

PCUU Congregational Meeting Minutes

Sunday, December 3, 2017 in the Andre Room fellowship hall on the lower level.

President Robyn Miessler-Kubanek called the meeting to order at 12:40 PM following a potluck lunch. A quorum was present as 50 out of 137 members were present; 27 was required to constitute a quorum.

Rev. Rebecca lit the chalice, encouraging us to enter with compassion in our hearts and to proceed in peace.

I. **Peoples Church Mission**

The Mission Team presented the draft mission and answered questions. The mission statement as presented reads: "Leading compassionate lives through spiritual growth and just action." The motion to accept the draft as our mission statement passed unanimously. Both Rev. Rebecca and Robyn thanked the Mission Team for their work.

II. **2018 Budget**

Gary McGraw, treasurer, presented the budget and answered questions. Even though an \$18,000 deficit was projected for the current fiscal year, Gary predicts that we will end the year with a balanced budget. The positive cash flow was due to multiple factors, including a higher than projected percentage pledge income, staff keeping expenses low, increased efficiencies in building and utility costs, and staff vacancies. Endowment options were increased this year and we now have close in \$700,000 in three endowment funds.

A motion was made by Bob Butikofer and seconded by Rich Patterson to accept the budget as presented. Motion passed unanimously. Rev. Rebecca thanked everyone who served on the Finance Council this year.

III. **2018 Social Justice Focus**

Marcia Swift, chair of the Social Justice Council, presented the plan for addressing white supremacy and entitlement, the 2018 proposed focus topic for Peoples Church and answered questions regarding the topic and the plan. Marcia encouraged people to commit to doing at least three things out of the extensive list of activities for the year.

Kathleen Mavity moved and Doug Ogle seconded the motion to accept the focus topic and plan of action as presented. The motion passed overwhelmingly with two members opposed. Members then voted for the organizations that would be receiving the first Sunday plate collections for the year.

Marcia also presented the design for a banner that will be purchased and then used to identify Peoples Church at community events.

IV. **Sanctuary Design Proposal**

Judy Price, representing the Sanctuary & Window Planning Team, presented the proposal for displaying the rose and star stained glass windows from our previous church building and answered questions. Judy cautioned that this vote is only to voice support for the concept of the design. Another congregational vote will be held before any work proceeds. At that time, there will be a complete design and cost estimate. Moving forward, Jo Wasta and one additional person will head the team. A person with experience in construction would be desirable.

Judy shared that this proposal includes only inside work. Any work on the exterior of the sanctuary wall will need to be addressed separately by a different team.

A motion was made by Scott Gay and seconded by Scott Mansfield to accept the proposal. Motion passed overwhelmingly with two members opposed.

V. Religious Education Update

DRE David Wise shared that the nursery was updated recently with a new floor, freshly painted walls, and a much needed cleaning of rugs. David is compiling a task force to reverse the declining enrollment experienced in recent years in RE. A proposal will be offered at the May congregational meeting. Another new initiative is for raising money for sending our youth to Boston. David is looking into using a script program. A suggestion was made that church members take their bulletin to the Hamburg Inn in Iowa City where the owner will make a contribution to the church when shown a bulletin. In response to a question, David stated that on the average 18 children are in RE every week, assisted by 10 adults.

VI. Other business for the good of the church

Ecumenical Center Board and Margaret Boch Housing Board: Jim Federer made a plea for at least one person from Peoples to serve on the boards of these agencies that we have donated to for 22 years. Rev. Rebecca stated that she was looking to gain more information back from these groups.

Activities coming up:

- Home Church: Rebecca is initiating this small group ministry
- Bryan Bowers concert/fundraiser on Jan. 4 at Peoples. \$20 per ticket. Bryan Davis is the contact.
- "Mission in Action" all church workshop, Feb. 3

Adjourned: Motion made by Marion Patterson; Second: David Miessler-Kubanek
Passed. 2:02 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Juba
Secretary