SIXTH AVENUE CHURCH LEADERSHIP MEETING MINUTES 3-9-2017, 5:15 p.m.

Present: Brian LeMaire (moderator), Susie DeLuca and Rod DeLuca (Inner Church), Sandy Calkins (treasurer), Carol Fields (Building and Grounds), Ann Stoenner (taking minutes), Pastor Chris Gilmore (arriving late).

Treasurer’s report: nothing new to report since last Leadership meeting. Pledges, non-pledged income and rental income are above budget. We received a credit on pension. Building expense is above budget because of renovating the apartment (that’s an unbudgeted expense), and the property taxes were paid for the year. Sandy still has several items that need tweaking with the new bookkeeper; including Sandy not seeing the deposits, and dividing the year’s budget number correctly into twelve months so we can keep track month to month.

Building and Grounds: Carol met a representative from Swingle this morning and got a second bid on the long-deferred trimming of our trees for $3,000, with details on how that can be broken out if we prefer. (The other bid was for $4,000.) Trimming trees would be part of the $10,000 budgeted for general maintenance and repairs. It was moved and seconded to go ahead with the whole tree-trimming project with Swingle; all were in favor.

Carol applied for a free tree from the City of Denver to replace the one we lost, and we will receive a tree that the City will choose for us.

Taylor and Carol did a walk-around to assess lighting around the building, and inventory the light bulb supply. The three security lights high on the exterior walls are not working; Carol would like to hire a handyman she knows to bring a ladder and assess the security lights, and change bulbs if that’s all that’s needed. If an electrician is needed, we’ll regroup.

A proposal for sanctuary lighting is being prepared for Mark Rudiger. Brian has been doing some experimenting with choir loft lights, but since the band Robin plays in is interested in performing regularly, Brian doesn’t want to get new lighting put in the choir loft and then have it not be what’s needed.

(Chris arrived. He says an electrician said we have a problem with the electrical circuit to the Adams Street security light, although this might have to do with the motion sensor.)

Carol wants to be more intentional about assigning tasks on the April 8th workday.

The Building and Grounds committee has not met since the last leadership meeting so there is no progress to report on other projects.

Wider Church: Vickie Golobic has obligations to her ailing mother out of town, and sent a message asking whether she should be chairing at this time. Chris said One Great Hour of Sharing is in hand; Curtis has ordered materials. Women’s Homelessness Initiative is going well. Next thing is serving lunch at Inner City (probably in May). It seems Wider Church is okay for the time being so we want Vickie to stay in place.

Inner Church: Kim sent Leadership a letter requesting a sabbatical. After much discussion the motion to grant the sabbatical at this time was declined.

Kim suggested arranging a nursery as we have several families with babies attending (crib, changing table). Need further information from Kim, congregation and families with babies. Susie and Rod volunteered to do information gathering from families with children.

Cheryl Swing’s adult education class on White Privilege was well attended.

Education for children and adults is important to the future of this church, and we need to talk about it more intentionally, and perhaps even consider adding a director of education to the staff. We may be reaching a point of transition for several reasons. Education will be the main subject for Inner Church at the next Leadership meeting.

Pastor’s report: We will do an Easter brunch. Worship: Chris is preaching next three Sundays, Kimra April 2, Robin and Chris Palm Sunday, Chris Easter, Kim after Easter, Cheryl Mother’s Day. A joint Maundy Thursday service will be at Washington Park.

We had a great celebration of Annabel Clark’s life. It was well attended, the spirit was wonderful, and the family was pleased.

Jenny Whitcher requested to be taken in-discernment, and met with Leadership at the last meeting. The in-discernment part of the ministerial process means the church would sponsor Jenny as a candidate for ordination, and she would have some obligations such as preaching and meeting with Chris and a support committee. (If we accept then we would not have an intern next year.) It was moved and seconded to accept Jenny Whitcher in-discernment -- all voted in favor. A supporting committee will be formed in the summer.

Charlotte Redden is in Spalding Rehab Hospital for 3-4 weeks. Other prayer concerns were mentioned.

It would be useful to create a check-off list for funerals and weddings. Rod and Susie will make a first draft.

We need to change next regular meeting date which falls on Maundy Thursday. The next Leadership meeting will be April 6th at 5 p.m.