**Official Board Minutes**

United Church of Christ (Congregational)

**May 28, 2019**

Meeting was called to order by Moderator Rachel Zielinski at 7:02 p.m. Pastor Heidi led the group in prayer.

Present were:

Jennifer Barry

Adria Bond

Judy Carte

Kristen Clotworthy

Betty Craig

Greg Dickson

Ingrid Dickson

Sally Herzog

Irene Joyce

Rev. Heidi

Rachel Zielinski

**Minutes of the 4/23/19 meeting** were approved in a motion by Jen Barry, seconded by Betty Craig. Motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report as of 5/28/2019:**  **Beginning balance** $6,249.99.  **Income:** Interest of 4/20/19 – $0.80 and Interest of 5/20/19 – $0.76.  **Expenses:** Easter sign insert for outdoor church sign - $85.78.  **Ending balance** $6,165.77.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Adult Social Club:** No report.

**Advertising/Technology Committee**: Tom Gaumer was out of town at the time of the meeting.

**Church Treasurer/Financial Secretary**: Sally Herzog/Adria Bond reported that we currently have $7,571.39 in the checking account.  We need to repay the savings account about $6,500.

**Diaconate:** Jennifer Barry reported that Wing Night earned $3,790.00.  Church Picnic will be July 28.  Diaconate will once again purchase the hot dogs, paper plates and utensils. They will provide cake on Graduate Recognition Sunday June 9. They discussed ways of making the volunteer jobs, such as serving communion or coffee hour less intimidating by having training sessions.

**Dinners/Free Lunch:** Betty Craig reported We are waiting to hear from the Deaconess grant. All is going well with Free Lunch for All. The shut-off knob for the gas on the stove has been removed to prevent accidental shut off.

**Fit Club:** Irene Joyce reported that Fit Club invites more participants to join us for exercise and/or opera. As a bonus, we went to see the band X at the Kent Stage on May 22. We will see *Romeo et Juliet* on June 19 at Strongsville Cinemark. Also, we are planning work at Garage Sale set up on June 26.

**Minister’s Report:** Rev. Heidi reported that this past week, we hosted a wedding, a baptism, and a funeral. A new member class will be on June 16, with reception of 2 new members on June 23. She will be participating in the Ohio Flags of Honor opening ceremony. On June 9, Allison Sieving will be baptized. The Bomba Sock Company is donating 1,000 pair of socks for us to use in our outreach programs.

**Mission Outreach:** Judy Carte reported that Mission Outreach continues creating our very own Committee Handbook.  Also awaiting a summer meeting with the Strongsville Ministerial Group to discuss a possible fall project for North East Ohio Coalition for the Homeless. Separately, it would be timely to discuss the handling of the Panera Bread project by training more helpers to bag the products. Strengthen the Church Offering in June.

**Music Committee:** Ingrid Dickson reported that Tom Foley is welcomed back from his stint in the hospital, many thanks to our talented musicians (and guests) who stepped in. Bell Choir and Children's Choir are on hiatus for the season and will return in September. Chancel Choir will sing through the second Sunday in June. Summer Music is being planned. Sales of the Love and Tranquility CD will continue only through the church office after next Sunday. Thanks again to Ken and Mike for this beautiful creation! Almost $800 has been collected; so approximately $600 in profit has been realized so far. (Exact numbers will be forthcoming and ready for the June meeting.) The Music Room needs to be cleaned out once again, and music filed after the season.  Also we need to make sure any new music is added to the data base. (Pam Keenen) Ingrid Dickson cleaned up the Bell Practice area upstairs and filed all the Bell music.

**Organ Preservation Committee:** Jim Heinrich sent a report that Leek Organ Company adjusted the manuals for less sensitive touch.

**Stewardship Committee:** Adria Bond reported the tally remains 78 pledges totaling $134, 932.00.

**Sunday School/Christian Ed:** Kristen Clotworthy reported that May’s Penny Sunday of $129.84 went to the Women’s Fellowship Tote Bag Project. Summer Sunday School starts June 2 and volunteers are needed. They will once again host a Bake Sale at the Garage Sale. Linda Elkins and Serena Abruzzino would like to refurbish their classrooms. The Sunday School will have little gifts for the men on Father’s Day. A pre-school class is planned for next fall.

**Thrift Shop:** Lola Millhoane sent a report that The Thrift Shop doing well and they plan to open for the Garage Sale.

**Trustees:** Greg Dickson reported that the Endowment Fund Total is $305,610.58 with $4,668 in gains available. Memorial Fund Total is $1,547.72. Recent Memorials are in memory of Betty Babics, Ray Suttle, Margot James, Ken Morris, and Doris Soucie.  The committee voted to assist with the free lunch kitchen needs with exact amount pending. An architect has been chosen for the Pilgrim Hall ramp project. Receiving bids for church gutter cleaning and repair for both the church and Royalton Rd. property. Eddy Bond solicited sign companies for costs of new church signs.  Bids are in the cost range of $11,000-$13,000 within the existing brick framework.  We are currently using sign inserts. Richard Colmery submitted an updated proposal for eight security cameras around the entrances. Trustees have not reviewed this new proposal yet. We are still determining the church needs. Emma Clotworthy may be interested in taking over the custodian duties when Olivia leaves for college in the fall. The vacant lot has some very soggy and muddy areas from all of the rain. Please be careful if you chose to park there.

**Women's Fellowship:** Sharon Heinrich sent a report that collection of tote bag supplies continues until June 30, and Betty Craig has sewn the bags.  Future meetings and programs:  June 4 – Strongsville Police Department on Scams and Safety, sometime in July – Rosemary Bechtel and Jen Sekorky will coordinate the assembling of tote bags and will see that they are taken to Strongsville Food Bank for distribution, July 2 – Picnic, August 6 – Quilts with Claire, September 3 – Cross Christmas Ornaments with Cheri, October 1 – decorate pumpkins, November 5 – Election of Officers and plan the Christmas Tea, December 3 – Ladies' Christmas Tea, possibly at Miss Hickory’s Tea Room in Strongsville.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Kitchen mat service with Merchant Linen has been ordered and will begin on June 6 and continue every 4 weeks on Thursdays. The Endowment Fund will make a donation to the Free Lunch for All Program to offset the monthly cost ($46).

Life Touch has been contacted about doing a pictorial directory, with photos being taken after Labor Day. There is no cost to the church. Betty Craig voted to approve this project, seconded by Kristen Clotworthy. Motion carried

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:**

Irene Joyce's email motion to allot $250 (an increase from the previously approved $200) to Kathie Paul for outdoor flowers, seconded by Betty Craig was approved by email vote.

Irene Joyce’s motion to move the Garage Sale to June 29, seconded by Betty Craig was approved by email vote. **The Garage Sale will need helpers!** Donations will be accepted starting June 2. Ingrid Dickson volunteered to chair this fundraiser.

Strongsville Homecoming Parade is Wednesday, July 17 at 6:30 p.m. Irene Joyce moved to allot up to $200 for candy and supplies. Jen Barry seconded and the motion carried. Rachel will check with Sarah Hayes about forming an ad hoc committee. The theme is Hometown Pride this year.

Rachel Zielinski and Betty Craig plan to collect donations from folks parking in our lot at the Rib Burn-Off and the Strongsville Homecoming. Other groups are welcome to come and collect as a benefit to their organizations.

Church Picnic is July 28 at Volunteer Park in Strongsville.

Betty Craig motioned for adjournment at 8:31 p.m., seconded by Greg Dickson. Motion carried. The next regular meeting of the Official Board will be **Tuesday, June 25, 2019, at 7:00 p.m.**

Irene Joyce, Secretary