

PROSPECT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Church Council Meeting
September 16, 2014

In attendance: Jeanette Baker, Carla Heister, Susan Powers, Heidi Flower, Carol Rivard, Jill Wilson, John Rioux, Joyce Rioux, Beth Provost, Vivian Brackett and Christa Zaldivar.

Excused: Pastor Sorozan, Bill Katt, Matti Verzino, Jackie Palance, Bill Thibodeau and Tim Krauss.

Devotions and opening prayer provided by Joyce Rioux.

August 2014 minutes were approved and accepted.

Update on Boy Scout painting of church foundation – Jeanette Baker spoke with Gerry Lee who felt this could be done as an Eagle Scout project. The project will be referred to the Trustees who will coordinate with the Boy Scouts.

Stewardship

Jeanette led a discussion of Stewardship from the Ways to Build Strength in Participation hand-out. Several subjects were discussed, including “say Thank You” often, and to recognize events and people for things they have done. It was suggested that a presentation be made for the Annual meeting of events in the church, and that “thank you’s” be included as part of the pastoral prayer time.

Another subject discussed was committees and how to re-structure them. Some could possibly be combined with others. It was decided that the October council meeting will be devoted to committee restructuring, and committees will be requested to have someone there for that meeting.

Vivian Brackett reported on the Tour of the Church, stating there were about 35 people touring the church last Sunday. She brought up possibly bringing back the Historical Moment we had in the past during worship, and possibly having a presentation during potluck Sundays.

Fellowship Hour

Fellowship hour was discussed regarding committees being assigned monthly and some people being on multiple committees being involved often. It was decided to have a trial sign-up sheet for each week to bring snacks and make coffee, so that everyone, even if not on a committee, can participate. This will begin in October.

Worship Committee

There is a need for an interim leader of the Worship Committee that needs to be addressed as quickly as possible. It will be recommended to the Pastor that a meeting with the committee be set up in the next 2 weeks and that an interim leader be appointed from the committee.

Covenant Relationship

Jill Wilson will pursue getting out more information regarding our missionary as soon as she receives more communication from Helen, our missionary. She has suggested a bulletin board display with information about our missionary. It was pointed out that there are only 10 churches in our conference that have Covenant Relationships.

Seating

It was suggested that there not be assigned seating into a small group during worship in the summer when attendance is low. People feel more comfortable choosing where to sit.

Heidi Flower reported that the Bell Choir is in need of new tables. The four tables will cost \$200 and the choir will be doing fundraising to raise the money.

Roberts Fund

Beth Provost reported that a check for \$10,000 was received from the Roberts Foundation in September to the committee. The letter that accompanied the check stated that they are asking that the money be used for church needs and not to fund other organizations. Since we have been helping organizations such as Covenant to Care for Children and the Bristol Police Explorers for many years to help families with children in need, as they have requested, a clarification of our understanding of using the money is needed. It was decided that the committee will contact Leonard Roberts to discuss how the money should be used.

Welcome Letter

Jeanette distributed a welcome letter from Pastor Sorozan he wishes to send out to visitors who fill out the blue visitor card. He requested feedback from council members as to the content of the letter.

Finance

John Rioux reported that payment to Quinoco for last winter's oil has been completed. Approximately \$2,600 had been collected in special offerings for the oil from the congregation. Apportionment to the district is still ongoing, with a total of \$7,000 paid so far toward the total owed of approximately \$14,500.

John will have another presentation to the congregation regarding Electronic Giving this fall.

Closing

The meeting was closed with a unison prayer.
Next meeting is scheduled for October 28, 2014

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Provost