

RESOURCE COUNCIL REPORT TO THE CHURCH BOARD, FEBRUARY 2013

A meeting of the three Council Chairs and the church Moderator was held on December 15, 2012 in which was discussed various items impacting the church vis a vie the new Constitution and by-laws. Topics included budgets, finance, reports, council cooperation, tentative church calendars, and methods to implement our new proceder.

A meeting of the Resource council was held after services on January 20. Bill Thompson, representing the Outreach Council, presented a proposal that the church participate in a special offering supporting a Reconciliation Ministry that would be taken up the last Sunday in September. This was supported by members of the council and will be put formally before the church Board at the February meeting.

The Council received words from Sharon Meek, the new church Moderator, as well as status reports from each of the committee chairs on the council. Some notable topics included a report from the building committee that our dispute with the installer of the floor tiles is both ongoing and unresolved, and that both the Little White House and the Church on the Hill have been winterized and are not currently being used. The Treasurer noted that some of the covenants on the church on the Hill have been removed, and that we are now willing to entertain certain rent/lease proposals, as well as purchase options. A document was presented by the Finance committee which enumerated various policy points concerning gifts to the church, with the recommendation that members of the council, along with the board and Trustees, review them and give appropriate input.

Finally, Bill Groce, representing the Finance Committee, proposed, in the form of a motion, that an Ad Hoc committee be formed to study various problems concerning church finances, particularly in regard to revenue verses expenses, and to suggest possible solutions. The committee would include a Finance person as chair, the Church Treasurer, the Administrative Assistant, and the Council chair or representative from each of the three Councils. Such motion was voted on and passed. A meeting of this committee was held on Jan 31, 2013 at the church. The thrust of the meeting was to find ways to reduce the budget by about \$50,000. Basically, each line item of the budget was reviewed in an effort to discern where cuts could be made. Each Council chair was asked to contact the Chairs of their respective committees to discuss possible areas of reduction. For the Resource Council, emphasis was placed on the budget of the Property Committee with areas concerning designated verses undesignated funds receiving particular interest. There was a general agreement to make every effort possible to avoid reductions in the personnel/salary budget.

There was further discussion in the meeting concerning such items as using some undesignated funds in lieu of general income, the possible implementation of a purchase order system for purchases, and some discussion of possible revenue enhancing vehicles.

It was agreed that the Council Chairs should begin contacting their respective Committee Chairs right away, with the intent of having a revised budget ready for a called Board meeting by the end of the month.

Respectively submitted.

Tom Mitchell, Chair, Resource Council

