**Official Board Minutes**

United Church of Christ (Congregational)

**August 28, 2018**

Meeting was called to order by Vice-Moderator Bill Schneider at 7:09 p.m. Pastor Heidi led the group in prayer. Present were:

Jennifer Barry

Rosemary Bechtel

Ted Bickley

Adria Bond

Judy Carte

Kristen Clotworthy

Betty Craig

Jim Heinrich

Sharon Heinrich

Irene Joyce

Pastor Heidi

Bill Schneider

**Minutes of the 7/24/18 meeting were** approved in a motion by Betty Craig, seconded by Rosemary Bechtel. Motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report as of 7/24/2018**: Balance of $2,572.36. Disbursements: $50 for Elena Taylor’s farewell, $161.04 to Kathie Paul for outdoor plants.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Adult Social Club:** The club’s list of activities for the year includes Platters show and dinner at Carrie Cerrino’s and Jilbert Winery & Brewery in September, Ohio Mart & Stan Hywet in October, Country Christmas show in November, and Downtown Holiday Lights tour in December. Contact Linda Plain for reservations. Everyone had fun at the Botanical Gardens in August.

**Advertising/Technology Committee**: Tom Gaumer sent a report that the article about the Free Lunch for All program in the *Strongsville Post* was published and there is one coming up about Pastor Heidi’s new status as regular pastor.

**Diaconate:** Jennifer Barry reported that the bread for communion will be pre-cut and offered to each person. The Diaconate will provide a cake for Rally Day. Volunteers are really needed for serving Communion, ushering, and coffee hour.

**Dinners/Free Lunch:** Betty Craig reported that Dinners continue to be on hiatus until November. Free Lunch for All is doing well. A $1,000 donation was received from John and Joyce Glasgow in memory of their daughter, who had attended the program. Betty collected $150.06 attending the parking lot at the Strongsville Homecoming.

**Fit Club:** Irene Joyce reported that Fit Club will help with setting up the Garage Sale on September 5th.

**Church Treasurer/Financial Secretary**: Adria Bond distributed the financial reports. We had a better summer than expected, utilizing only the $3,000 from Official Board to supplement income. 2nd quarter giving statements went out at the end of July.

**Mission Outreach:** Judy Carte reported that they are doing a Veteran’s project collecting items and donations in October with a goal of 100 bags. Each bag costs about $9.50 and contains toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, shaving cream, razor, shampoo/body wash, 2 prs. of white socks, and a bath sponge in a drawstring bag. Dedication would be on Veteran’s Day.

**Music Committee:** Ingrid Dickson sent a report thanking everyone who helped with Elena Taylor’s farewell party. Tom Foley has begun as Director of Music and Mike Elkins has a new role, Associate Director of Music. Sharon Heinrich is willing to accompany and play the organ as needed. Bell Choir rehearsals begin September 20th and Chancel Choir will move to 7:30 p.m. then. The band rehearsals will be on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Children’s Choir will start on September 16th right after worship. Two new robes were donated. Two “Fake Books” and some Christmas music were purchased. Several new people have joined the music ministry.

**Organ Restoration Committee:** Jim Heinrich reported that Leek Organ Company is on target to complete work by mid-September. The Organ Festival and rededication is planned for October 14th at 3 p.m.

**Pulpit Search Committee:** Sally Herzog sent a report this committee will be disbanded now that Pastor Heidi has been voted in as our settled pastor by the congregation.

**Stewardship Committee:** Sharon Heinrich reported that this committee is meeting weekly to plan the fall campaign, which will start October 21st and conclude with dedication of pledges on November 11th.

**Sunday School:** Irene Joyce thanked everyone taught Summer Sunday School and Kelly Bickley for putting the lessons together. Donations will be needed for the Bake Sale at the Garage Sale on September 8th. Rally Day is September 9th. Teachers are Lora Rung, Jamie Trinckes (assisted by Dan Davis), Linda Elkins, Kristen Clotworthy, and Irene Joyce. Substitutes are Suzi Foley and Kelly Bickley. Jim & Irene Joyce will serve as treasurer/financial secretary. August Penny Sunday collected $174.09, which will go to the Sunday School programs. ($56.55 in pennies was donated by Sharon Wilson.) Pastor Heidi and Chuck picked up the curriculum—thank you! Postcards were mailed to Sunday School families.

