

**Orinda Community Church  
Minutes of Church Council  
Wednesday, April 22, 2020**

**Council Attendance:** Kurt Sunderbruch, Anne Barr, Lani Shepp, Kathleen Wiegand, Bob Winbigler, Gail Mead, Karen Sanford

**Clergy Attending:** Elizabeth Robinson

**Minutes:** The 3/25/20 minutes were approved unanimously by email on 3/27/20

**Current Status at OCC:** Kurt reported the staff is doing a wonderful job of collaborating. We have a good protocol for recording the Sunday service and may do some Zoom video conferences soon. Elizabeth reported she and Leslie are sending emails to the congregation. The contemplative service is being done via weekly eblasts. Various church members will also write messages for eblasts. Kurt will preach this coming Sunday and we have beautiful music every week thanks to David, Nik, Jesslyn, Judy, Dion, and Dagmar. The next step is to start developing Zoom capabilities to include more people. Kurt will check with Dion/Dagmar regarding posting the service in 1 vs. 3 parts on the website.

**OSV Board/David Cronin:** Kurt determined that the OSV Board vetted their nominee, David Cronin. As discussed last month, Kurt went ahead and approved David's nomination on behalf of the Council.

**Treasurer's Report:** Lani reported on the state of OCC's finances. Based on data as of 3/30/20, we have 36% of pledges. We look this good because some folks give their entire pledge amount at the beginning of the year. There are a number of people who aren't up to date on their pledges. We have a much higher expense line this year compared to 2019. Our loose offerings were at 31%--a nice surprise. OCC was approved for a small business loan of \$44,000 which we'll receive by the end of April. It will go toward primary salaries for the next two months and for some utilities. By the end of April Lani recommends we send a message to the congregation asking everyone to pledge up to 30% of their annual pledge amount if they can. If we get that, we should be okay. People can use PayPal or mail checks to the office. We can let people know where they are on paying their pledge if they aren't sure. The end of April figures shouldn't be that bad if we stay on top of the pledges. Elizabeth will talk to Dagmar to make sure the home page of our website has a donate button on it as well as a link to the sermons. Elizabeth will also put a donate link up on Facebook. Lani will run her report by us before it's sent out. We could add some items on how we're keeping the church alive during the pandemic.

**At-Large Member Reports:** Gail reported she and Kathi met with a rep in early February about the church's insurance policy. The rep recommended we increase our deductible from \$1000 to \$5000 which would save us \$2000 a year. Gail sent this info to the Finance Committee who supports this recommendation. The Council moved and approved the Finance Committee's proposal to increase the deductible to \$5000. Gail will let the insurance company know. Karen reported M&J will advise people to directly donate to the Alameda and/or Contra Costa Food Banks. M&J was going to do a donation event through the church but now that's not possible. The food banks desperately need funds for food. Hopefully we'll go back to volunteering at the food bank when that's possible. Elizabeth mentioned the Trinity Center Safe Parking program in Walnut Creek is in jeopardy and needs funds right away. We can also suggest this as a donation channel for the congregation.

**Buildings and Grounds:** Kurt hasn't heard yet from Tom and Mark on updates to the priority list once Covid-19 started. EBMUD has tried to blame the church for the water seepage on the street below the church. Tom can prove it isn't from a church leak. While we continue to check on this issue, Tom would prefer we not turn the lower irrigation system on right now. Per Lani, we will need to irrigate if the temperature goes over 90 degrees or we'll lose plants. On 5/15 we'll turn on the upper irrigation system around the sanctuary.

**Actions:**

Kurt—check with Dion/Dagmar on posting sermons in 1 part vs. 3 parts on website

Elizabeth—talk to Dagmar on website home page links to donate and to access sermons

Elizabeth—post a donation link on Facebook

Gail—advise insurance company we're increasing our deductible to \$5000

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 27, 2020

Kathleen Wiegand, Clerk