**Official Board Minutes**

United Church of Christ (Congregational)

**March 28, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Rachel Zielinski at 7:14 p.m. Pastor Becky led the group in prayer.

Present were:

Ted Bickley Adria Bond Betty Craig Tom Gaumer Irene Joyce Bill Schneider Jack Stephenson

Rev. R.A. Stephenson Kenn Oerkfitz Cheryl Sobek Ed Sobek Claire Wills Rachel Zielinski

**Minutes of the 2/28/16 meeting** were approved with a motion by Betty Craig, seconded by Cheryl Sobek. Motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report as of 3/28/17**: Balance of $3,795.50. Income: $.18 in interest; $1,658.00 from Roast Pork ticket sales; $167.50 from Roast Pork food sales. Disbursements: $708.92 for Roast Pork dinner expenses; $139.13 for Pancake Breakfast and gift. $158.68 for Wednesday Lunch donation. Irene Joyce moved to approve the Treasurer’s Report, seconded by Cheryl Sobek. Motion carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Advertising/Technology Committee**: Tom Gaumer and Jack Stephenson reported that they have a listing in the *Post*’s directory for Holy Week, as well as Facebook posts. Banners are being made for the 200th Anniversary. In December of 2017, Audio Technica has a big sale and new sound equipment will be purchased then, up to $900. The remaining budget could be used for computer updates. A donated laptop is available for church use. TV screens are running current slides for the church’s various activities.

**Christian Education Committee**: The Journey in Faith class has many attendees. New members will be welcomed on April 9th. The Lenten movie series continues on Sunday evenings.

**Church Treasurer/Financial Secretary**: Adria Bond and Kenn Oerkfitz distributed detailed financial reports and answered questions. Kenn mentioned that April is a month of many expenses, but also good income potential.

**Dinners:** Betty Craig reported that the Roast Pork Dinner profit was $1,108.58, of which $110.85 will go to the Free Lunch program. The Turkey Dinner will be on November 4th. Ticket sales for all the dinners have been down, so pricing needs to be evaluated prior to November. “All you can eat” will be included on all advertising, including the sign.

**Diaconate:** Cheryl Sobek reported that Holy Week plans are in place and $250 has been designated for the Maundy Thursday meal. Tickets are on sale for Wing Night, which is on Friday, May 5th at Grindstone Tap House on Front Street in Berea. Kelly Bickley will work on securing another grant from the Deaconess Foundation for the Free Lunch Program. Rachel Zielinski is still checking into having an AED on premises. Many activities are scheduled in April.

**Mission Outreach:** No report

**Music Committee:** Ingrid Dickson sent a report that many of our choir members sang for Susan Stevenson Tressa’s memorial service. The new choir robes and stoles will debut on Palm Sunday. The handbells need to be sent for refurbishment after Easter. The cost will be covered by Memorial gifts and donations. The last benefit concert yielded less than $400 in the free will offering. The next Arts in Strongsville benefit concert, featuring the Venner Clarinet Choir and the BW Alumni Brass Collective, will be on May 7th at 3 p.m., followed by a reception.

**Organ Restoration Committee**: No report. A progress report and financial update will be requested from this group.

**Search Committee:** Transition Team has conducted their meetings with various groups and the congregation members. They will have a report of the information they compiled next month. Six people have already agreed to serve on the Pulpit Search Committee.

**Stewardship Committee:** No report

**Sunday School:** Irene Joyce reported that the kids will process with palms on Palm Sunday. Sue Gigliotti has donated all of the eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt. Jamie Habart will hide the eggs. The Sunday School will contribute to the outdoor worship space project and is sponsoring the church’s child in India for March. Lora Rung’s class will stay in the sanctuary for Pastor Becky’s final worship services with us.

**Thrift Shop:** Lola Millhoane sent a report that the Shop is closed for the spring changeover. They will reopen April 6th.

The Thrift Shop paid for the first half of the ADA restroom project.

**Trustees**: Ed Sobek reported that Bill Guiliano has been working with the contractor to obtain permits and work will begin on April 17th. Estimated construction time is around 10 days. The side entrance is in need of freshening up in the spring. Eddy Bond is working on gutter cleaning and Pilgrim Hall floor waxing. The Memorial Fund will reimburse Gina Gigliotti up to $500 for the outdoor worship space. The Trustees voted to recommend a salary figure for the Interim Minister. Loan B for the purchase of the Royalton Road property will be paid off early at a discount. Suggestions for addressing areas in the church that need the custodian’s attention are being sought.

**Women's Fellowship:** Claire Wills reported that their next meeting is April 4th at 10 a.m. with a program from the Strongsville Police Department. Everyone is invited. Items for the Tote Bag project will be collected soon.

**Minister’s Report:** Pastor Becky reported that she has baptisms and weddings lined up. A funeral for Shirley Brand will be on April 1st. Upcoming services include Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, 2 on Easter, PB & J’s departure celebration, and Renewal of Wedding Vows service on April 30th.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

The 200th Anniversary Committee has reserved a room at the Senior Center for the banquet. Several projects are underway.

Sharon Heinrich sent calendars for date confirmation. Dates were discussed and confirmed, with a few still in question.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Irene Joyce moved to allot up to $300 for the purchase of more cup trays for the dishwasher and for a stainless steel cart to house the mixer. Rachel Zielinski and Betty Craig will go shopping. Cheryl Sobek seconded and the motion carried.

Betty Craig moved to allot up to $500 for PB & J’s Departure Party, seconded by Cheryl Sobek. Motion carried.

Strategic planning will include an emergency plan.

The board entered into Executive Session to discuss a member’s request to reconsider the church’s policy toward allowing Richard Tressa to return, following formal adjournment.

Betty Craig motioned for adjournment at 8:44 p.m., seconded by Cheryl Sobek. Motion carried. The next regular meeting of the Official Board will be **Tuesday, April 25, 2017 at 7 p.m.**

Irene Joyce, Secretary