**Official Board Minutes**

United Church of Christ (Congregational)

**August 27, 2019**

Meeting was called to order by Moderator Rachel Zielinski at 7:05 p.m. Pastor Heidi led the group in prayer.

Present were:

Judy Carte

Betty Craig

Greg Dickson

Ingrid Dickson

Tom Gaumer

Sharon Heinrich

Sally Herzog

Irene Joyce

Pastor Heidi

Rachel Zielinski

Special guests: Oliver & Penny Zielinski

**Minutes of the 7/23/19 meeting** were approved in a motion by Betty Craig, seconded by Sally Herzog. Motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report as of 8/27/2019:**  Beginning balance:  $7,905.46.  Income:  $1.01 in Interest.  Expenses:  $134.87 for flowers, dirt and fertilizer for landscaping around the church.  **Ending balance: $7,771.60.** Irene Joyce moved to approve the report, seconded by Betty Craig. Motion carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Adult Social Club:** No report.

**Advertising/Technology Committee**: Sanyuka concert was advertised in the association newsletter and the *Strongsville Post.*

**Church Treasurer/Financial Secretary**: Adria Bond sent a report that the church made it through summer with no financial disasters!!!  She thanked the Music Committee for using the money from their savings to pay for the musicians this summer.

**Diaconate:** No report.

**Dinners/Free Lunch:** Betty Craig reported that the Free Lunch for All is doing ok. She made a motion to schedule the Turkey Dinner for November 9. Tom Gaumer seconded and the motion carried. Rachel Zielinski and Betty will be meeting to ascertain the jobs for the dinners which will need to be taken over by someone else.

**Fit Club:** Irene Joyce reported that they've been on hiatus in August, but should be back in action on September 11. Our next Opera at the Movies will be “Porgy & Bess” in October.

**Minister’s Report:** Pastor Heidi reported that a membership class will be held after worship on September 15, with new members welcomed on September 22. St. Joseph Catholic Church will host a Safety Forces Prayer Service on Tuesday, September 17 at 7 p.m. Pastor Heidi encourages everyone to attend. The Diaconate will meet at 6 p.m. that day.

**Mission Outreach:** Judy Carte reported that Mission Outreach Mission Outreach met on Sunday, August 25.  Bev Wehr presented information on Strongsville Methodist Church and their ongoing weekly "Blue Bus" program that serves the needy of Westside of Cleveland every Wednesday. Bobbie Krisak shared her idea for the veterans served by Church Street Ministry for Christmas.

**Music Committee:** Ingrid Dickson reported that summer music has been very well received, culminating with the ever popular Satori Winds last week. Chancel Choir practices resume this Thursday at 8p.m. Bell Choir practices start back up on September 12. We have a couple of new/returning members that have expressed interest in joining our ranks. Choir will be back in worship on Rally Day, September 8. Bells will play approximately once a month beginning in early October, preferably not on Communion Sundays. People are thrilled with the consistent addition of our Supplemental organist. Sanyuka concert is September 7. Children’s Choir resumes September 15, immediately following worship. Jazz Christmas Concert is December 13.

**Organ Preservation Committee:** No report.

**Stewardship Committee:** Sharon Heinrich will put together a guide and send it to all the committee members to jump start their work on the campaign, which will be coming up soon.

**Sunday School/Christian Ed:** Kristen Clotworthy sent a report that the August Penny Sunday collected $161.23 towards the upstairs rejuvenation project. The “Uppity Women of the Bible” Adult Bible Study begins on Wednesday, September 18 at 1 p.m. and will continue on Wednesdays for 7 weeks. They met on Sunday, August 25. Curriculum has been ordered. Classes are set and teachers are excited for Rally Day on September 8.  Plans for the upstairs renovation are in the works. We are currently setting the date for the clean out. This will take place prior to September 12th when the Bell choir starts.  The next step will be the painting party.  Their goal is to get it done by Thanksgiving at the latest. They will keep everyone posted.

