains this month. Instead, **Doug will speak about Sustainability on April 23.**

Capital Improvement/other business: Norm has received bids for lighting in the parking lot that are just under \$17,000 and is working to get bids for concrete pillars as well as find out if a professional engineer needs to sign off on it. Kevin offered to host the church summer picnic on their ranch.

The next council meeting will take place on Tue, June 13 with the possibility of meeting for a potluck meal beforehand. Meeting closed with another Resurrection reading “Do not be afraid; Jesus is risen just as he said” (Matthew 28) and prayer led by Ruth at 6:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lydia Ziauddin