

UUCM Leadership Team / Board
Minutes Jan. 12, 2022 via Zoom 6:30pm

Present: Nancy Burton, Janet Hiller, Trish Schneider, Rev. Tony Lorenzen **Guests:** Daniel Platt, Hannah Berg

Check-in.

The **Dec. 9, 2022 minutes and Janet's notes on the Jan. 9 Conversation were approved** by consensus.

Note: Rev. Tony, not Nancy, will send out the Doodle Poll to set a meeting of those willing to help with the process of joining with All Souls New London.

The **Treasurer's report was tabled** to the next meeting.

Revisit cancellation policy:

- Notice of cancellation (storm or other reason) has to go into all our communications outlets asap.
- Trish will create a communications checklist to accompany the cancellation policy for worship and other events.
- Janet will create phone tree lists from the Directory for the LT members to call.
- If Rev. Tony needs to cancel a worship service, he will notify Alan Dougherty.

Discussion on security cameras:

Dan Platt talked about the **Ring system**, about \$330, which has an option for cameras. Monthly monitoring fee. Sensors are stick-on; cameras are bolted into place; base is connected to WiFi. Cameras about \$200 each, motion detectors about \$30 each. Footage shows the time a trespasser is detected. System calls police in case of a break-in. Could set it up so a congregant gets the initial call. Probably would need to re-apply for a permit from the city. Nancy will ask Dan if Ring can monitor for fire.

It was noted that Sandy has told us that **a fire alarm needs a separate cell phone line**. He's meeting on Jan. 13 with a rep from Hometronics for a quote.

Rev. Tony: **Simplisafe** seems to be a good system. He's passed on their emails to the Board. Putting up a camera shouldn't be expensive; could put one over the flags. Suggested we compare replacing our current control panel with getting a fire alarm addition.

Making better use of our social media:

Hannah Berg went through steps to maximize the impact of our social media, highlighting four questions: what info are we disseminating, why, to whom, and how we'll do it. Establish our "brand," ie the "face" we show online. It could be the flaming chalice, for example, and include our mission/goals. Hannah will send the Board the complete step-by-step process. She noted that there are ways to find out which social media are most used in our geographical area. The number of "likes" is less important than the number of viewers who engage with our content. Rev. Tony will follow up with Hannah.

January 9 congregational conversation:

- Rev. Tony: The best thing was that there was no whining or naysaying.
- Nancy: What do we do next? Who will step up and what will they do? (Ann Dougherty offered to help.)

- Financing: campaign; Legacy Fund; Faithify for other costs, then use budgeted funds for Rev. Tony's salary.
- Trish: We'd have to get \$80,000 in pledges and do fundraisers for the balance for a total of about \$110,000. Actual anticipated shortfall : \$60,000 including this FY and next.
- Nancy, Trish, and Janet will meet Monday Jan. 17 to go over pledges/pledgers.
- Nancy: Have to send out info to the congregation in preparation for a meeting Sun. Jan. 30 about financing, getting help from congregants.
- Rev. Tony, Trish: Any donations to a campaign or otherwise for retaining Rev. Tony next year will be deemed gifts with no strings attached.

Jan. 16 BLM flag raising ceremony: Rev. Tony speaks first, followed by Nancy, followed by any elected officials. Angie's list of 17 Blacks killed in recent years will be read aloud, with "Say his/her name" after each. Moment of silence. Hang the banner.

FYI:

- **The worship services on Jan. 23 and Jan. 30, and the Conversation on the 30th, will be via Zoom only.**
- Chaplain Doreen Bottone has invited/asked us to send notes or letters of thanks to the staff at MidState Hospital: morale is low.

Tasks:

- Rev. Tony will send out a Doodle Poll for initial meeting of people willing to work on partnering with All Souls New London.
- Trish will create a communications checklist to accompany the cancelation policy for worship and other events.
- Janet will create phone tree lists from the Directory for the LT members to call re: above cancelations.
- If Rev. Tony needs to cancel a service, he'll notify Alan Dougherty.
- Trish will write a notice about updated cancelation policy and send it to the Board.
- Nancy will ask her son Dan if Ring can monitor for fire.
- Hannah will send the Board the step-by-step process for deciding how best to use our social media.
- Rev. Tony will follow up with Hannah.
- Nancy, Trish, and Janet will meet Monday Jan. 17 to go over pledges/pledgers.

The meeting adjourned at 7:57pm. **Next LT / Board meeting: Wed. Jan. 26 at 6:30pm via Zoom.**

Respectfully submitted, Janet Hiller, Co-President, Clerk