

WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
GOVERNING BOARD
November 9, 2022

Attending:

DiAnn Wiley Jim Merk Bob McKnight Kathy Breazeale Wally Loague Roger Curless
Pastor John

Regrets:

Mary Terrell Jonathan Akyea

The meeting began with worship.

Trustees: A recommendation from staff to remove more pews in the front of the sanctuary to create more space between the first row of pews and the chancel. The purposes as presented would be to have more useable space with room for performing groups including the bells, increase the size of the prayground area for children and add flexibility to the space. There was discussion and by consensus the plan will move forward.

The repair to the entrance walk from the parking lot will be done at a cost of \$2,900 and has been covered. The area will be made smooth.

Employee Restoration funds from COVID relief will total \$77,000. The current plan is to use the funds to help pay apportionments in full and to balance expenses.. The first quarter amount of \$22,359 has been received.

A company has been hired for \$1,975.00 to help remove much of the junk that has been accumulating. Materials like 30 year old vacation bible school curriculum and unused office furniture will be cleared out to help make the upper floors more usable and before necessary painting and plastering is done.

Staff Parish: There is a need to meet to rework all the job descriptions. COVID drove changes that need to be incorporated in the existing staff job descriptions.

The budget work relating to staff will need to be done shortly after the stewardship campaign.

Consecration Sunday – November 13th.

Native America Sunday is a designated special Sunday across the United Methodist Church. Wesley has to be in touch with a group – Midwest Soaring as a potential for support. Pastor John is going to clarify the relationship between Midwest Soaring and the United Methodist Church and or Northern Illinois Conference.

Boy Scouts – The United Methodist Church and the Boy Scouts have created a use agreement. The impact here is that Troop 11 will become and independent troop chartered by the American Legion that will continue to use the space at Wesley under the agreement from the general church.

Communications -Jonathan Akyea and Pastor John met with a marketing specialist, Blake Winfree, a member of the congregation. Marketing is important but the process needs to be clear. The key question: What is it that makes Wesley Church special or different? What is it that we are doing? How are we making use of social media to invite people to contribute or be engaged with Wesley? These discussions will lead to a communications/promotions plan.

Jurisdictional Conference -The general church has resumed the special conferences. The Jurisdictional Conference for the North Central Jurisdiction has been held and three bishops were elected. Pastor John was in attendance. Northern Illinois will be receiving a new bishop.

Wednesday Gatherings -The Wednesday gatherings will be supporting the community kitchen refrigerator with a sandwich making event.

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service – Sunday, November 20th at Society 57.

Packaging Thanksgiving Meals –Partnering with Echo Development - Meals for members of the community will be packaged for distribution at Wesley on Tuesday, November 22nd from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

Christmas Day & New Year’s Day worship: There will be a Christmas Eve service but no Christmas Day service. will be online only this year with the days falling on Sunday.

Fresh Expressions – The board began its book study on Fresh Expressions. It was determined that perhaps it would be better to take a special time and work with the book as a whole rather than in pieces over a few months. The board will meet on **Saturday January 7, 2023**, 9:00 AM at the Merk’s.

Next Meeting: December 14, 2022 at Wesley – 6:00 PM with dinner.

Respectfully Submitted:

Roger L. Curless
Secretary to the Board