**Official Board Minutes**

United Church of Christ (Congregational)

**February 26, 2019**

Meeting was called to order by Vice- Moderator Rob Toth at 7:10 p.m. Pastor Heidi led the group in prayer. Present were:

Jennifer Barry

Adria Bond

Eddy Bond

Betty Craig

Greg Dickson

Tom Gaumer

Dale Hawk

Sally Herzog

Irene Joyce

Rev. Heidi

Rob Toth

Rachel Zielinski

**Minutes of the 1/22/19 meeting** wereapproved in a motion by Betty Craig, seconded by Sally Herzog. Motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report as of 2/26/19: Beginning balance** $4,966.86.  **Income**:  Interest $2.26; Retreat Deposits $3,795.00. **Expenses**: Spring Mist Farm deposit for animals for 2019 live nativity $100.00; “Canceled” banner sign for outdoor sign $142.00; Retreat $4,539.10; Annual Meeting breakfast food $104.88.  **Ending balance $3,878.14.**

From now on for everyone’s convenience, the Official Board checkbook will be stored at the church. Irene Joyce moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report, seconded by Betty Craig. Motion carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Adult Social Club:** No report. They are on hiatus until spring.

**Advertising/Technology Committee**: Tom Gaumer reported that Easter advertising will come up at next month’s meeting.

**Church Treasurer/Financial Secretary**: Sally Herzog/Adria Bond reported that we received the $100 from Diaconate for their share of the calendars for the Open House.  The church is about $1,300 behind last year’s offerings at the same time. The cancelled Sunday service may have contributed to the difference. We have a balance of $432.10 in the savings account for the Open House which we will be writing a check for to the Official Board. 5 people now use electronic giving.

**Diaconate:** Jennifer Barry reported the Diaconate change in leadership: Chairperson:  Jennifer Barry, Vice Chair:   Sarah Hayes, Treasurer:  Cathy Hawk, Secretary:  Dawn Rolland. The paid the last $100 for the Open House Calendars.  Wing Night May 3rd.  Will have Irene start putting a "Save the Date" and basket donation in the bulletin. Discussed Lent and the Ash Wednesday Service on March 6th. Much of our last meeting was spent going over Ray Suttle's funeral meal.  It was the first one we had to take on without the aid of Ginny.  Barb Camp headed that up and I truly appreciated EVERYONE stepping up to make it nice for his family. Welcome new Diaconate members Eddy Bond, Linda Ponstingle, and Nicole Rachid.

**Dinners/Free Lunch:** Betty Craig reported that the Swiss Steak dinner is Saturday help is needed for both days Friday and Saturday. Free lunch for all is doing well. The mats in the kitchen must be discussed as many have almost tripped or fallen on them. Gwen and Sal Salvatore are coming to do a quarterly cleaning on March 9, and Irene Joyce will ask them for mat recommendations. The Roast Pork Dinner will not be rescheduled this year. Betty told the Board that she can no longer do all the tasks she had done for the dinners. After the Swiss Steak, she and Rachel Zielinski will discuss alternatives.

**Fit Club:** Irene Joyce reported that they have been on hiatus because of their members' travels and medical adventures. They hope to start back full swing in the spring. They did have a large group seeing *Carmen* in February.

**Minister’s Report:** Rev. Heidi reported that Lenten calendars were purchased for the kids. Two funerals were conducted (Margot James and Ray Suttle) with another upcoming (Donald Dickinson). The Lenten Study, *Interfaith: Being Love in the World,* begins March 10. 22 people are already signed up.

**Mission Outreach:** Judy Carte sent a report that they continue to handle their committee obligations per usual.  No new activities.

**Music Committee:** Ingrid Dickson sent a report that Sharon Heinrich did a beautiful job with the music for the two memorial services this past weekend. Many thanks! Ash Wednesday Music needs to be decided. Tom will plan with Mike and Pastor Heidi at Worship Team meeting this Sunday. Lenten Music is being planned. The Chancel Choir will again participate in the "Song of the Shadows" Cantata combined with Columbia UMC on Good Friday. Some Bell supplies are needed, for example, new rouge polishing cloths and bell polish. We are discussing the possibility of moving Thursday rehearsal times back to the previous schedule of 7pm and 8pm, for Bells and Chancel, respectively.

**Organ Preservation Committee:** No report.

**Stewardship Committee:** Adria Bond reported that 75 pledges totaling $128,232.00, which is one more pledge than last year.

**Sunday School/Christian Ed:** Kristen Clotworthy sent a report that donations for penny Sunday went to St. Herman’s House of Hospitality, a resource for the homeless in Cleveland. The Christian Ed Committee is going to meet March 3rd to discuss plans for the end of this year and start planning for next year.  We are very excited to have new members on the Committee.

**Thrift Shop:** Lola Millhoane sent a report that the Thrift Shop is doing well. Thanks to Pam Polansky for coming in extra to straighten up. Thrift Shop would like to pay for refurbishing the Pilgrim Hall restrooms, but did not specify a budget or plan.

**Trustees:** Greg Dickson reported that newly elected members were welcomed: Trustees Bill Giuliano, Sandy Pogozelski, Linda Stepan, Rob Stepan and Treasurer Sally Herzog. Pilgrim Hall ramp project still being researched. Pastor Heidi may contact a sign maker to use temporary inserts until a permanent sign solution can be found. Church phone system options being researched. Phone system could use updating. Church computer system may be upgraded through a gift from Linda and Rob Stepan. He also mentioned finding a better surface for the grassy area outside the kitchen door.

**Women's Fellowship:** No report.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Agnes Makau's suitcases have been picked up. Huzzah!

**Retreat**— February 15-17 at Templed Hills. 73 total with 17 new attendees this year. Already booked February 14-16, 2020.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Betty Craig made a motion to add Irene Joyce as signer on the Official Board account, in addition to the two existing signers of Betty Craig and Sharon Heinrich (Official Board Treasurer). Jen Barry seconded and the motion carried.

A photography group would like to rent Pilgrim Hall the 3rd Monday of every month and pay for us to provide a meal for them. Because the 3rd Monday of the month is the Drug Induced Chaos meeting time, the Board declined this group. Also, no one wanted to prepare food for an outside group every month.

Papa John's of Strongsville would like to donate pizza for one of our Free Lunches. We just have to choose a date, possibly late March.

Dick Colmery says that our church should install a CCTV system. He estimates the cost from $100 to $2,000. Dale Hawk will speak with Dick and Doug Thorn to find out more information.

Rev. Nayiri Karjian, our Association Minister, visited and toured the church and was very impressed with the welcoming facility and atmosphere, as well as our various programs. She was not impressed with our outdoor sign; Pastor Heidi has a sign shop person who will look for a solution in the spring. Rev. Karjian is going to visit the Free Lunch for All on March 20.

Eddy Bond would like to expand the Diaconate’s Membership Committee and will seek out people willing to serve.

Irene Joyce moved to allot up to $200 for the Easter Breakfast, seconded by Betty Craig. Motion was approved. Dale Hawk is taking charge of the breakfast.

Greg Dickson mentioned that the intersection of Royalton and Pearl Roads will be getting new traffic signals, an $800,000 project which will continue throughout the summer.

Dates for the 2019-20 calendar were discussed and set. Please inform the secretary of changes.

Betty Craig motioned for adjournment at 8:19p.m., seconded by Rob Toth. Motion carried. The next regular meeting of the Official Board will be **Tuesday, March 26, 2019, at 7:00 p.m.**  **.**

Irene Joyce, Secretary