

Bellport United Methodist Church
Special Council Meeting – Wednesday, January 5, 2022

Present via Zoom: Pastor Lydia Han, Bill Morse, Margie Ludewig, June Beuttenmuller, Lynn Hoag, Mike Bilecki, Ellen Horn, Laura Terwilliger, Scott and Patty Munson, Lori Labalsamo, Deborah Keller, Rita Tempel and Jennifer Lawlor.

Bill opened the meeting with prayer at 7:32 pm. The minutes from the October 19th meeting were approved.

In response to the surge of COVID cases in our area, Bill opened a discussion as to whether we can safely continue to offer in-person church services.

Motion: That we keep things the way we are now as of last Sunday (January 2), and that we continue to meet in the sanctuary with existing protocols. Motion made by Scott, seconded by Patty. The motion passed with 10 people voting yes, 3 voting no and 1 abstaining.

Question: What happens if the pastor is unavailable? Answer: We have four lay servants who are qualified to conduct the worship service.

Motion: That we have hybrid church services (in-person & online); that everyone must wear a mask, sign in, social distance (6 feet apart except for family), no choir, no congregational singing, no Sunday School, and no food or drink during Fellowship after the Sunday service. Motion made by Deborah, seconded by Ellen. Mike added that these protocols will be carried through January 30th to be revisited at the next Council meeting. The motion was approved with 8 people voting yes, 1 voting no and 3 abstaining.

Bill will call a Council meeting the first week in February. The budget will be passed at the next meeting.

Pastor Lydia requested that each church committee schedule an activity for the 2022 event calendar. She closed the meeting with a blessing at 8:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Margie K. Ludewig, Recording Secretary