

## **Church Board Meeting Minutes-Sunday, August 15, 2021**

**In attendance:** Amara Oden (Sabbatical Pastor), Patsy Severson, treasurer, Cora Trujillo, moderator, Dave Kidder, Sam Rennebohm and Louise Morehead.

Amara opened us with prayer.

**Treasurer's report:** Pledges and expenses are where they should be according to the budget. Expenses for July are about \$1,665 more than income, due in part to expected one-time expenses. We ended the last fiscal year with income just over 102% of budget and expenses just under 94% of budget, which means income was just over \$14,300 more than expenses. A new Washington state law will require employees to have long term care insurance, either through the state or some other way. The CB will have to decide in the coming months if we want to fund the employee contribution or withhold it. Patsy will have more specifics regarding the cost soon.

**Reaction to neighbor's email re: another person sleeping on the church porch:** We decided in principle to take no action at this time if people are spending time and/or sleeping on the church property as long as they are doing nothing threatening or breaking laws. Dave will talk to other neighbors to see if they have concerns. Other options in the future are calling Operation Nightwatch or having Sam, as a mental health professional, meet with the person experiencing homelessness.

**Trustees report:** They have another estimate from "Washington Elevator" which states they can maintain the current elevator without a complete overhaul to make it last another 10 to 15 years. The cost is not yet finalized but expected to be much less than the previous \$60,000+ from the previous estimate.

The Trustees fields inquiries from Karen, our office manager, for building rentals. All renters must comply with current CDC and Washington State DOH guidelines as related to COVID-19.

**How do we feel connected as a church after this long separation?** With in-person worship delayed until at least mid October, we had a discussion about how to reach out to members who may feel a need for personal connection. Personal visits? Small outdoor gatherings? Cora will draft an announcement for the weekly emails asking for input from the congregation.

**Amara check-in:** Worship creation is going more smoothly. Disappointed there will be no further outdoor worship through September due to logistics and concerns about COVID. She will be on vacation this week. She is hoping to do some pastoral visits when she returns. She has been approved for ordination and can now start circulating her profile to find a pastoral call.