

154th Annual Meeting of Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church
February 6th, 2011

The business meeting was prefaced by a delicious pot luck luncheon in the vestry of the church. Following the meal Pastor Claudine led us in devotions highlighted by a prayer “Annual Meeting” from the book “Touch Holiness” by Ruth Duck & Maren Tirabassi. Moderator, Richard Tourjee, Sr. called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm. The minutes of the 2010 annual meeting were read, and with no changes noted, filed with the clerk.

The pastor was called upon for remarks. Noting that some activity does not normally get reported upon in the annual booklet she wanted to recognize those individuals who were involved in them during the past year. They are:

* Heidi Butler, Kristen Negaard O’Brien and Marvin Wong for their work on the church website. She encouraged all the members to visit the site as it has been up dated to include issues of THE TIE as well as other timely church news.

* Marvin Wong’s employment and valuable contributions at Camp Wightman during the recent leadership transition, as well as the others from PBBC who volunteer their time at camp.

* Bob Land who serves as our representative on the board of the Mystic Area Ecumenical Council, especially his efforts in the “Care & Share” program.

* Anita Nelson & Catherine Hiller who were part of the planning committee for the 2011 World Day of Prayer, another project of the MAEC.

She announced the following dates for Holy Week activities.

* March 9th - Ash Wednesday service at PBBC.

* Wednesdays throughout Lent - “Springs of Living Water” will be the focus for discussions in the Bread & Broth series.

* Maundy Thursday - PBBC will be the guest of Old Mystic Baptist Church.

* Baptism - classes will be held for Middle School students and any interested adults. The Ordinance of Baptism is planned for a Sunday in May.

Pastor Claudine shared that the month of January had been one of personal evaluation, always stressful and often distressing. However, in comparing her personal assessment to the evaluations completed by the

church members, she realized that we are in agreement where our areas of strength are as well as those that need to be developed. Because we are on the same page we can only go forward. She and the church are in the ninth year of partnership in ministry and that partnership is working well!

Kristin Negaard-O'Brien spoke of the Co-Op Youth Work and amplified her written report. She noted that the greatest challenge for her is the fact that the majority of the youth group members are in the sixth grade, most of them new to being in a group away from home or school. She went on to highlight several of the overnight trips that the group will be taking this year including St. John the Divine, NYC, and Heifer International in Mass. These weekends are partly subsidized by funds raised at their pasta and soup suppers. She thanked us for the support given to this work throughout the year.

Reports of the Church Council and all Committees were reviewed and filed with the clerk.

Financial Reports:

With a minor correction in the Mission Treasurer's report all financial reports for 2010 were filed with the clerk.

The Audit Committee's report showing that all financial records were found to be in order was filed with the clerk.

Proposed Budgets:

- Bob Nelson presented the proposed GENERAL FUND BUDGET -2011 noting one line item to be added to the budget as printed. **Line item 6.01 (Dues to SUNL) should read \$1710.** That would increase the total budgeted amount to \$140,607. He explained the process used to develop the budget and moved that the proposed budget (including the increase in 6.01) be approved. It was seconded and approved. Later in the meeting Yvette Ackley, church treasurer moved that line item **4.07-Snow Removal be increased by \$500 to \$1000. She** stated that we are already "over budget" in this category for the present year. The motion was seconded and voted affirmatively.
- The proposed MISSION FUND BUDGET- 2011 was accepted as printed.

Nominating Committee Report:

The slate of officers and deacons to be elected was presented. There were no nominations from the floor and the slate was elected as printed. It was suggested that in subsequent years the names of Pastoral Relations Committee members be listed on this page

for reference purposes.

New Business:

- Belle Jordan announced that the spring Tag/Bake sale will take place the weekend of May 6 and 7. Since it is a major fundraiser for our operating budget she emphasized the need of much more help in running the sale as well as a quantity of merchandise.
- Pat Tootell informed us that the young ladies in her afternoon craft group would like to do some quilting. If anyone has a working sewing machine to donate she would appreciate the gift.
- Catherine Hiller presented a plan from the Church Council to involve all members in the maintenance and upkeep of the church building called "Labors of Love". A sheet was distributed listing all the chores other than those done by our custodian, that are necessary for keeping the building clean, sanitary and comfortable. It is hoped that as many members as possible will respond by selecting one task that they will commit to doing on a regular basis.
- The moderator expressed his thanks to those going off the council (Jon Hiller, Bob Land, Carolyn Land, Mei Ling Liu) and welcomed those coming on.

