**Official Board Minutes**

United Church of Christ (Congregational)

**December 27, 2016**

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Sally Herzog at 7:05 p.m. Kenn Oerkfitz led the group in prayer.

Present were:

Ted Bickley Adria Bond Jim Heinrich Sharon Heinrich Sally Herzog

Irene Joyce Lori Kovatich Kenn Oerkfitz Cheryl Sobek

**Minutes of the 11/29/16 meeting** were approved with a correction: $200.*60* to the Wednesday Lunch program from Turkey Dinner profits. Motion was by Cheryl Sobek, seconded by Kenn Oerkfitz. Motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report as of 12/27/16**: Balance of $2,236.86. Income: $84 in cookbook sales; $72 from Turkey Dinner; $195 in donations for Live Nativity. Disbursements: $200.60 for Wednesday Lunch program from Turkey Dinner profits; $108.29 for plants. Irene Joyce moved to approve the Treasurer’s Report, seconded by Sharon Heinrich. Motion carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Advertising/Technology Committee**: No Report

**Christian Education Committee/KFC**: Sharon Heinrich reported that the Pageant and Potluck went well. Penny Sunday money will be given to the Strongsville Food Bank via Claudia Bader, Mission Outreach’s treasurer.

**Church Treasurer/Financial Secretary**: Lori Kovatich distributed detailed financial reports, which include new lines for sub-funds for the various committees. She is working on completing all 2016 postings and final giving statements. Kenn Oerkfitz reported that all bills have been paid and we are in good shape for January. The “$3 Project” monies collected so far amount to $3,828.17. Kenn is looking into paying the church employees bi-monthly rather than monthly. Adria Bond has expressed an interest in serving as Financial Secretary and is beginning to work with Lori and Barb Fraunfelder. $757 was raised for the retired clergy offering.

**Dinners:** Betty Craig sent a report that the Swiss Steak Dinner is February 4th. Volunteers on the day of the dinner are needed, but more help is needed for food preparation/set-up on the day before. Betty has gotten information on GFS Go Points and she hopes to explain the program at the next meeting.

**Diaconate:** Cheryl Sobek reported that the Diaconate is still researching new altar cloths. She also mentioned starting to plan Pastor Becky’s retirement celebration. Advent and Christmas services were well attended and very well received. Wing Night is being planned for May.

**Mission Outreach:** No Report

**Music Committee:** Ingrid Dickson sent a report that the new choir robes have arrived and the stoles are being embroidered. The Jazz Concert brought in $1,006.00. Thanks to the Keenens, Ingrid, Irene, & Sharon for the wonderful reception and of course, to Ken & the band for a terrific show! (And Doug Thorn for his behind-the-scenes work). Sharon Heinrich is stepping back as accompanist for the choir as of January 1st and Barb Fraunfelder is stepping back as Bell Choir Director in a few months. The Music Committee will be putting together a plan for staffing. In the meantime, the choir will be accompanied by guitar for the first few weeks of January. Thanks to the Heinrich family and Jack Stephenson for providing music on Christmas Day.

**Organ Restoration Committee**: Jim Heinrich reported that the work on the organ is 11/12 complete, but other priorities have relegated this project to the back burner temporarily.

**Search Committee:** No Report

**Stewardship Committee:** No Report

**Sunday School:** Irene Joyce thanked Elena Joyce for writing & narrating the Christmas Pageant, Kelly & Ted Bickley for starring in it, Elena Taylor for the music, and all the kids who participated. Plus extra thanks to Sharon Heinrich & Rachel Zielinski for overseeing the potluck and to Kenn Oerkfitz for his special role. Regular classes resume on January 8th. New curriculum will be ordered. Kids will be receiving new offering envelopes with the hopes that more than two kids will give to the Sunday School offering.

**Thrift Shop:** No report.

**Trustees**: Rachel Zielinski sent a report that a 5 year lease has been signed with new Pearl Road tenants and a 2 ½ year lease for the Royalton Road tenants has been signed. They are renewing the insurance on the rental properties. The Trustees are planning to make a presentation to the congregation at the Annual meeting about the restroom plan.

**Women's Fellowship:** No Report

**Minister’s Report:** Pastor Becky and Jack are in Florida. Rev. Joe Santomen will preach on January 1st. Pulpit supply will be needed on February 12th and 19th while Pastor Becky is in the Holy Land.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Three people have agreed to serve on the Transition Team prior to the Pulpit Search Committee’s process.

The Nominating Committee consists of Rachel Zielinski, Dianne Maringer, Sharon Heinrich, and Sally Herzog. Several members have agreed to serve on the Trustees, volunteers are needed to serve on Diaconate, Stewardship, Mission/Outreach, and other committees.

So far the Audit Committee has Sarah Hayes, Rosemary Bechtel, and Sally Herzog. A few more volunteers are needed for this Committee.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

The Annual Meeting will be held on January 29th, 2017, preceded by the Pancake Breakfast.

Rev. Mendel Adams brought some pre-printed postcards to send to Ohio governor John Kasich opposing the state’s use of the death penalty for anyone who wishes to sign and send one.

Iren Joyce (substituting for Betty Craig) motioned for adjournment at 8:08 p.m., seconded by Ted Bickley. Motion carried. The next regular meeting of the Official Board will be **Tuesday, January 24, 2017 at 7 p.m.**

Irene Joyce, Secretary