Mission Council Meeting Minutes

Monday May 20, 2019

6:30 PM Parlor

\*\*\*\* [www.fpcemission.weebly.com](http://www.fpcemission.weebly.com)

(Starred items on the Weebly site linked above)

Mission Council Attendees: Dave Ivaska, Younan Shiba, Cam Traut, Dick Warnecke (Elder), Susan Wilkins, Sharyn Wilson-Woods (Elder), , Ron Ehresman, Caryl Weinberg (staff).

Mission Council members excused: Richard Taiwo, Peter Steffen (trustee), David Tilson (chair)

6:00-8:00: Dinner and Conversation with Jamil, IFES General Secretary of MENA (Middle East North Africa) and David , IFES Director in the US.

Other FPCE members joined for dinner and the presentation.

 Jamil shared a presentation including news and updates from groups within this area. He told stories detailing amazing changes and progress in the region and also major concerns and challenges. Jamil will be traveling in the US and sharing with other churches and groups during his visit. He and David both expressed their thankfulness for the 20+ years of partnership with FPCE. They often use us as an example of how to be in partnership with them. No one wanted the talk to come to an end, but they had an early flight the next morning. Before they departed we all prayed as a group for Jamil, his family, for success and safe travel in the US, and the work of IFES in MENA

8:10-Update Items (Caryl)

* **New Mission Statement**: (Brief Discussion on its intersection for mission)
*First Presbyterian Church of Evanston exists to know Jesus Christ and to grow in him as we serve and make disciples in Evanston, the Chicago area, and around the world*.
* **Themes for next seasons**:
	+ Summer: Growing Community in Christ
	+ Fall: Rooted and Reaching
	+ Advent: Hope for a World that Hurts?
* **Suggestions for Group Service Projects** Caryl encouraged us all to consider our current mission partners and activities and how and what would make good group service projects. There was some initial discussion on possibilities. This will be discussed further at a future meeting.
* **June 30th**: **Holy Land Trip Class**/Presentation
* **July 21: First Friends** will combine with all church picnic/Vespers
* **Aug: Summer Schedule for a party.** We will discuss dates at our June 24th meeting.

8 30 **Budget Team Update items**: There was no budget team meeting May. Ron had prepared a summary statement of mission expenses through April 30 which he distributed. Everyone thought it provided a good snapshot of current mission council finances.

8;45: **July 21st Lemonade on the Lawn**: The group discussed possible themes. **A Walk in Palestine** was one idea that everyone felt would be good., particularly in light of the upcoming trip. We will discuss more details at the next meeting.

Next Meeting will be June 24th. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted., Susan M. Wilkins