

Lord of the Mountains Church Council

Tuesday, March 14, 2023

In attendance: Craig Bolt, Lydia Ziauddin, Catheryn Carlson, Christy Reinking, Ben Little, Alicia Dunn, Kevin Clarke, Ruth Hendricks *Excused:* Amie Branson, Jay Meservy

The meeting opened at 5:35 pm with a devotion and prayer led by Lydia on “Being More Than What We Do.”

February minutes were approved.

Pastor’s report (& Personnel update): Worship and property have been the main foci of Pastor’s work this month given recent boiler repair, decision-making about windows, and the season of Lent and upcoming Holy Week. The search for an administrative assistant continues forward; an ad is placed in the Summit Daily online. Donna continues to serve as interim with assistance from Jenny and is becoming more proficient in admin duties. Caroline’s contributions as interim music director are appreciated by the congregation. Family events have begun taking place monthly on Thursday evenings starting in February with a format of dinner, story and craft.

Day Services: Council expresses support of moving forward in exploring the transition of Day Services to become an independent non-profit so the ministry can become even stronger and more sustainable in the future. Council expresses a desire to include congregation members as a majority on the board of directors. The council will work in conjunction with those who have been involved in the steering committee of Day Services - Karen Johns, John Preckshot and Dave Domzal. Any formal agreement will take place after reviewing a usage agreement. Craig suggests the church would have veto power over any physical changes to the Day Services space. Pastor Kate suggests reviewing building usage agreements (and make them available in English and Spanish) with other groups that use the church; a question is raised about implementation of those agreements.

Worship Committee: A new evening prayer setting will begin this week at the Lenten service at 7 pm on Wed, March 15. Another worship service accompanied by flute and guitar will take place on March 19. The prelude and postlude will be led by a ukulele group of which John Preckshot is a part. Worship committee is mindful of the need to operate within legal boundaries in the use of videos and streaming according to the licenses we have.

Finance: 1) Catheryn shared a snapshot of current giving; we are currently a little behind in projected giving; the unpledged member giving amount is lower than projected though income is positive and ministries are active (more so than in COVID years). 2) Finance committee will send an email to LOTM members with an update on our current financial status and brief narrative highlighting recent expenses and ministry happenings. Finance committee would like to check in with committee liaisons on a quarterly basis during council meetings so that those liaisons are updated on what they have spent so far. 3) We are introducing a new program and app called Tithely to both simplify and expand ways that members and visitors can give to LOTM. The program will be introduced to the congregation at a Table Talk on April 2 (Palm Sunday). Participants will be invited to try out Tithely at that time; a gift card to Sauce on the Blue will be randomly given to someone who tries out the app that day. There is a 2.25% fee for each donation; the church will encourage people to

cover the fee when they make a gift. Tithely has a membership database system to which LOTM may consider switching.

Windows: Two different contractors are coming in at 2 pm and 3 pm on Fri, March 17 to offer bids on window replacement; another contractor is coming at 8 am on Fri, March 17 to offer a bid on window repair. The council is encouraged to attend these meetings and stay afterward for a special council meeting around 4 pm.

There also was brief discussion about energy improvements in the church including the addition of a motion activated light in the meeting room.

Meeting closed at 7:10 pm with a poem, *The Peace of Wild Things* by Wendell Berry, read by Catheryn.

The next meeting will take place on Tue, April at 5:30 pm. Ruth will lead devotions.