

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF PLYMOUTH  
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**

Sunday, April 8, 2018

The meeting was called to order by President April Zdanis at 11:55 am. Pastor Mike led us in prayer.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the minutes of the March 6 and March 18 Council Meetings.

Correspondence

Voice of the Martyrs sent information which will be placed on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. First Congregational Church of Bristol sent flyers for their concert on May 19 at 7 pm; these will be placed on the bulletin boards. Rotary Club of Terryville 5K Road Race requested a donation again this year.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Christian Education

Lessons about the sermon as well as activities continue for the children with Mary Rose. Lynn Fairchild continues to use children's Bibles and David C. Cook curriculum for her Pre-K class. Ted Durley is leading the adult bible study on the Gospel of Luke using information from N. T. Wright.

Pastoral Search Committee

There is nothing new to report this month.

Finance/Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed and accepted as presented. Lynn and Tonya opened 2 new Thomaston Savings Bank accounts, a checking for FBC Scholarship (check donations deposited from last year) and a savings account (Lynn donated \$20 cash to open account) for Handicapped Access Fund. It was recommended a CD be purchased for the Handicapped Access Fund as it is unlikely these monies will be used any time soon and use the new savings account at Thomaston Savings for Capital Fund. United Bank account currently holds funds and will be transferred to the Thomaston Savings Bank accounts.

Worship

The Maundy Thursday 6 pm pot luck and 7 pm Tenebrae Service held at First Baptist Church of Plymouth went well with 3 churches collaborating in the service and potluck. Easter Sunrise Service ended up being held indoors at the First Congregational Church of Plymouth due to weather. The First Baptist Church of Plymouth Easter Service was a lovely service with special music and the addition of Arlene Nearing and Tonya DiBella as bell ringers. Pentecost Sunday will be held the seventh Sunday after Easter, May 20. Memorial Day Services in Plymouth on May 27 will be held on the Green with a service and the Gettysburg Address being read but no parade.

Congregational Care

Continue to be in prayer for our shut-ins as well as those on our prayer list. Baptism Classes are being held with 3 candidates. It is anticipated that baptism will take place on Pentecost Sunday, May 20. Children's Sunday and Scholarship Presentation will be held on Sunday, June 10, with a potluck picnic following service.

### Property

The appraisal firm of Calciano & Stern appraised the parsonage at \$150,000. Ted will be in touch with those that showed interest in purchasing the parsonage and they will be given 2 weeks to make an offer. If no offers are received, Ted will begin the process of listing the property with a realtor. Spring Clean Up at the church will be held on Saturday, May 12, from 8 am to noon; come for any part of this time and bring your rakes and other equipment to help spruce up the property.

### Outreach

The Mission giving for this March was America for Christ; no total amount is available at this time. There is no formal offering for the month of April. The Spring Clothing Giveaway is now scheduled for May 25-26.

### Music

Choir rehearsal is on Friday evenings. The hand bell ringing as a wonderful addition to Easter Sunday.

### Scholarship

Scholarship applications have been sent to prior applicants and are due on April 30. There was discussion of who could apply for the Waterbury Scholarship and the FBC Scholarship. While the Waterbury Scholarships are strictly designated, Lynn will check with Betty Salerno to gather any formal written information on the FBC Scholarship.

### Pastor

- FBC hosted a Maundy Thursday Potluck and Worship Service with friends from Grace Baptist Church in Waterbury and from the First Congregational Church of Plymouth. The event was well attended. The Rev. Christopher Reese, Pastor of Grace Baptist, shared the message at the service. The pastors of all three congregations joined together to celebrate the Lord's Supper.
- Pastor Mike and a few from FBC participated in the Good Friday Cross Walk in downtown Thomaston. Pastor Mike read various scripture passages along the walk and took a turn carrying the cross.
- Prior to Easter, various members and friends who cannot attend regularly received a wooden Easter decoration made by Joel Fairchild and also received a lily.
- The first class for 3 candidates for Baptism was held; while the class was informal it was also informative. The candidates seem very interested in being baptized and there was good discussion on various aspects of being a Christian. Pastor Mike learned that in other parts of the US it is common for American Baptists to baptize candidates between 8 and 10 years of age.
- Taping radio spots with Rev. Robert Geckler will hopefully take place in the next few weeks.
- Discussion of having Terryville Congregational Church, First Congregational Church of Plymouth, and First Baptist Church of Plymouth apply for a grant promoting joint ministries and clergy continuing education.
- Many thanks to Ted Durley for leading the Adult Bible Study.
- The Annual Meeting of the American Baptist Churches of Connecticut is taking place later this month. There will be some workshops inspiring worship, and great music. Sign up online by today for the discount.
- As always, feel free to contact Pastor Mike with any pastoral needs or concerns.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed to transfer monies in line item 4015 into the FBC Scholarship Fund.

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed to donate \$100 to the Rotary Club of Terryville for the 5K Road Race and to complete the donation form for inclusion in their booklet.

There being no further business, a motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to adjourn at 1:02 pm. Mary Rose volunteered to lead devotions at the next meeting on May 6.

Respectfully submitted,

*Caroline B. Fairchild*

Secretary

Present: Pastor Michael Wu, Tonya DiBella, Theodore (Ted) Durley, Caroline (Lynn) Fairchild, Mary Rose, April Zdanis; Absent: Joel Fairchild, Elaine Fiermonte, Rosalie Beals, Cheryl Nottbohm, Elizabeth Salerno

*These minutes will be approved at the next meeting.*