**Orinda Community Church**

**Minutes of Church Council  
Wednesday, November 17, 2021**

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

**Clergy Attending:** Elizabeth Robinson

**Staff Attendees:** David Milnes **Guests:** Chris Mead, Tom Norris

**Minutes:** The 10/27/21 minutes were approved by email on 11/3/21

**Pastor’s Report:** Leslie O’Brien is on leave this month; Mary Volmer is helping with the Sunday children’s moments. Barry Cammer will preach this Sunday. Michele McInaney’s memorial is this Sunday at 2:00 pm. We’re getting ready to do the holiday story hour and are underway for the Advent season. Holden Sunday went really well. We decided the current quilt raffle will end at our Advent Workshop. We’ve fulfilled the Betty Karplus challenge. Our Spirit of Giving is ongoing. We have posted about the caretaker’s cottage being available. We need to move on getting a caretaker and really appreciate Anna Gregory tackling these duties. Parking issues continue to be complicated. Gail Mead has printed out parking stickers for OCC, TOPS, and Holden. We will start distributing our stickers on Sundays; TOPS/Holden will distribute to their parkers and let us know the number distributed. Chris Mead reported the OSV Board met last night and discussed the parking situation. We advised we don’t have the staff/resources to deal with this; is up to OSV to manage their parking spaces as agreed. We don’t want to tow errant cars but we will to get their attention. The parking stickers are a precursor to towing. There’s a problem with a center theatre spot light in the sanctuary not working. This affects the pianists during recitals when the pianos are pushed to the center. Bob Winbigler mentioned there’s a spare light in the shop; Tom Norris will locate it tomorrow. The scaffolding doesn’t reach this light. Gail Mead will check with Chris Reiser to see if he can help with the install. Tom will advise us of what he needs to fix this.

**Treasurer’s Update/Stewardship/Budget:** Lani Shepp reported the 2022 budget doesn’t have much wiggle room. We’ve made commitments to staff and that’s most of the budget expense. We’ll see what happens. We’ll present a budget at the Annual Meeting, clarify where the money is going, and advise that we’ll be going in for a second round of giving to help with the budget shortfall. We may need Endowment money to help if it’s available. We have $80,000 in the bank and we’ve protected it for 5 years.

**Next 80 Update:** Per Lani Shepp, we have sanctuary carpeting coming on 11/29. She also mentioned all our louvered windows will be the first to be replaced, probably in the spring. Anne Barr will advise TOPS about the louvered window replacement (with double panes). Next year we’ll have to deal with the solar stuff for 2023.

**Auction Update:** Per Gail Mead, our auction was a great success. We made $13,000. Gail has already emailed everyone’s auction statements.

**B&G Update:** Tom Norris asked the Council to adopt use of portable air purifiers as an anti-Covid 19 measure. The boy scouts donated $2000 to the church and Tom has purchased five portable air purifiers (totaling $1250) to try out. After discussion, the Council advised Tom he could purchase a few more purifiers with the remaining boy scout donation monies but not to exceed the original $2000 donation. We will experiment with moving these portables around to various rooms as needed for events (Fellowship Hall, library, office, Music Room, etc.). Anne Barr and Tom will talk about what brand to buy for the additional units (e.g., Colzer).

**At-Large Member Reports:** We don’t have all the ministries and committees active yet after Covid. Most are still dormant. Elizabeth Robinson mentioned we have a lot of weekly groups meeting but it’s time to evaluate to see if we want to restart other groups and support Alta Mesa. Do we need to reorganize our ministries/committees? Given where we are in dealing with the budget and Advent we will do some re-envisioning in the new year. It’s best to start with a survey of the congregation and an open discussion with them on our priorities and what we’re willing to do. People will need to vote on priorities with their time and money. If they don’t have time/funds to help, the activity won’t happen. Gail Mead will set up a survey in early January and report on the findings to the congregation at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, 1/23/22. The survey will help us decide what ministries we are willing to staff and support so we are focusing on where there is benefit. Anne Barr and Kurt Sunderbruch will talk about the Annual Meeting and the survey and report back to the Council.

**New Business:** Tom Norris reported he has been checking room locks and is finding unlocked doors throughout the campus. The boy scouts are moving their supplies out of Holden space so we’ll see what happens with unlocked doors there after they move. Elizabeth Robinson has asked Holden to check their outside doors every day.

**Executive Session:** The Council moved and approved entering into a closed executive session to discuss a privileged, confidential issue.

**ACTIONS:**

Gail-distribute parking stickers to TOPS/Holden and have them track number given out

Gail-on Sundays, start distributing parking stickers to OCC parkers

Gail-check with Chris Reiser on helping install the spare spot light in the sanctuary

Anne-advise TOPS about louvered window replacement in the spring

Anne-talk with Tom Norris about brands of portable air purifiers to purchase

Anne/Kurt-discuss the Annual Meeting/congregational survey and advise Council

Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 15, 2021; 7:00 pm

Kathleen Wiegand, Clerk