

St Stephens Church Council

11-16-22

Present: Hannah Ruikka, Eric Donahue, John Snider, Merrill Zieman, Sarah Ruff, Tim Gibson, Diane Meyers, Mary Molumby, Mark Rogosheske, Tim Thompson

- Opening Prayer – offered by Pastor John
- Minutes from 10-19-22 approved
- Executive Committee update – executive committee actions are reflected in the committee reports below.
- Safety Committee update – living with COVID, people welcome to mask and distance but not required
- Foundation update – No new information since last month

Church Council Committee Reports/Updates:

- Pastor Reports – Riverside Innovation Hub (see below); Building committee is forming, will have 2 phases. 1st phase is to select architects, assess solar plans; Shoveling sidewalks – is there someone who would like a job keeping our sidewalks cleared? (John Snider)
 - Lent themes being considered; meeting different missional groups that are focused on turning to the neighborhood; (Tim Thompson)
- Property Management – repairs on the HVAC – needs some oil and a water pump rebuilt (Eric)
- Christian Education – over 50 bags packed for ziplock bags of love; doing brown bag Christmas again this year (Mary)
- Youth and Family – meatballs went really well – over 260 Lbs of meat rolled. Up 14% from last year. December youth group events – lots of fun. January lock in planned. Inviting YoungLife to laser tag in January. (Hannah)
- Finance – deficit exceeds budgeted amount by 34k, part from expenses, part from giving (Diane) COVID, inflation, lots of activity and energy here; let's reverse the trend line, teach spiritual foundations of giving,
 - Meeting to discuss plan for end of year giving messages: **Sunday, November 20th, 10:45 after church hybrid**
- Stewardship – letters going out
- Missions – winter clothing drive for local schools is underway
- Worship and Music – no information
- Fellowship – Great potluck at end of October; cookie share December 18th after worship,
- Inviting – set up nativity scene sometime after Thanksgiving, works best with 10-12 helpers
- Nominating

Other Business or Announcements

Riverside Innovation Hub: connecting churches to their communities. 12 congregations send 5 members each for 5 year term. Starts in September 2023. Run by Dr. Jeremy Meyers.

December 15, 2022 Dr. Meyers will present at the Sunday Forum. Staff and council retreat Saturday, January 21st to meet Dr. Meyers

New reporting format – will continue to try it and implement it in our committee reports

Open Forum – bring ideas for topics to Merrill

Scheduling activities – let Jan Perkins know so she can add to the calendar

Next Meeting: Christmas party! Wednesday, December 21st, 7:00 pm

Pastor Kelly Chapman coming to preach on January 22, 2023 with presentation at Open Forum after the service

Adjourned at 8:15 pm

Closing prayer offered by Pastor Tim