**Official Board Minutes**

United Church of Christ (Congregational)

**April 23, 2019**

Meeting was called to order by Official Board Secretary Irene Joyce at 7:08 p.m. Pastor Heidi led the group in prayer.

Present were:

Jennifer Barry

Adria Bond

Betty Craig

Greg Dickson

Tom Gaumer

Jim Heinrich

Sharon Heinrich

Sally Herzog

Irene Joyce

Rev. Heidi

**Minutes of the 3/26/19 meeting** were approved in a motion by Betty Craig, seconded by Tom Gaumer. Motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report as of 4/23/2019:**  **Treasurer’s Report as of 4/23/2019:**  **Beginning balance** $6,274.06. **Income:** Interest of 3/20/19 $0.71.  **Expense:** Jensen CD player for Lenten Study $24.78.  **Ending balance** **$6,249.99.**  Betty Craig moved to accept the treasurer’s report. Tom Gaumer seconded and the motion was approved.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Adult Social Club:** No report. They plan to meet later in the spring.

**Advertising/Technology Committee**: Tom Gaumer reported that we had an Easter ad in the *Strongsville Post* and the UCC website.

**Church Treasurer/Financial Secretary**: Sally Herzog/Adria Bond reported that we currently have $11,986.00 in the bank.  We need to repay the savings account about $6,500 and payroll is coming due at the end of the month.

**Diaconate:** Jennifer Barry reported that they wrapped up the Holy Week and Easter services and appreciate everyone's assistance. Next on their agenda is Wing Night on May 3.  They will make a big push this week so that they can give Grindstone an estimated number of attendees.  They also started discussions on the Church Picnic.  Linda Plain is going to contact the city about reserving the pavilion we had last year.  Diaconate will once again purchase the hot dogs, paper plates and utensils. Preferred date is July 21 for the picnic.

**Dinners/Free Lunch:** Betty Craig reported that the new stove has been delivered. Thanks to Jim Heinrich for helping to install it and for dealing with the delivery people. She and representatives of our Free Lunch for All Program will go to the Deaconess society on May 15 to ask for the grant again. The lunches are going very well and we are feeding anywhere from 80-100.

**Fit Club:** Irene Joyce reported that Fit Club has had a slow start, but really plan to kick it in gear in May. They had to procure a new HDMI cord, because the one that had been attached to the DVD player was missing. They are going to see *La Traviata* at the Maltz Performing Arts Center on April 26.

**Minister’s Report:** Rev. Heidi reported that 5 baptisms are coming up (3 infant and 2 adult) within the next couple of weeks. Two Strongsville events that are coming are the Flags of Honor display and the Relay for Life, which will be advertised in our newsletter.

**Mission Outreach:** Judy Carte sent a report that Mission Outreach is exploring the possibility of a Fall project with North East Ohio Coalition for the Homeless.  Also working on a committee handbook (Bobbi Krisak).  Bev Wehr contacted the downtown office to get an update on the student we sponsor in India.  She is now currently in the 8th grade. Bev is awaiting an update on her future with the school.  Hope to have progress on these items by next month.

**Music Committee:** Ingrid Dickson sent a report that Easter was glorious! Our many thanks to the musicians who joined us and to the generous donor who helped provide funds for the guest musicians. Choir will not sing the Sunday after Easter, as is customary. Tom and Mike will come up with fun music for Holy Humor Sunday. Bells and Children's Choir will be the Music for Mother's Day. People would like "travelling music" during Penny Sunday while kids are collecting: some background instrumental, keyboards, fun or whatever....Love and Tranquility CD. Music Committee will sell and will be the main fundraiser since it looks as if we're not having a Spring Music Concert.

**Organ Preservation Committee:** Jim Heinrich reported that he met with Jim Leek to develop a 5 year plan for organ maintenance.

**Stewardship Committee:** Adria Bond reported 78 pledges totaling $134, 932.00. Sharon Heinrich emailed the Stewardship Committee members offering guidance and advice on the upcoming campaign.

**Sunday School/Christian Ed:** Kristen Clotworthy reported that the Easter egg hunt went well! Kids had fun all around. Sunday school is going swimmingly-only 5 more weeks of our regularly scheduled programming! Then it’s Summer Sunday school! We are working on the Curriculum for that. April Penny Sunday donations are going to Laura’s home. Linda Elkins has been working on a possible Adult Ed idea for the future. Nothing big, just a small class to start. We are still planning on sending out a survey to members in May- more on that later. March’s Penny Sunday collected $188.61 for UCC Disaster Ministries to help Midwest flood victims. Mother’s Day carnations have been ordered.

**Thrift Shop:** Lola Millhoane sent a report that The Thrift Shop is up and running after the change-over. Sharon Heinrich communicated with Pam Polansky and everything is going well and the shop is tidied up. Rosemary Bechtel and Maria Graeff had volunteered to open the Thrift Shop one Wednesday a month during the Free Lunch for All Program.

**Trustees:** Greg Dickson reported that the Pilgrim Hall ramp project between the gathering area and Pilgrim Hall: The city will grant us a variance provided we comply with the ADA rise over run slope requirement. While the church sign topic has been brought up during various meetings, the Trustees are currently not ready to make a decision on a permanent sign. Currently, we are using more legible sign inserts for events and seasonal messages. The church security camera presentation has been made to both the Trustees and Official Board. While we are not ready to make a final decision on that project, if we do proceed we would only need a few cameras at the prominent entrance points and possibly a camera to monitor the parking lot. The Pilgrim Hall Ramp and the Pilgrim Hall Restrooms are the focus on the current projects and bids are being sought. The church dishwasher will need servicing due to the alarm sounding during or after the cycle.

**Women's Fellowship:** Sharon Heinrich reported that they will meet Tuesday, May 7 for a brown bag lunch and presentation about birds. Collection for the Tote Bag Project is beginning and will continue through June 30.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Strongsville United Methodist will be using Pilgrim Hall for their Confirmation Breakfast on Sunday, May 5 from 10 a.m.

A donation of $100 has already been received. We will warn them about Westwood Road and parking in the Pomeroy lot.

Rachel and Dale Hawk are procuring an AED, which has Memorial money allotted, and will set up classes for people to learn how to use it. They will also get a Stop the Bleed kit for the church.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

The Strongsville Police Department is offering training sessions for Active Threat Response Options. There is no cost. Irene Joyce will contact them for more information.

Life Line Screening contacted the church about using our facility for a screening event in September. Since Life Line Screening is a for-profit company, the board declined to host the event at our church.

Irene Joyce and Rachel Zielinski got bids for kitchen mats and monthly service from Merchant Linen ($55 a month for low nap carpet style) and Cintas about ($60 a month for perforated rubber style). Greg Dickson mentioned that Endowment Fund money may be used for this expense because it is considered outreach through the Free Lunch for All Program. A decision will be made at the May meeting.

Irene Joyce made an email motion to reimburse Pastor Heidi up to $85 for the Easter Sign insert, seconded by Betty Craig and approved by email vote. Pastor Heidi then moved to allot up to $500 for more sign inserts and a name plate. Betty Craig seconded and this motion was approved.

Betty Craig motioned for adjournment at 8:01 p.m., seconded by Sharon Heinrich. Motion carried. The next regular meeting of the Official Board will be **Tuesday, May 28, 2019, at 7:00 p.m.**

Irene Joyce, Secretary