

November 8 Council Highlights

Council Chair Vince Snowbarger called the meeting to order at 4 PM. Members present were Jackie Berger, Sabrina Butler, Terry Butler Lynne Evans, Carolyn Snowbarger, Vince Snowbarger, Sally Swartz, and Pastor Pam Stofferahn. Brenda Engdahl and Dave Guenther were excused. Barb Eliason joined for the discussion of the website. Sue Stern and Charlie Carson were also present. Jackie opened with prayer.

- Council reviewed and approved the September financial statement. Expenses are on track for most ministries. Contributions are about \$2,400 ahead for the year, but this includes some unusual contributions from IRA's. Caution was expressed as we go into our traditional "down" period for the year.
- Sabrina and Pastor Pam will communicate encouragement to the congregation to continue their giving and remember the church in their year-end giving. Vince will let people know of the projects council is considering for special giving. Those projects currently include air conditioning and a new website.
- Pastor Pam will lead a review of all of the UCSJ communication efforts including Newslink, our website, the bulletin, and publicity. She will work with those who have been working on each of these aspects of our outreach.
- Sally reported on plans for November 18 membership. Discussion of the membership process included the use of an "application/information" form and a new statement of affirmation.
- Barb Eliason and Jackie presented the need to establish a new website. The software platform currently used is nine years old and no longer supported. They presented several bids and their recommendation for the development of a new website. Council approved an expenditure of up to \$3,000 for this project. It was hoped some directed contributions could be found to help cover the costs.
- The council adopted policy review assignments that had been discussed at their retreat on November 3. All current policies will be reviewed for their usefulness and their reflection of current and desired practices. In addition, teams will review the following areas to determine the need and nature of policies in the following areas: emergency preparedness, confidentiality, endowments, and finances.
- Council agreed to begin a review of the UCSJ bylaws. The project will be done through a committee of seven UCSJ members with no more than three members of council.
- Sabrina closed with prayer. The next council meeting will be on **Thursday, December 13 at 4 PM.**