**Official Board Minutes**

United Church of Christ (Congregational)

**June 26, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Rachel Zielinski at 7:07 p.m. Rev. Heidi Denman-McDougall led the group in prayer. Present were:

Jennifer Barry

Ted Bickley

Adria Bond

Eddy Bond

Betty Craig

Greg Dickson

Ingrid Dickson

Jim Heinrich

Sharon Heinrich

Sally Herzog

Irene Joyce

Lori Kovatich

Rev. Heidi

Bill Schneider

Rachel Zielinski

(Special Guests: Penny and Oliver Zielinski)

**Minutes of the 5/22/18 meeting were** approved in a motion by Betty Craig, seconded by Sally Herzog. Motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report as of 6/26/2018**: Balance: $2,782.88. Income: $ .49 for April and May interest. Expenditures: $76.50 for retirement gift; $3,000 to the church’s Operating Fund. Irene Joyce moved to approve the treasurer’s report. Betty Craig seconded. Motion carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Adult Social Club:** The club’s list of activities for the year includes the Picnic in July, Botanical Gardens in August, Dinner & show at Carrie Cerrinos 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.

**Advertising/Technology Committee**: Tom Gaumer is in Wyoming.

**Diaconate:** Jennifer Barry reported that Diaconate provided cake for Confirmation, Music Appreciation, and Graduation and will provide cake for Sharon’s celebration July 15th and Elena’s farewell on August 19th. Two members were removed from the rolls. Outdoor Worship and Church Picnic will be July 22nd. Linda Plain is the point person. They are securing pulpit supply for the two Sundays that Pastor Heidi is away—July 29th and August 5th.

**Dinners/Free Lunch:** Betty Craig reported that Dinners continue to be on hiatus. Free Lunch for All is doing good and received the $5,000 check from the Deaconess Foundation. Young people from the church have been helping out. Betty collected $65 for parking at the Strongsville Rib Cook-Off. That money will go to the Free Lunch for All program. She plans to attend the parking lot during the Strongsville Homecoming, too.

**Fit Club:** Irene Joyce reported that Fit Club will not meet on the 4th of July. Everyone is welcome to exercise with us.

**Church Treasurer/Financial Secretary**: Lori Kovatich and Adria Bond reported that currently the bills are paid, but the large quarterly expenses in June have left a deficit, even with the $3,000 from Official Board. The Trustees approved borrowing funds from savings to cover the pension, tax, insurance, and other bills. Second quarter giving statements will go out in July.

**Mission Outreach:** No report.

**Music Committee:** Ingrid Dickson reported that music recognitions took place the first two Sundays in June. Elena and Tim Taylor have both found jobs in New Jersey and her farewell has been moved to August 19th, on which day the choir would like to sing for her. The candidate for Director of Music, Tom Foley, has met with Rev. Heidi and the Trustees have accepted the Music Committee’s recommendation to hire him. He will begin playing with the band during the summer and Choir rehearsal will begin August 23rd with Bell Choir starting in September. Band will continue to rehearse on Wednesdays and Children’s Choir will immediately follow Sunday School classes on Sundays. The Music Committee will be meeting with Mike Elkins to discuss his expanded role and compensation requirements for the fall.

**Organ Restoration Committee:** The final phase of restoration began June 19th with an estimated completion date of early September. They will plan an organ festival to celebrate the completion of this major project.

**Pulpit Search Committee:** Sally Herzog reported that the Pulpit Search Committee has unanimously chosen to call Reverend Heidi Denman McDougall as our settled minister. A Meet & Greet is scheduled for Saturday, August 11th prior to the Congregational Meeting to vote on her call immediately following the worship service on August 12th.

**Stewardship Committee:** Sharon Heinrich reported that the committee is discussing Stewardship “Points to Ponder” and may use buckets as a visual aid for the different causes in the church.

**Sunday School:** Irene Joyce reported that the May Penny Sunday collection brought in $111.56 and the June collection brought in $139.72 for Sunday School programs and scholarships. Scholarships were awarded to Gina Gigliotti, Jenna Miller, and Lisa Pogozelski. Volunteers are still needed to teach Summer Sunday School. Thanks to Kelly Bickley for putting together the “Fruit of the Spirit” lessons. Kristen Clotworthy has expressed an interest in being appointed as co-superintendent.

**Thrift Shop:** The Thrift Shop is now back to accepting any donations of items, as long as they are not left on the steps.

**Trustees:** Greg Dickson reported that the Trustees have voted to hire Tom Foley as Music Director per the Music Committee’s recommendation. Irene Joyce and Olivia Clotworthy have started their respective positions. Projected income year to date through July is predicted to be 87% of last year. The Endowment Fund approved using $1,000 of earnings for underground storm/gutter line camera scoping. Sandy Gleichauf has scheduled Interior Finishes to inspect the steps going into Pilgrim Hall. A painter has been selected to paint the exterior and some interior space at the Royalton Road house, at a cost of $3,855, to be paid by the Royalton Road property fund. June 30th clean-up of that property has been moved to 7 a.m. to avoid the heat of midday. Replacement blinds for the windows at the rear of the sanctuary are still being researched.

**Women's Fellowship:** 60 tote bags for the Strongsville Food Bank are ready to be filled.

**Minister’s Report:** Rev. Heidi reported that Ella Rose Hayes will be baptized on July 1st in a “Service of Sacraments” with Communion also. She is planning to have a membership class in early fall since several people have expressed an interest in joining the church.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

The Church Picnic will be on July 22nd at Volunteer Park and the Adult Social Club will coordinate. The worship will begin at 10:30 a.m.

Rachel Zielinski and Sharon Heinrich will begin working on the pictorial kitchen guide and cupboard labeling soon.

Kristen Clotworthy and Sarah Hayes are the point persons on our float in the Strongsville Homecoming Parade, scheduled for July 25th. Rachel Zielinski has the trailer. The congregation will be asked to donate non-chocolate candy.

Sharon Heinrich’s retirement celebration is scheduled for July 15th.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Eddy Bond brought up planning an interfaith “Field Trip,” visiting a mosque on West 130th Street. The Board was receptive to the idea and Eddy will go forward with making plans.

The kitchen is in need of new mats. The Trustees received a bid and will approach the Thrift Shop about funding this need.

Irene Joyce moved to allot up to $100 for refreshments for Heidi and Chuck’s Meet & Greet on August 11th. Sharon Heinrich seconded and the motion was approved.

Betty Craig motioned for adjournment at 7:59 p.m., seconded by Adria Bond. Motion carried. The next regular meeting of the Official Board will be **Tuesday, July 24, 2018, at 7:00 p.m.**

Irene Joyce, Secretary