**Thrift Shop:** Lola Millhoane sent a report that the Thrift Shop is having bag sales and will be open during the Garage Sale. She is taking a leave of absence due to health concerns, but will continue to do the banking with the welcome return of Karen Morgan. Rosemary Bechtel reported that they will try to open the 2nd Wednesday of each month during Free Lunch for All. The Thrift Shop will be looking at revamping the floor. Rosemary also mentioned having all church accounts at one bank for more leverage when dealing with fees.

**Trustees:** Greg Dickson sent a report that Church Windows financial software annual update purchased for $430.00

Royalton Road tax increase proposal from $103,800 to $121,900. Greg will challenge proposal through older photos and recent painting  contractor bids. Pearl Road property remained unchanged. Contacted landscapers to handle Royalton Road trimming and weeding. Also contacting Lola's neighbor who needs community service hours for various projects.Endowment Fund experienced minor loss for the 2nd quarter -$338.00. Total balance $299,985.00. Memorial Fund Balance $1366.00. $1000.00 held for future defibrillator. Pilgrim Hall step and railing repair bids still being examined. Front church doors will be replaced with similar brand new doors. Parking lot entrance doors, wooden pillars and Thrift Shop doors to be painted. Total project cost up to $4750.00. Church tent donated! Shed to be cleaned out before nativity scene placed back inside. Recovery groups will be contacted about attendees smoking near entrance doors. Jim Heinrich reported that the sanctuary doors are to be replaced and the men’s room needs attention. Also, the air conditioner in the sanctuary needs a new motor at a cost of about $1,040.

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**Women's Fellowship:** Rosemary Bechtel reported that the ladies have been on hiatus for summer and should start meeting up in the fall. They are thinking of ways to increase attendance.

**Minister’s Report:** Pastor Heidi reported that she received a request from the Strongsville Ministerial Alliance to support a community emergency lodging program, administered by the Strongsville Police Department, from St. Joseph Catholic Church. Also, she received a message about ways to support a visit from the Cornerstone Brass and Chorale from The United Methodist Church. Pastor Heidi will conduct a membership class on September 23rd and take in new members on October 7th.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Rachel Zielinski and Sharon Heinrich are still working on the pictorial kitchen guide and cupboard labeling.

Thanks again to parade organizers and participants. A donation of $500 was received from Solar Windows & More. Thanks also to everyone who helped weed and clean up the Outdoor Worship area, especially Sue and Bob Gross who weed weekly.

The Garage Sale will be on September 8th. Huge thanks to the Clotworthy kids for helping bring a mountain of merchandise down from upstairs. Help will be needed for set-up, during the sale, and for clean-up. Judy Carte volunteered to contact VOA for pick-up of leftover items. Please plan to volunteer.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Betty Craig moved to donate $150 per year to support the Strongsville Ministerial Alliance outreach providing temporary lodging through the Strongsville Police Department. Judy Carte seconded and the motion carried.

Bill Schneider asked about the marble slabs from the window sills that are in the Parlor. Sharon Heinrich will contact people to see if they are interested in them.

Church member Austin Eggert is donating a pick-up truckload of seasoned firewood—delivered--toward the Garage Sale. Kristen Clotworthy expressed interest in purchasing the wood.

Sally Herzog had sent our church’s Child Protection Policy. Kristen Clotworthy will assemble an ad hoc team to make sure everything and everyone is up to date.

Details for the mosque visit on September 6th were discussed and will be disseminated.

Irene Joyce reminded everyone to use smile.amazon.com when making purchases online. Select United Church of Christ, Strongsville, Ohio as your charity and proceed with your shopping. Adria Bond is setting up the payment account.

Betty Craig motioned for adjournment at 8:24 p.m., seconded by Judy Carte. Motion carried. The next regular meeting of the Official Board will be **Tuesday, September 25, 2018, at 7:00 p.m.**

Irene Joyce, Secretary