

CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES

Date: 12/30/25

The December Congregation Council Meeting was held on 12/17/25

Council Members Present: Pastor Bannister, Ashdon Bobbie, Carolyn Cutilli, Alan Divver, Barbara Quinn, Bruce Roper, Carol Schlegel, Jenn Shaw, Janice Vallone, Mark Vallone, Ken Woods, and Louise Woods.

Absent: Kiran Bodamer, Anna Sweeney

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Jenn Shaw at 6:04 p.m. The scripture was read by Ashdon Bobbie and the prayer was offered by Pastor Bo.

PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL:

None

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

*It was moved and seconded to accept the minutes from November 2025 as presented without changes. The motion was made and seconded by Ken Woods / Carolyn Cutilli.

MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS:

Pastor Bannister – Attached. Pastor said that he was very happy with how the end year ended.

President, Alan Divver –Attached

Attendance – Attached

Finance Committee – Attached. Carol explained donations were up in November due to increased giving and also from the Fellowship Connections' and Generosity Committee's efforts. The counting was postponed from last Sunday to this coming Sunday due to the inclement weather.

Ashdon has noticed we have been doing very well with expenses. About \$10,000 in giving, down from last year but our deficit is much lower so expenses have been cut significantly.

*It was moved and seconded to accept the Finance Committee's report as presented. The motion was made and seconded by Bruce Roper/ Ken Woods. **MOTION CARRIED**

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Community Outreach Ministry – No report
- Constitution and Bylaws – No report
- Fellowship Connections – See report. Alan will double check with Jaimie to see where she is with obtaining a Karaoke machine.
- Generosity Committee – No report
- Hatboro Community Cupboard – See report. Carol said that she wished everyone could come and see how overwhelming donations have been. Her philosophy is not to say no to any donations and with there being so much, they are running out of room. Endo Pharmaceutical held a food drive. They raised six SUVs worth and also rented a van and unloaded it at the pantry. 555 Flats came in with a couple truck loads. \$1,000 cash was also dropped off. If we can't use the donated food, Carol still takes it and then forwards it to other pantries. A lot of the donations are through Alan Eickoff's old connections. Ashdon gets unsolicited calls from people looking to donate. Carol also just received another grant for \$7,000 from Montgomery County.
- Kids & Family Ministry – No report – Ashdon explained that they couldn't meet this month due to everyone's schedules. Santa is ready to go for this weekend.
- Memorials – No report
- Mutual Ministry – No report
- Property – No report
- Social Media – No report
- Stewardship – No report
- Women's Ministry – No report
- Worship & Music – No report

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Staff Job Description/Compensation** – Alan said that with the holidays, they will regroup with everyone in January.
- **Directory** – Alan said that we are still planning to reach out to people but with the holidays and the vitality survey, he will circle back to this early in the new year.

- **Values/Goals** – We have them but before we make any posters or move forward, council would like to wait to see what the vitality survey feedback says and we will circle back in 2026.

ONGOING BUSINESS:

- **Community Outreach** – We are continuing to do this. Joseph will be a good outreach event.
- **Vitality Survey** – Ashdon will be sending out an email with the leadership survey to exec/staff.
- **Mission Insight** – Alan will reach out to pastor Manson about getting links set up. Jenn Shaw asked if there is a specific login to enter the surveys that are done on paper. Alan will check. Carol Cutilli asked how are we keeping track of submissions, and Alan will check on that also.
- **Insurance Liability for Outside Groups** – All outside groups have been notified that they need their own insurance. County Choraliers want to talk to someone to make sure they're getting the right coverage. District 23 AA is going to see if they can get on District 20's insurance instead of getting their own. There may be one other unknown group that meets in the building once a month and we will keep an eye out for them to speak with them.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Synod dues** – A Motion was made to cut a check for \$12,000 to the Synod. It was moved and seconded by Carol Schlegel / Janice Valone. Motion Carried.
- **Building Issues** – Ashdon said that last week there was a boiler issue. On Wednesday the alarm in the stairwell to the basement was beeping for carbon monoxide. She contacted Property leadership and the fire dept. The fire marshal came and reported that the level was elevated at 15ppm. OSHA standard for a 40-hour week is 35ppm so it was not serious. The fire marshal came to that week's Property meeting and explained that everything was okay. The alarm went off again. Darren Shaw had Ashdon call PECO because it was a gas leak. When the boiler came on the level was elevated. PECO/Fire Marshal turned off the boiler. Peters came out to look at the boiler and said all was good. Which it was until the security check Friday night. An emergency call was put in to Peters. Mike Gildein came out. The exhaust duct was off the boiler flange and making a racket. Mike put it back on. The following Monday night Kristy from the Food Pantry called Ken that the same thing was happening. Ken shut the boiler off and Bruce put it back on and Ken then turned the boiler back on. Ken called Peters and they came out Tuesday and permanently fixed and sealed the exhaust duct. A new baffle for the exhaust duct has been ordered.

Bo asked if Peters is doing us good. Ken said that it should be part of the service contract. But Carol pointed out that the service contract is parts only, not labor.

Ken said that the heat in the sanctuary wasn't going up to 70 degrees Dave came out and found that they had never shut the a/c baffles so it was pulling cold air. Ken said they are still the cheapest around as far as he knows. Carol said we don't know unless we look at others. She has been getting estimates for a new heater. One estimate, AAA, came in at \$185,000 and Peters was \$125,000.

Carolyn asked if anyone else came in for service. No, because we have Peters' contract. But we should look at other companies for next September when the contract runs out.

We would like to get the vitality survey back first before we go to the Synod with our estimated costs.

- **Music Sunday** – Carolyn said that she was disappointed that we could not have Music Sunday this past Sunday due to the inclement weather. Alan agreed Sunday was frustrating. Normally Executive would make the call to cancel church but were trying not to do that due to outside musicians coming in. After Alan spoke with Michael, agreed to cancel. Alan explained that it was not simply postponed to this Sunday because Joseph was scheduled for this Saturday and it would be too much for some people who are performing in both events. Also, they were unable to have all musicians for Sunday with such short lead time for new date. Alan would like to get a protocol established for this type of situation in the future.
- **The Annual Congregational Meeting** will be held on Sunday February 1st at 11:30.
- **Faushnaut** will be on Sunday February 15th.
- **Ash Wednesday** – For Ash Wednesday on February 18th, Bo is thinking about having a meal before the service. Service is at 7:00.
- **Council** would normally be the evening of Ash Wednesday so it will be moved to Wednesday February 25th.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Troop 81 Scouts would like to hold their Winter Court of Honor ceremony in the sanctuary and dinner in fellowship hall on Monday January 26th, beginning at 7:00.

The County Choraliers would like to use fellowship hall for their practices from 6:30 – 9:30 pm from January 12th through April 20th, with April 20th being a dress rehearsal in the sanctuary.

The County Choraliers would like to use the sanctuary for their spring concert on May 2nd from 7:30 – 9:30 pm and would also like to use fellowship hall prior to the concert to warm up, and after the concert for snacks/socializing.

All above uses of the building were approved, pending the groups have their own insurance.

CARES, CONCERNS, CELEBRATIONS:

Pastor Bo and council members shared their cares and concerns.

NEXT MEETING: Date: January 21, 2025

Meeting Leader: Alan Divver

Scripture: Pastor Bo

Prayer: Jenn Shaw

Refreshments: Bruce Roper

*It was moved and seconded by Ken Woods / Ashdon Bobbie to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 p.m. **MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Roper

Council Secretary