

Bishop's Committee Minutes April 18, 2015

Present Dawn; Jane; Sarah; Pat; Bob; John; Stephanie.

Therese is out.

Focus on Faith

New agenda topic: Lets add being grounded in our Christian faith.

Business

Minutes

The minutes were accepted with a correction.

Correction previous chairperson of the mission committee

Therese's proxy transferred to Bob everybody agreed.

Treasurer's report

Rita and Sarah worked on it together.

Fair share was paid for March . April was not paid.

Eversource bill- something in this building is pulling an incredible amount of electricity.

This needs to be explored. Sarah's husband has offered to look at it.Jeff

The need to revise the lease agreement was explored. Problems with the electrical which cause increased costs are actually the trust's responsibility.

Sarah presented study of the past two year's electric bills which illustrate the problem

Sarah was able to pay bills current because of the increase in paid pledges.

Looking forward, for the next three weeks we need to push to make some many.

Maybe we could make a yard sale mailing list? Ask people to sign for future notices.

Quick book reports shows effort put forth to meet expenses.

New Fair share amount is definitely up, because they are counting Solomon fund withdrawals as income. It is now \$1108 and used to be \$959. The more money you make the more you owe. The tax mess cost a lot of money last year.

The report was accepted unanimously.

One simple fix they found was that transferring funds back and forth between checking and savings will save \$14.00 in bank fees for the month. Apparently we used to know this but forgot.

Practice sessions for CCC (which stands for?)

How can we do better at assuring that focus is on God and our mission?

Stephanie recommends monthly discussion sessions at church. Using Pat's conversation starter cards. Maybe between services. Sarah suggested choir sit in the audience when the congregation is small. They can come forward for hymns.

Time before worship needs tweaking. The Lord be with you should not mean "sit down and shut up."

Choir sounds different in the back.

We should make note of lots of little things people can do that makes them feel part of the church, like Blue Jean Sunday. Dawn will bring that up to the trust.

Your own personal Jesus Johnny Cash
Special standard thing to signal the start of the service
A call to prayer begins with a bell
John Michael Talbot.

Meeting with Kevin and Rob

Counting income from Solomon fund as part of fair share calculation is a problem
They don't know the little pieces. They don't have 2015 numbers. They don't know our pledge base. Pledge base is up. Future may be viable.

We need to go into meeting with open mind- attempt to cooperate etc with them.

The Bishop would have to bring us before diocesan convention. Could tell Pat to move.
On Sunday the third we should have a pre-meeting to ensure we speak with one voice.
This group plus Therese and Rita, plus Mitch and Pete. We need to have precedent order of speaking. Don't let any one person suck up all the air.

Sarah suggested a crafting She has tons of supplies and things left over. Pay small fee and then play with stuff. Saturday before Mother's day.
Same day as lay leadership.

Calendar

Rib fest 19-20-21

Craft play date- May 9th
Yard sales is the 23rd
Memorial day 25th
We need to clear dates with the trustees

Yard SALE June 22? Cant be 4th of July
Jane will help the night before.
Pat can help the day.
Flyer to congregation
Adult presence required

Jane will coordinate Rib Fest.
Check supplies of church shirts.
Merrimack day of prayer May 7th
Yard sale
Adjourn

Note :Yard sale policy about bulk buyers- Dawn
Hold that thought for later- Don't think we got back to it.