Rev. Steven Van Meter

GPCSL Annual Membership Meeting Notes:

Ministers Report: 9.27.2021

(This is also the report given to our congregation 9.26.21)

As per our last count, we have 74 members of GPCSL!

**PANDEMIC UPDATE:**

These are very interesting times. Centers everywhere are experiencing all sorts of changes and challenges. Covid fatigue is an interesting energy for everyone right now, but your Board is committed to continue to guide us through these times by following our SOM teaching, safety and science.

For now, we are on Zoom, but your board will be making the decisions very soon on when to reopen, guided by safety and science.

**CLASSES:** We are a teaching Center! We have never stopped teaching classes.

Presently, Paula Peterson and I are teaching the “Foundations Class”. I just began the “Practitioner 2 Class” with 3 students.

* Sharie Davis will be teaching “Spiritual Economics” starting in October and I want to thank her as she has taught several other classes throughout the year.
* Rev. Nan and I taught “RScP 1”, and “Spiritual Principles and Practices”.
* Practitioner Deborah Perdue taught:

﻿“Finding True Freedom”, “Untethered Soul” and “Entering the Castle”. (These classes were held at Riverside Park).

I would like everyone to know that Practitioner Deborah Perdue creates the Gratitude, The Prayer and The Offertory Affirmation for our Sunday Services under my direction. Thank you!

* Paula Peterson taught “Spiritual Principles and Practices”.
* And Karen Jordann is Facilitating the Book study group.

**SERVICES, MEETINGS AND CLASSES ON ZOOM:**

We have been able to switch back and forth between in person and Zoom services and have added Facebook Live to our Sunday Services. Our Services, classes and meetings have continued on Zoom during this interesting time and will continue on Zoom until further notice.

A big “thank you” to our web master, Rhonda Lynn who brings us our Enews and maintains our social media platforms on Facebook and Zoom and other places across the web.

Again, Thank you to Rhonda Lynn, Jamica Wallace and Trazia Wylie for their assistance with all this technology!

Practitioner Trazia Wylie, in addition to her wonderful singing brings us our Sunday Morning Power Point presentations.

**Wednesday evening services** were facilitated by Rev. Nan Bankston, before she left us to start her own Ministry in Visalia. Now, I have enrolled our Practitioner Team to work on facilitating a New Wednesday Evening Gathering that will be starting soon, so stay tuned.

**Ministerial Student, Practitioner Coordinator and Board Member, Kimberly Bibeau** brought us a “Belonging” workshop and a “Grief Recovery Group” as well as the “Evensong” meditation services. She also assisted me by being our Guest Speaker as well as other misc. assistance. She is also coordinating a Practitioner Retreat at the end of October with Rev. Dr. Christian Sorensen.

**Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning meditations** continue to be facilitated by Ministerial Student, Paul Domeleski and myself via Zoom from 8:45-9:15AM.

**PEOPLE ON PURPOSE GROUP:** Our “POP” group continues to meet facilitated by Practitioner Carol Wythe, Bucky Dennerling and Linda Mullens.

**Kindness Club** donated $250 in gift cards, clothes, and food in December to South Middle School.

**Historical Committee** Nancy Yonally, Kris Strong and Paula Peterson and myself are in the process of putting together a scrapbook for future reference.

**2021-2022 Members Directory** Deborah Perdue and Trazia Wylie are working on a Members Directory.

**MUSICIANS:** I want to thank our musicians, Trazia Wylie, Dave Flick and Jim Reis (Who recently made his transition) for their contribution of music over the years. Also grateful to several members of our Chorus led by Trazia Wylie. Claire Green, Enzo Bertaggia, Paula Peterson, Kris Strong and others.

We have also featured guest musicians such as Anton Mizerak and Laura Berryhill. Jami Lula and Karen Drucker.

**BUILDING AND GROUNDS:**

I want to thank our **Spiritual Gardening Team** led by Jan Albright, Ann Southcolmb, Linda Mullens and Cal Kenny and several others, who continue to keep our gardens healthy and vibrant, no matter the weather.

**New A/C Unit Planned:** We need a new Air Conditioning unit for our Sanctuary. We think this will cost us between $5-7000. We are still in the process of getting bids on this project that will need to be completed before next spring so we can have a cool sanctuary by next summer.

**Gutters:** Our gutters and downspouts are in need of cleaning and repair. I have a company coming next week to give us a bid.

A big Thank You to Ralph Peterson with closing some crawl spaces on the LEC and Sanctuary, where skunks and other animals were gaining access. And thank you to Pat Salter and Ralph Peterson for both of their ongoing assistance with various Building and Grounds projects!

We now also have a strong internet connection in the Sanctuary to Zoom our Sunday Services!

**FINANCIALS:** I want to thank everyone who continues to give on a regular basis, to keep this Center open!

We were able to get a $25,000 matching donation from The Science of Mind Foundation that is invested for the future of our Center.

But…, Your Center needs your assistance…

Our Sunday Tithes and Gifts have dropped and slowed to a trickle.

We have been drawing on our savings to pay our monthly bills because our revenue has dropped since the start of the Pandemic.

This is something that has been experienced by many Centers, because of the Pandemic.

Your board will be creating new and exciting ways and events for you to give to your Center to keep us solvent and financially responsible.

We are planning a Pledge drive, and other fund raisers to bring in revenue are being explored. If you have ideas or would like to assist us by being on our “Fund Raising Event Team”, please contact our Board President, Paula Peterson, or me, or any Board member to get involved.

We understand that we all may be feeling a little pinch right now, but if you were waiting for the end of year to give your yearly gift, your Center could really use your assistance right now by supplementing your giving. If we all gave just a little bit more each week or each month, it would really assist your Center.

What we teach is that…. “If we want to up our standard of living, we need to up our standard of giving!”

Again, I want to thank everyone who continues to give on a regular basis, to keep this Center thriving!

**End of Report**