

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, PLYMOUTH
COUNCIL MEETING
Sunday, April 16, 2023

Call the Meeting to Order

President April Zdanis called the meeting to order at 11:30 am. Pastor Mark Copeland led us in prayer.

Council Secretary's Report

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the Council Meeting minutes of March 12, 2023, as distributed via email.

Correspondence

Pastor Mark received a flier from ABCCONN for a Sunday Service on April 30 at 6 pm in New Haven. If interested, the flier is posted in Fellowship Hall or call the office for information. Orphan Grain Train sent a shipment Easter Sunday with Harvest Pack to Ukraine. If interested in volunteering, Grain Train is also packing a truck on 4/17/23 from 9 am to noon.

Committee Reports

Worship

We are keeping communion as being served individually. It is nice to have some choir selections during the offering. We are still using zoom as well as in-person church services. Our attendance has been holding steady. Easter brought some families that we have missed. Easter service was very nice and a thank you to everyone that had flowers on the altar to enhance the joy of Easter. Sunrise service had less of us in attendance; it was a chilly damp morning. Blessings!

Congregational Care

We continue to send birthday/anniversary cards. Nothing else to report or update at this time.

Scholarship

We've received several applications. The Scholarship Committee is setting a date to review them. The Terryville High School Scholarship Night will be May 25. The FBC Scholarship account presently stands at \$1,303.87. The month of FBC Scholarship contributions was gratefully received.

Music

Julie has provided the enthusiasm to motivate the choir to joyfully offer up anthems especially for our Easter Celebration. In addition, she is helping Joel Copeland and myself become more proficient with our music education.

Property

With the help of Joel Fairchild and April Zdanis the four planters on North Street were replaced just in time for Easter and the daffodils are such a beautiful addition to the churches' curb appeal. The snow blower and lawn mower were swapped out and the mower serviced for this year's grooming. New drive wheels for our "vintage" mower had to be ordered and will be in within a couple of weeks.

Outreach

Mary has been working diligently on the summer's Rock a Thon to be held in the Terryville Congregational fellowship hall. This month's mission is for America for Christ.

Christian Education

Christine and Mary continue to alternate Sundays providing Children's Time at Sunday Service. Easter Sunday there were 10 children in attendance. They enjoyed an Easter Morning Video "He has Risen." They were shown a cave to represent the tomb Jesus' body was put in. When the stone was rolled away

the tomb opened into a heart. The tomb wasn't empty, it was full of Jesus' love for us. The children had their pick of cards with chocolate praying hands, chocolate cross, or a cross shaped lollypop and some bubbles in a bunny shaped container.

Treasurer/Finance

The Treasurer's Report for March was distributed and reviewed. The numbers for January Mission and Funds giving is actually from December's 4th QTR, the 1st QTR numbers below will clear in April.

GWIM	250.00
Church World Service	89.00
Plymouth Community Food Pantry	50.00
ABC USA	245.00
Camp Wightman	150.00
FBC Fellowship	371.23
FBC Scholarship	130.00

The Finance Assistant gave updates on the Thomaston Savings Bank account balances as of March 31, 2023. The Pastor Housing CD is coming due and should be reinvested in a higher rate CD. FBC received a notice from Bank of America regarding the Harrub Fund; Lynn will follow up and request a copy of the trust.

Pastor's Report

Pastor Mark has been spending most of the time greeting people in the community, especially with the Rotary Club. The Concerts on the Green will be starting from the last Wednesday in June to the first Wednesday in August; this would be a good time for us to get out, perhaps be a vendor, and show off our sanctuary.

Easter Service and Sunrise Service was a success.

I have secured Terryville Congregational Fellowship Hall for a Dance Marathon on Aug 11 from 2 pm to 8 pm. I plan on personally approaching Angel Tree – Plymouth Social Services, so that they know that we want to raise some money for them.

A suggestion was made from the Terryville Clergy that we do a Drive-In movie with our equipment this summer.

We have heard from the Orphan Grain Train, and they are packing trucks once again. Also, Pastor Dick Dill heads Harvest Pack for Western Connecticut, so if we were to ever want to do a project with them, he would be able to set us up.

Administrative Assistant – Calendar Updates

April 23 – Baptism for Joel Copeland; cake in Fellowship Hall following service. May 14 – Mother's Day luncheon catered by the men.

May 21 – Council Meeting

May 28 – Combined Service on the Green

June 11 – Scholarship/Children's Sunday

June 23 – Possible movie night

Summer VBS – date TBD

Dance Marathon – August date TBD

Old Business

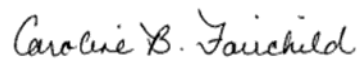
- Thomaston Savings Bank Foundation information was awarded in 2022 and our community service project will be prior to June 30, possibly for a June 23 movie night. Details to follow.
- Follow-up of Dance Marathon Mission Fundraiser in August: Spectators bring non-perishable food items. Press releases need to be sent out once finalized. Pick up packets and sign-up in advance; those under 16 must have an adult chaperone on site; 6 hours of music to include line dancing and musical chairs dance off for prizes. Flyers to be distributed. Supplies needed include 6 yard signs, dinner for contestants, t-shirts for volunteers, bottled water with labels.

New Business

- A motion was made, seconded, and passed to reinvest the Housing CD at Thomaston Savings bank into a higher rate CD.
- A re-issue of a December check will be made to Julie Andring by Mary Rose; this will show as an expense for 2023 instead of 2022 and 2022 will need to be adjusted.
- Follow-up of Thomaston Savings Bank Foundation ideas for 2023 included supplies for Mission Fundraiser in August.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to adjourn at 12:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Caroline B. Fairchild
Council Secretary

Present: Christine Copeland Mark Copeland, Theodore Durley, Caroline Fairchild, Kurt Johnson, Mary Rose, April Zdanis
Absent: Latasha Rose Pete