

Church Committee Meeting - -12-14-2022

Attending: Pastor Kelly Thibeault, Deanne Bellinger, Cindi Barkley, Jim Koepfler, Jim Fennell, Pat Sanford, Ed Clavette, Jim Brinson, Linda Vogler, and Carolyn Chretien.

The meeting was called to order by Deanne who then asked Pastor Kelly to give an opening prayer.

Minutes of the November meeting were accepted unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT-Jim Koepfler

- Nothing really unusual to report. Jim reviewed figures pointing out that a \$1,511 bump up showed in Pastor's salary.
- \$1,900 was sent to UCC as our percentage to support them. Members of the church previously paid \$20 each as a dues or head tax. The new system collects a percentage of our income, etc. Discussion took place that we need to make members aware of this and hope that they will contribute a donation.
- \$128.00 was sent to the Old Colony Association for our dues.
- Cindi then asked where the check for Rwanda came from. Jim said it came from Missions.
- Deanne questioned why the \$500 per month for keyboardist needed to be shown as an expense when it was being given back. Jim F. explained that it needed to be shown that way for future funding of a keyboardist when services by Ellen and Janice are no longer donated.
- The report was then accepted unanimously.

As there seemed to be no old business the rest of the evening was dedicated to discussing the proposed budget for 2023. The status of churches in general was discussed pointing out diminishing attendance and support in all churches - -even the big ones. Some are being forced to close and others are struggling.

Circumstances in our own congregation were then discussed about how to address the fact that we are an "aging" group with not many younger members coming along to help. Pastor Kelly then explained her outlook on the situation and assured us she had no plans to leave. Several options were explained as how she would like to handle her salary for 2023. More to be worked out at the next meeting in January.

3/4 time is a possibility meaning keeping 35 hours per week. We all know Pastor puts in many more hours than that ! Jim Fennell asked her to keep track of the actual hours for the next year. Linda Vogler said she'd like to see the figures for 3 months.

The budget will be completed at the January meeting just before the Annual Meeting. The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn E. Chretien, Clerk

Next meeting --January 18, 2023 ?