The meeting was adjourned at 2 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Catherine Hiller, Clerk

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

February 7, 2011

Present: Yvette Ackley, Marilyn Baird, Marilyn Benson, Claudine Crooks, Dianne Dellarco, Ted Hespeler, Catherine Hiller, Belle Jordan, Anita Nelson, Bob Nelson, Peg Straub, Darrell Tootell, Pat Tootell, Dick Tourjee and Pete Wong.

Absent: Vance Lamb, Ron Land and Holly Mulvihill.

The meeting was opened by Moderator Tourjee at 6:30 p.m.

Devotions were led by Mei Ling.

Minutes of January 3 were filed as corrected.

Financial Reports for January:

Financial Secretary: General Fund deposit: \$10,300.72

Mission Fund deposit: \$574 Memorial Fund: \$2813 in passbook
\$2000 deposited in Ameriprise account.

Monthly balance -\$1,708.00

Treasurer: Disbursements: \$12,008.98

Benevolence Treasurer: Feb. offering \$58 Expenditures: none
Bal. \$767.40

Pastor's Report:

- She will be away Sunday Feb. 20. Rev. Burt Crooks will be "guest" preacher.
- Feb. 27 worship service will include a Prayer Shawl Blessing and highlight the history and ministry of the women's auxiliary groups of Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church.

Deacon and Committee Reports:

Worship/Membership:

- Dick will again prepare palms for use on Ash Wednesday, March 9
- Bread and Broth signup sheets are in Fellowship Room.

Education/Discipleship:

- Teachers are meeting monthly, and in their "gathering time", the children are learning new songs and hymns to share with folks at Regency during their monthly visits.

Mission/Outreach:

- Preparation of Health/School Kits for overland/overseas missions will begin soon. This year requests will be made for cash donations and contents of kits will be purchased to eliminate duplications. A date for this emphasis will be coordinated with the America For Christ Offering which also takes place late winter/early spring.
- Darrell gave a summary of the Feinstein Foundation Grants for Hunger project. He felt it could easily be merged with our monthly food collections for Groton Food Locker. With a minimum of effort we could apply for an additional cash gift from the foundation to supplement our gifts of cash and food to the locker. He and the pastor will study the requirements and make a recommendation to the council within the next two weeks.

Buildings/Grounds:

- The front outside overhead light bulb has been replaced. Ted is aware of the interior stairway lights that also need attention.
- The roof of the Miner building was shoveled of snow. THANK YOU DICK, RON AND TED! Ted reiterated that the roof

needs another coat of sealer this spring. Two sources of leaks have been identified and will be addressed.

Stewardship/Finance:

- Bob noted the changes made to the General Fund budget at the annual meeting. \$1710 was added to the line item for SUNL Association dues, and the snowplow account was increased to \$1000. The total of the revised budget for 2011 is now \$141,107.

Pastoral Relations:

- Anita reminded us that the Pastoral Evaluation summaries are available.

Hospitality:

- Greeters have been assigned for the year.
- Marilyn made revision recommendations to the Reception Guidelines. With the closing of the Ladies Circle this responsibility will now be assumed by a volunteer committee from the church membership, and as Hospitality chairperson Marilyn will head up this group. The council voted to increase the fee schedule for non-members of PBBC to \$100.00 when food and supplies are furnished by the family of the deceased, and to a minimum of \$150 when the church provides food, supplies and services. Complete listing of guidelines is on file in church office.

Old Business:

- Yvette reported that she had spoken with George O'Brien at Noank Baptist regarding our share of salary for the Youth Co-Op leader. The check she issued late November was never received at Noank, which prompted the letter we received in January. She has since issued a second check.
- Two sewing machines have been donated to the Girl's Craft Group that wants to start quilting.

New Business:

- Catherine asked the council's approval of a fund raising project that she and Pat were planning. They would like to sell handmade potholders for a nominal fee. With each potholder purchased, the buyer would receive a ticket to be put into a "drawing". The main feature of the drawing would be a quilt made by Pat, along with a few other handcrafted articles. The project would take place throughout the year culminating at the Holiday Bazaar in December. Following discussion, the project was approved.