**Minutes of Steering Committee**

**June 13, 2021 11:45 PM**

**Little Church in the Pines**

**Members Present:** Tom Shanor, Connie Funkhouser, Greg Neal, Pam White, Louise Neal, Nancy Leonard, Pat Ritari. Also present, Tom Leonard, guest.

The meeting was called to order at 11:45 with a prayer offered by Connie.

**Old Business:**

* The church has made contributions to individuals in the community when needs arose. There was a discussion about whether there should be a cap on the dollar amount of such contributions. There was general agreement that each contribution should be presented to the Steering Committee by email or in meetings, and that each amount of a contribution would be decided on an individual basis.
* There was more discussion about whether the church should donate on a regular basis to an established entity such as Tunnels to Towers for military family survivors. Greg suggested that for the time being we could focus on contributions to people closer to Island Park and the Little Church in the Pines. There was no vote on this, and it can be brought up again in the future, if desired.
* A motion was presented to contribute the amount of $500 to Kelley Figg to help her connect with her doctors at Huntsman Cancer Institute in Salt Lake. This is an advance to help her with expenses of gas, food, and lodging during her next treatment, for which she will document the costs. If there is money left over, she will return that, or if there is need for more we will help to cover that. As needs arise for more treatments, the church will continue to assist Kelley. The motion was presented by Greg, seconded by Pam. The vote was unanimous.
* St. Paul’s Methodist Church from Idaho Falls will be our visiting church in August. The exact date is not known at this time.

**New Business:**

* Drew Menkhaus has retired from the Steering Committee, which leaves the Membership Committee without a chairperson. Pat Ritari has consented to take over that committee. Pam moved that Pat be approved as Membership chair, and Greg seconded it. The vote was unanimous.
* Nancy suggested that we find ways to simplify the job of Membership. Pat has ideas about this, including moving the calendar to the quarterly newsletter.
* Craig and Lorrie Robb will take the water station for the Sawtelle Fun Run again. It is on July 3. Any members of LCP who want to support them are welcome to do so.

**Reports from Committees and Chairpersons:**

**Pastor Tom Shanor**

* The last year has been a difficult one, and Tom said he was glad to have made it through. It is good to have people coming to church again. There were 60 people in church this Sunday. Tom is getting to know new folks who attend.
* Neil Humphreys is another pastor attending our church, and he is willing to substitute for Tom if he must miss a Sunday.
* The nametags should be updated, and we should wear them.
* Tom would like to replace the carpet in the church. He will get estimates for consideration.
* He thinks the open area between the kitchen and the sanctuary would be more comfortable with some seating and tables. He will bring pictures of his ideas for this.

**Steering Committee Chair:**

* Connie continues to update the website, post reflections, sermons, and newsletters on both the website and on Facebook.
* She confirmed that Steering Committee members would continue in their present positions for another year. She will ask church members for another person to help with finances by counting the offerings and depositing them in the bank when Greg or Gin Russell are not available.
* We can make posters to invite tourists and campers to attend our church services and Bible studies.

**Secretary:**

* It is working well to send the minutes out by email. Tell Louise about any corrections or additions by email, and after a week, the minutes will be posted in the church record as adjusted.

**Finance:**

* Greg said that the year to date is unusual, but the income is still in the average range that we anticipate. However, expenses for 2021 have been much higher because of the $14,600 we spent on the roof replacement and benevolent contributions in addition to normal upkeep expenses and supplies. This year so far we have an $18,786 loss, but as this summer progresses and attendance increases, we have an opportunity to replenish our reserves. Our asset base is still solid, but reduced from last year.
* Attached is Greg’s financial report.

**Worship Committee:**

* Pam would like to put special music on the calendar. Pam and Louise will discuss getting choir started again during the summer. On July 4 Connie Day and her sisters will sing for the service. Tom Leonard and Tom Shanor are considering a duet for one Sunday.
* Pam is arranging for the piano from the church in Shelley, Idaho to be brought to the Little Church in the Pines for our use. It must be moved before the end of June. The cost of the move will be $515 plus a tuning. Louise moved to approve the expense. Nancy seconded, and the vote was unanimous.

**Year-Round Programs:**

* Nancy has scheduled the BBQs for July 16, August 20, and September 17 at 5:00. We will need helpers to start at 4:00. People should be asked to bring potluck items big enough for a group of people, not just for themselves. There will be water for the BBQs, but not sodas.
* We could have sing-alongs of hymns, if desired.
* There are two functional canopies.
* The pancake breakfast will be on August 28, 2021. Volunteers for the pancake breakfast should be here at 7:00 a.m.

The next Steering Committee meeting is set for August 29, 2021 after our worship service.

Nancy moved the meeting to be adjourned, Pat seconded the motion, and the voted carried at 1:15 p.m.