

Ministries Council Minutes

September 14, 2016

Present: Scott Alexander, Cindi Jorgensen, Jean Panuto, Marian Wenzel, Pete Kersey, Larry Nalepa

1. **Chalice lighting:** Larry opened our meeting with a delightful recitation of "A Road Not Taken".
2. Previous minutes reviewed and accepted.
3. **Guest: Amy Gallo Thoma:** Amy stopped by to give a short report on the progress of the Emerson Center. The music offerings are increasing nicely. Sergei will be coming back. The Center is also hosting another One Day University on February 11th. The AAUW will be hosting a mentalist duo. The Center is in need of a few more sponsors. The plan is to ask the congregation to help acquire them. VIP valet parking will be added. There will be some changes in the menu for the C Speak series. Our phone system has been changed to appropriately route calls to the ticket office desired.
4. **Minister's report (Rev Scott):** Healing slowly but surely from his knee surgery! Reported that Joan Walsh continues to decline. Earl Kirkbride continues to need support from us. Great news! Our Early Learning Center has been rewarded a \$26,000 grant to enhance curriculum and staff development. This was awarded based on the school's excellent work. Cindi will e-mail Heather, Suzy Bromwell, and David to ask them to bring this great news to the public. Rev. Scott will also propose a special collection at the next two services to help rebuild the mosque that was vandalized.
5. **Board Liaison (Pete Kersey):** The Board will be busy discussing the Virginia Pree legacy, revising the Charter for Human Resources, and confirming new committee chairs. The Dialogue for Race is sold out! Bonnie Shelton has created a wonderful flyer for the Emerson Center.
6. **MC Chair (Cindi Jorgensen):** The quest for volunteers remains a concern as many of our stalwarts are "aging out". Jean Panuto stated that she thinks a social in the 4th Friday tradition would be a good venue to recruit. Further discussion will occur.
7. **Operations (Marian Wenzel):** In short, we have hired a child care person for Sunday services. The library has been cleaned of obsolete videos by Jen Sutton and Kristin Jolly. Jean will make a cover for the hymnal cart, and the Volunteer manual has been updated. Our Facebook page seems to be lagging in local "Likes". Pete will remind folks to "Like" us during announcements. Heather's request for small budget to further our page will be discussed by Rev. Scott. Our website continues to lag when it comes to execution. Pete will call a meeting to address this issue. Rev Scott would like to see sermons return to website.
 - a. **Larry Nalepa** proposed a "Founder's Day" celebration that would be multi-generational. The discussion favored a picnic type of event immediately after service in April. It was moved and seconded that Larry go ahead with planning.
8. **Congregational Services (Jean Panuto):** Lobby monitor participation has declined. Jean will have a pulpit minute to recruit help. Membership remains at 227. The next All About US class is TBA.
9. **Social Activities:** Cindi offered that the last Circle Dinner was a wonderful success. She will e-mail the covenant group chairs to ask that they can each have their groups sponsor a 4th Friday.

10. **Religious exploration:** Kristin Jolly and Jen Sutton will revive religious exploration for our fellowship.
11. **Social Justice** will meet again in October.
12. **Spiritual Growth (Pete Kersey):** The Sunday sermon schedule is arranged up to October 16th. Music committee has re-commenced. The Covenant Groups are now chaired by Bonnie Shelton and Millie Michos.
13. **Thank you's!** To Brenda Neely for a job well done in our ELC!

Meeting adjourned at 4:50