**Official Board Minutes**

United Church of Christ (Congregational)

**August 23, 2016**

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Sally Herzog at 7:00 p.m. Pastor Becky led the group in prayer.

Present were:

Denise Bell Madison Bell Ted Bickley Betty Craig Barb Fraunfelder

Jim Heinrich Sharon Heinrich Sally Herzog Irene Joyce Lori Kovatich

Lola Millhoane Kenn Oerkfitz Linda Plain Jack Stephenson Rev. R. Stephenson

Claire Wills Rachel Zielinski

**Minutes of the 6/28/16 meeting** were approved with a motion by Betty Craig seconded by Linda Plain. Motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report as of 8/23/16**: Balance of $6,111.36. (Adjustment of $ .60) Income: $ .48 for June & July interest. $271.68 from parking donations; $1,768.20 from Women’s Retreat payments. Disbursements: $50.00 for picnic prizes; $159.89 for picnic weenies; $500 for tent revival donation; $1,000 to the Operating Fund; and $62.93 for Parade float supplies. Irene Joyce moved to accept the treasurer’s report, seconded by Betty Craig. Motion carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Advertising Committee**: Jack Stephenson reported that a small classified ad for Family Fun Day will go in the *Strongsville Post*, along with Facebook ads and websites. The banner has been updated. The usual ads for the Open House and for Advent/Christmas worship will be placed. The committee will be creating the copy at their next meetings.

**Christian Education Committee/KFC**: Sharon Heinrich reported that this committee will meet August 30th to finalize plans for Family Fun Day and Rally Day. Kelly Bickley submitted a detailed list of possible activities and projects, which will be discussed at their meeting.

**Church Treasurer/Financial Secretary**: Lori Kovatich and Barb Fraunfelder distributed detailed financial reports and answered questions. Kenn Oerkfitz reported bills are current and income is expected to increase as the summer concludes. The Tent Revival brought in $3,801.98 in donations with $1,929.84 in expenses. $1,872.14 goes to Laura’s Home.

**Dinners:** Betty Craig reported that dinners are on hiatus until the Turkey Dinner on November 5th. A date was set to clean the kitchen on Saturday, September 24th at 9 a.m. A sign-up sheet will be available.

**Diaconate:** Denise Bell reported that the Diaconate will resume meeting in September. Thank you to those who helped with Betty Kircher’s memorial service.

**Mission Outreach:** Reminder: Penny Sundays will continue to be held on the last Sunday of each month.

**Music Committee:** This committee will meet August 25th to determine a course of action following Joshua Konow’s departure. Bell Choir and Chancel Choir rehearsals will resume on September 1st. More singers and ringers are welcome.

**Organ Restoration Committee**: The next Pancake Breakfast will be October 23rd.

**Strategic Planning:** No report.

**Stewardship Committee:** Linda Plain mentioned that this committee will be meeting soon.

**Sunday School:** Irene Joyce reported that the Sunday School will be paying for the bounce house for Family Fun Day and will sponsor a Box Lunch Auction on Rally Day, September 11th to raise money for Sunday School/KFC programs. Students will sit together for Rally Day and be introduced by their teachers. We will have a Confirmation Class this year. Thanks to those who taught in the summer.

**Thrift Shop:** Lola Millhoane reported that bag sales will be coming in September to make room for fall merchandise.

**Trustees**: Rachel Zielinski reported that they are working on getting the Pearl Road property ready to rent and the windows need to be replaced. They are also getting a third bid for the handicap restroom project. One of the fans in the sanctuary is in need of repair; please do not turn on the fans. Another clean-up day will take place in the fall. The Trustees are looking for landscaping/snowplowing bids for the coming year.

**Women's Fellowship:** Claire Wills reported that they will be meeting on Friday, September 9th and then the 1st Friday of each subsequent month. All ladies are encouraged to attend and participate in their programs.

**Minister’s Report:** Pastor Becky announced her intended retirement date of December 31, 2017. She will begin a new Journey in Faith class on September 8th. On September 29th, she will participate in an ecumenical service for safety forces at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church. She is starting a 5 week New Testament Bible Study on Tuesdays at noon, beginning September 27th. The Free Lunch Program received a $5,000 grant from the Deaconess Foundation and has donated $300 to Zion U.C.C. in exchange for kitchen equipment, a portable steam table, and a warming cabinet. Pastor Becky has some travel plans in the coming year, including a trip to the Holy Land and a re-do of her European cruise.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Cookbooks have been ordered and they will be accepting pre-sales at $12 each to defray the initial printing costs. Thanks to Joyce Reed, Dianne Maringer, Marty Winch and their team for all of their work and getting us the lowest price on the books. Photo taking for the Pictorial Directory continues. The 200th Anniversary team will meet August 27th.

Thank you to Claire Wills, Betty Craig, and Barb Fraunfelder who collected $271.68 in parking lot donations. Irene Joyce moved to allot $134.96 more to Rachel Zielinski for parade expenses. Betty Craig seconded. Motion carried.

The monies raised for an Associate Pastor for Youth and Families is currently $4,493.00.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Kim McKenzie has abruptly resigned and Moderator and plans to look for another church. Sincere thanks to Vice-Moderator Sally Herzog for stepping into that position. A new Vice-Moderator is needed; please contact Sally with suggestions for filling that position.

Rachel Zielinski agreed to help coordinate the Open House along with the 200th Anniversary Committee. The animals have already been reserved.

The Pulpit Search procedure will be discussed by the Executive Team and initiated prior to Pastor Becky’s departure. In the past, this process has taken over a year.

Irene Joyce moved to send $659.40 to the Ohio Conference for the Winter Retreat Deposit. Betty Craig seconded and the motion was approved. Sally Herzog will mail the check and paperwork.

An Adult Social Group has been formed and has started their activities. A bowling club at Fairview Lanes on Tuesdays at noon will begin September 6th, but ladies are welcome to join any time after.

Betty Craig motioned for adjournment at 8:20 p.m., seconded by Jack Stephenson. Motion carried. The next regular meeting of the Official Board will be Tuesday, September 27, 2016 at 7 p.m.

Irene Joyce, Secretary