Present:
Rob Peters, Acting Moderator
Tom Ross, Past- Moderator
Cici Thompson, Moderator, inactive
Kathleen Styles, Board of Deacons
Heather Shackley, Communications Team
Barbara Lowrey, Music Committee
Dee Cardiff, Membership Clerk

Minutes:

Minutes: The December 2015 minutes were approved.

Governance Renewal: Tom offered thanks for the new governance model and all the discussions that were held.

Membership: Dee and Hank are reviewing membership to move people from one category to the next. Categories include Members, People still associated with the church but moved, those who have asked to be removed, temporary inactive (for one year), and non-resident inactive

Prepping for the Annual Meeting: Meeting and lunch will be held in the Social Hall. PF is offering a potato bar as a fund raiser for the trip to Orlando for the UCC National Youth Event in July. An annual report (8-page color glossy in narrative form) is being developed. David asked who needs to speak at the annual meeting:
1. Membership list will be available for review
2. Resolution on Syrian Refugees – BOSJ feels this needs to be a congregational decision. Barbara recommends a covering document that explains what this means to the church. Suggested that we need to determine what this means to church and what we can do. Motion to offer resolution with minor changes was approved by the Ministry Board.

Easter Preparation: Lent is February 10. There will be communion during Lent at the 11:00 services. Soup, Supper and Discussions will be held February 14, February 21, March 6 and March 13. Topics for Lent: What does it mean to be a member of a church. If you’ve got an area you would like to lift up, send a note to Hank. There will be a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. Michael Joseph will be speaking at the Maundy Thursday service “What does it mean to put down your life for your friends. Question was asked on whether we should bring back the Seder dinner on Palm Sunday or reach out to Olam Tikvah or JCC for a joint dinner. David will reach out. Holy Saturday Vigil was discussed and it was decided that there was no need for it.

Strategic Business: How does this board define individual and congregational spirituality?
1. Providing time, space and companionship to experience God.
2. Programmatic and pastoral leadership
3. From a congregational perspective, how to find commonalities and appreciate differences - acceptance and respect for our differences.
4. Spirituality of the head, body, heart and soul
5. Necessarily evangelistic – we share good news internally and externally

What does it mean for LRUCC to nurture such spirituality in 2016?
1. Ministry board reviewing programming options and making selections
2. We feed the body and the brain 0 how do we feed the heart and the soul?
3. Is there a way to bring fellowship to adults on a regular basis?
4. Reinventing what we already have

Next meeting will be as the Church Council on January 13.
Possible combined retreat – Ministry Board and the Governance Board on February 6 (note – moved to March). Time to be confirmed.

At this point the meeting went into executive session.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m. with a benediction by Rob.

Respectfully submitted,
Cici Thompson