**Thrift Shop:** Lola Millhoane sent a report that Thrift Shop has scheduled upcoming bag sales: August 22: $7, August 29: $7, Wednesday, September 4: $7, September 5: $6 Thrift Shop will be closed for fall changeover on September 12.

**Trustees:** Greg Dickson reported that the Board is looking for a way to honor Karen Morgan for her many years of service. It was decided to get a flowering pear tree to be planted on the church grounds in her honor. The ramp estimate is over $45,000. We will meet in September as a board to discuss further. The church exterior doors and Pastor's office will be re-keyed. Those receiving a new key will sign off on a numbered key and turn it in once they are no longer in need of a key. For instance, no longer serving or employed in a capacity where a key is needed. The church has not been rekeyed in over 40 years according to long time members.  The Royalton Rd. house is on the market for rent. Our realtor has presented a few promising  applications. The vetting process has begun and we should have new tenants in the near future. Minor maintenance and limited interior painting is being done as well. We contracted with Love's concrete to have the parking repaired and sealed. Cost will be absorbed though the Memorial Fund as part of the parking lot restoration project.

**Women's Fellowship:** Sharon Heinrich reported that tote bag items were counted, and needed items were purchased.  On Thursday evening, July 25, 60 tote bags were assembled by our youth—Clara Barry, Ben Clotworthy, Emma Clotworthy, Olivia Clotworthy, Alysha Rolland, Oliver Sekory, Tilly Sekorky—and adults—Rosemary Bechtel, Kristen Clotworthy, Dawn Rolland, Jen Sekorky, and Sharon Heinrich.  Thank you to all who contributed items and who assembled the bags!  With the help of Jen Sekorky, Sharon Heinrich delivered the tote bags to Strongsville Food Bank on Monday, July 29.  (Next year Jen Sekorky will handle the Tote Bags Project.)  Our thanks to Claire Wills for her wonderful program on her beautiful quilts on August 6.  Upcoming meetings and events:  Tuesday, September 3 – Cross Christmas Ornaments with Cheri Teagno.  Tuesday, October 1 – a craft with Linda Elkins.  Sunday, October 13 – Style Show (with the Thrift Shop) in Pilgrim Hall, after the Church Anniversary Potluck meal.  November 5 – Pet Sitting by Elaine Coffey, Election of Officers and Planning the Christmas Tea.  Sunday, December 1 – Christmas Tea at 1:30 p.m. in Pilgrim Hall.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Lifetouch Photo sessions are complete. Still gathering photos from a few more people and hope to submit everything by September 9. We have already submitted 13 photos of people who did not come to the photo sessions. We get 10 free, but subsequent submissions are $10 each. Irene Joyce made a motion to allot up to $100 for more photo submissions in the effort to make the book as complete as possible. Betty Craig seconded and the motion was approved. To purchase extra directories, the cost is $50 for every 15 extra books. Ingrid Dickson made a motion to spend $150 for 45 additional copies of the photo directory. Tom Gaumer seconded and the motion carried. Folks who do not receive a free copy of the directory may purchase one for $5.

Outdoor Worship on September 1. Bring a lawn chair. In case of rain, we will meet in Pilgrim Hall.

Sanyuka Children’s Chorus coming on September 7. Need volunteers for the concert and to set up/clean up the reception afterward.

We will owe a deposit of $1,271.38 in September for the Winter Retreat. Betty Craig moved to pay it and Sally Herzog seconded. Motion passed.

https://ssl.gstatic.com/ui/v1/icons/mail/images/cleardot.gif**NEW BUSINESS:**

Irene Joyce moved to reimburse Pastor Heidi $50 for two copies of the UCC Manual on Ministry. Sharon Heinrich seconded and the motion was approved.

Betty Craig made a motion to give the $3,000 that the board had allotted for the Operating Fund to the church’s savings account instead. Sharon Heinrich seconded and the motion carried.

Betty Craig motioned for adjournment at 8:10 p.m., seconded by Sally Herzog. Motion carried. The next regular meeting of the Official Board will be **Tuesday, September 24, 2019, at 7:00 p.m.**

Irene Joyce, Secretary