

MINUTES OF THE
WOODRIDGE CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
ANNUAL MEETING HELD JANUARY 26, 2020

With a quorum in attendance, the meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Carmen Steinbrecher at 11:30 a.m., as which time Reverend Scott Spencer led the membership in prayer. The Clerk's report of the 2019 Annual Meeting was presented as printed and there being no corrections or additions, Kenneth Kinoian moved acceptance, Bill Comeau seconded same and the motion passed.

Pastor's Report: Rev. Scott thanked everyone on the staff for their efforts all year: Hope, C.E. Coordinator, Eric and Karen the team of Music Ministry, Dan, Administrative Assistant, and Marie and her son for the cleaning of the Church. He encouraged the members to thank the staff personally when they see them.

Clerk's Report: The Report of the Clerk was presented and Reverend Scott noted that he is often asked to conduct a funeral for a non-church member and the list of Funeral and Committal services reflects same. He then asked for prayers as he read of the names of the deceased.

Music Ministry: Eric thanked everyone for their support of him and Karen throughout the transition. He noted it was an easy start with supportive people. He noted upcoming events in February with the month of spiritual music and that the Hallelujah Chorus would be again performing at Easter. Adult Chimes and Bass and Wind ensemble will continue to work towards Lent and Easter. He thanked Scott for his assistance and guidance. He shared that he always leaves a meeting with Scott with homework and ideas which he enjoys.

Christian Education and Sunday School Coordinator: Laura and Hope reported that it has been a good year. Hope spent time evaluating what the Sunday School structure would look like. She revamped the curriculum but creating it herself. The Trunk & Treat and Christmas Pageant were both a success. They are looking forward to this year and will be having a Vision Meeting at Laura's house with a focus on keeping families and children engaged in the upcoming year.

Hope particularly thanked Laura, the C.E. Committee and Barbara Spencer for all their support and thanked and praised the Sunday School teachers. She reported 33 registered students with an average of 15-20 in attendance each week.

Linda Murray asked if we were running out of space with a growing Sunday School but Laura responded that we are in a good position at this time and that Fellowship Hall is still available should it be needed in the future.

Membership and Fellowship: Courtney highlighted a few points in her written report. Last April on a Saturday 92 chairs were scrubbed clean for use in the Fellowship Hall. This year's PawSox game will be the last one that the Church attends so be sure to sign up! There will be the annual All Church Birthday Party with another scavenger hunt. In lieu of Fun & Fellowship Dinners the committee is planning a pot luck and game night with bingo, etc. The Committee is working on making the Church more "green." Soon there will be no more plastic or Styrofoam cups and will be replaced with "earth friendly" cups.

Worship: Deb noted that her written report sums up the responsibilities of the Worship Team this year. The committee members will begin assisting with Communion on Communion Sundays with each team member being responsible for two times per year. Deb will be leaving the committee and Nancy Quintiliani and Martha Ryan will act as Co-Chairs. Deb will continue to assist the committee during the transition.

Service: Bob reported that there continues to be a great need at the Interfaith Food Pantry and they are grateful for our Church's contributions. Woodridge is continuing to participate in the Church Beyond the Walls project with preparing lunch and delivering it to Burnside Park where a Communion Service is held and lunch served. He noted that throughout the year the Church has been very generous with time and resources for all the Service projects. He estimates that Woodridge helps approximately 4,000-5,000 people each year through our service projects.

Stewardship, Buildings and Grounds: Grant reported that the kitchen project is being completed. He indicated that the Committee is obtaining bids for the replacement of the windows in the Fellowship Hall which is currently coming in at approximately \$140,000. Courtney asked if painting the church would be on the budget in the near future. Lou Beneduce noted how the Sanctuary looks great with the new pews.

Financial Enlistment: Tom's report was presented as printed and distributed.

Member At Large: Marsha noted that the other Committees covered most of the material addressed by the Members at Large and her report was as presented.

Nominating Committee: The Slate of Officer for 2020 and the Delegates and Committee members was presented. Motion was made by Marsha Southard and seconded by Ken Kinoian to approve the slate as presented. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report and Budget: Ray presented the financial reports and budget. He then proceeded to go over the budget's highlights. Pat asked whether we still donate a portion of the Christmas Fund and Ray noted it was in the non-budgeted section. Carol noted the Custodian did not receive an increase in pay and Ray explained it is due to a reimbursement of Worker's Compensation Insurance. Also noted was the Sunday School Coordinator's increase due to working more hours. Ken noted the Wine Tasting continued to be on the budget despite last year's announcement that it would not be at the Kinoian home this year due to improvements being done there. Deb announced that a different location was secured and it would be held again this year perhaps with some new twists. Bill asked what the advertising budget represented and the answer was signs, etc. Ken asked if the website maintenance is under "office" and it is. Linda inquired what the Serenity Group is and Carol asked about the Saturday AA group which meets in the Conference Room. Rev. Scott explained that these groups don't pay rent but give a donation as they collect it at their meetings.

A motion was made by Courtney and seconded by Richard Therrien to approve the budget. Motion carried.

Old Business: Ken Kinoian as whether the Minutes of the Meetings will continue to be posted on the website or added to the Word emails. Deb noted that she had been unaware that was the procedure and would provide the minutes to Dan for disbursement.

New Business: Al inquired what happened to our microphone or P.A. system as he had trouble hearing the reports this year. Grant noted that the microphone had been the property of the prior Music Minister and he would purchase a new one. Bill Comeau indicated that he has several and would provide the Church with one.

Upon motion and second, the Moderator adjourned the meeting at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Moretti
Clerk