

Official Board Minutes
United Church of Christ (Congregational)
March 29, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Kim McKenzie at 7:07 p.m. and Pastor Becky led the group in prayer. Present were:

Denise Bell	Madison Bell	Ted Bickley	Betty Craig	
Barb Fraunfelder	Sharon Heinrich	Sally Herzog	Irene Joyce	Kim McKenzie
Kenn Oerkfitz	Linda Plain	Jack Stephenson	Rev. R. Stephenson	Claire Wills

Minutes of the 2/23/16 meeting were approved with a motion by Sally Herzog seconded by Betty Craig. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report as of 3/29/16: Balance of \$6,461.41. Income: \$.27 in interest; \$191.50 from Swiss Steak food sales; \$65.00 from Swiss Steak Dinner ticket sale; \$1,835.00 from Pork Dinner ticket sales; and \$165.50 from Pork Dinner food sales. Disbursements: \$229.36 for 10% of Swiss Steak Dinner profit to the Wednesday Lunch Program; \$72.49 for the Easter breakfast; \$792.27 and \$81.92 for Roast Pork Dinner expenses; \$30.95 for checks. Irene Joyce moved to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Betty Craig. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Advertising Committee: Jack Stephenson reported several ads went out in the *Strongsville Post* for Holy Week and the Concert Series. Thanks to Rachel Zielinski for lending her auger and to Doug Thorn who helped with installing the 3 Lenten crosses. Thanks also to the Diaconate for purchasing the Holy Week banner. Most importantly, all groups and organizations are asked to update their information for the website as soon as possible. Send to stephens@concentric.net.

Christian Education Committee/Youth: Sharon Heinrich reported that the Lenten studies will conclude on April 5th and 10th. The Journey in Faith class will end with new members being received on April 3rd. The search committee for the Associate Youth Pastor has been meeting regularly and has a recommendation for a candidate for the position.

Church Treasurer/Financial Secretary: Barb Fraunfelder distributed detailed financial reports and answered questions. Three people are signed up for electronic giving. Kenn Oerkfitz reported that the checking account is in the black, but April is a big month for large expenses. Easter Offering was split between the new pastor fund and traditional accounts.

Dinners: Betty Craig thanked everyone who jumped in and helped with the Swiss Steak and Roast Pork Dinners. The Board joyfully welcomes Betty back. \$112.63 will be donated to the Wednesday Free Lunch from the Pork Dinner profit of \$1,126.31. Dinners are now on hiatus until the Turkey Dinner in November.

Diaconate: Denise Bell reported that Easter services were excellent and the decorations received much praise. A suggestion was made to offer a choice of tulips or lilies next year, since the tulips were a big hit. Worship Team will mention that "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" and Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" were missed by the congregation and could maybe be brought back next year. Don't forget to mark your calendars for the Wing Night at Sidelines in Brunswick on Friday, May 6th. This is a big fundraiser for the Diaconate. Basket donations will be gratefully accepted.

Mission Outreach/KFC: Should be meeting soon. Rita Root will speak on May 8th about OCWM.

Music Committee: Thank you to all of the regular and guest musicians, singers, and instrumentalists who made Holy Week services so special. The Satori Winds will be featured on May 1st in the Strongsville U.C.C. Concert Series. Barb Fraunfelder mentioned that two new bell ringers are pending.

Organ Restoration Committee: The next ORC Pancake Breakfast is April 24th. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for kids ages 6-12. Children 5 and under are free.

Strategic Planning: There will be a Strategic Planning Meeting on April 30th at 9 a.m. The Master Plan and various goals will be discussed.

Stewardship Committee: Linda Plain reported that the committee is reorganizing personnel and have to elect a leader. They already have several ideas in mind for the 2016 stewardship campaign, including a fruit theme.

Sunday School: Irene Joyce reported that everything is going smoothly. Thanks to all the teachers and students who marched and sang “Hosanna! Jesus is the Rock” on Palm Sunday and to Sue & Gina Gigliotti for organizing and donating all the supplies for the Easter Egg Hunt on Easter. The Sunday School sponsored Caroline in India in February.

Thrift Shop: The Thrift Shop will be closed April 21st – 27th, as they switch to spring merchandise. The Board briefly discussed ways of incorporating new volunteers into the Thrift Shop program. 35 years of bargains will be celebrated on May 22nd during worship.

Trustees: Rachel Zielinski sent a report that a few additional items need to be submitted to the state to complete the loan process. Plans are complete for the ADA restroom and bids will be accepted soon. An inspection program is still in the works for the church building. Outdoor maintenance, including tree removal, is still on the agenda for spring. Pape Landscaping will once again be contracted. Rachel will check on costs for cleaning the grease trap in the kitchen. The parking lot should be sealed in the spring.

Women's Fellowship: Claire Wills reported that the ladies will have their next meeting on April 6th. Betty Craig added that they will be putting together tote bags for the Strongsville Food Bank soon.

Minister's Report: Pastor Becky reported that Lenten and Holy Week activities were exceptional. She has many volunteers for the Tent Revival, but needs more helpers to commit to the Yard Sale event. She and Jack will be away in May and Rita Root will speak. Pastor Becky talked about phases in church life and moving forward. Dan Davis is moving and will need help with transportation on Sundays. Several ideas were discussed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Rachel Zielinski made an e-mail motion, seconded by Betty Craig to allot up to \$175.00 for postage to collect recipes for the 200th Anniversary Cookbook. Motion was voted on and approved. The 200th Anniversary Kick-Off will be celebrated on October 9th with a brunch.

Gina Gigliotti raised about \$600.00 from her Bake Sale at the Swiss Steak Dinner.

Kelly Bickley, Betty Craig, Barb Fraunfelder, Kim McKenzie, Becky & Jack Stephenson will represent our church at the Deaconess Outreach program and will make a presentation about the Wednesday Free Lunch on April 13th.

Pastor Becky mentioned that volunteers are needed to collect donations for use of the parking lot during the Strongsville Rib Burn-Off June 16th – 18th and the Homecoming July 13th – 16th.

Thanks to Ray Suttle and his crew for the Easter Breakfast.

Copies of the updated constitution will be made available to members either electronically or on paper soon.

NEW BUSINESS:

Claire Wills mentioned that the church's entry doors need attention. The matter will be brought to the Trustees.

Kelly Bickley is starting an 8 week “Spring into Fitness” class on Mondays beginning April 4th.

Kenn Oerkfitz reported that the search team for the Associate Pastor for Youth & Families will make a recommendation to the Board of Trustees to hire Emily Culp following a final interview. Sharon Heinrich moved that the Official Board support the recommendation. Betty Craig seconded and the motion carried.

Representatives will be needed to attend the Annual Meeting of the Ohio Conference of the U.C.C. in June. More information will be coming soon.

Sharon Heinrich keeps a file box with cards detailing the location of various items and equipment around the church. She is requesting assistance from groups in updating this file so that it remains useful.

Betty Craig motioned for adjournment at 8:57 p.m., seconded by Claire Wills. Motion carried. The next regular meeting of the Official Board will be Tuesday, April 26, 2016 at 7 p.m.

Irene Joyce, Secretary