

Official Board Minutes
United Church of Christ (Congregational)
February 23, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Kim McKenzie at 7:05 p.m. and Pastor Becky led the group in prayer. Present were:

Denise Bell	Madison Bell	Ted Bickley	Barb Fraunfelder	
Sharon Heinrich	Irene Joyce	Kim McKenzie	Lola Millhoane	
Kenn Oerkfitz	Jack Stephenson	Rev. R. Stephenson	Claire Wills	Rachel Zielinski

Minutes of the 1/26/16 meeting were approved with a correction to add Claire Wills to the list of attendees. The motion was by Rachel Zielinski, seconded by Jack Stephenson. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report as of 2/23/16: Balance of \$5,411.06. Income: \$.31 in interest; \$3,005.00 from Winter Retreat payments; and \$3,356.00 from Swiss Steak Dinner ticket sales. Disbursements: \$266.75 for 10% of Turkey Dinner profit to the Wednesday Lunch Program; \$154.22 for the Annual Meeting breakfast; \$2,592.00 to the Winter Retreat; \$65.00 Retreat refund; \$1,318.87 for Swiss Steak expenses. Irene Joyce moved to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Denise Bell. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Advertising Committee: Jack Stephenson reported they are advertising the March 13th concert on the Chamber's electronic sign, in the Strongsville Post, and Mimi's online. The Roast Pork Dinner is also being advertised through several avenues. The 3 wooden crosses will be put up closer to the road for better visibility during Lent.

Christian Education Committee/Youth: Sharon Heinrich reported that two Lenten studies based on Adam Hamilton's *John-The Gospel of Light and Life* have 24 attendees so far. Meals are served on both the Sunday evening and Tuesday morning times and contributions of desserts or side dishes are welcome. The Journey in Faith class has begun.

Church Treasurer/Financial Secretary: Barb Fraunfelder reported that she is creating customized financial reports for the various groups. Kenn Oerkfitz reported that the checking account has enough to cover the current bills.

Dinners: Betty Craig sent a report that the Roast Pork Dinner is Saturday, March 5th. Volunteers are asked to sign up to prepare, serve, and clean up. \$229.36 will be donated to the Free Lunch Program, which is 10% of the profit from the Swiss Steak Dinner ticket sales. Special thanks to Cathy Hawk and Steve Herzog for taking the reins at the Swiss Steak Dinner. All groups are expected to support our projects.

Diaconate: Denise Bell reported that we will have just two services on Easter: a sunrise service at 7 a.m. and the celebration of the Risen Lord at 9:45 a.m. with breakfast served between. Don't forget to mark your calendars for the Wing Night at Sidelines in Brunswick on Friday, May 6th. This is a big fundraiser for the Diaconate.

Mission Outreach/KFC: Kelly Bickley sent a report that they donated 190 cans of soup and \$86.00 in Penny Sunday money when they visited the Strongsville Food Bank. Looking for ideas for a Lent activity for the kids.

Music Committee: Easter will feature brass and timpani. The choir and bell choir are inviting more participants because their numbers are decreased due to illness and travel. On March 13th, the Venner Clarinet Choir with Rebecca Konow on cello & Joshua Konow on piano will be the first in the Mini Concert Series. The Satori Winds will be featured on May 1st.

Organ Restoration Committee: The next ORC Pancake Breakfast is April 24th.

Strategic Planning: There will be a Strategic Planning Meeting on April 30th at 9 a.m.

Stewardship Committee: 88 pledge cards have been received to date.

Sunday School: Irene Joyce reported that everything is going smoothly. In conjunction with KFC, we will have a peanut butter and jelly drive in the spring.

Thrift Shop: Lola Millhoane reported that they are having a "35 cents Sale" in honor of their 35th Anniversary. The ladies will need help moving boxes from storage to the sales floor as they switch to spring merchandise.

Trustees: Rachel Zielinski reported that the equity line of credit has been approved, pending completion of final paperwork. One condition of the loan is to pledge to increase our contributions to OCWM. Kenn Oerkfitz suggested having a speaker come and tell the congregation about OCWM. The Trustees hired an architect to begin the process of upgrading the washroom for accessibility. An inspection program is being developed for the church building. Outdoor maintenance, including tree removal, is on the agenda for spring.

Women's Fellowship: The ladies will have their next meeting on April 6th. Easter candy making is cancelled.

Minister's Report: Pastor Becky reported that Lenten Studies and JIF classes are doing well. Fun was had by all at the Winter Retreat and plans for a Men's Weekend in May and Couples' Retreat in September are in the works. She mentioned that she and Jack will be on vacation May 7th – 14th and October 28th – November 12th.

OLD BUSINESS:

Dates to be added to the calendar include a Yard Sale on July 9th, the Strongsville Homecoming Parade on July 13th, Tent Revival July 18th – 22nd, Family Fun Day on July 23rd, and a Pig Roast on September 24th. Rachel Zielinski moved to approve these changes to the calendar; seconded by Claire Wills. Motion passed.

Pastor Becky mentioned that groups should sign up to collect donations for use of the parking lot during the Strongsville Rib Burn-Off June 16th – 18th and the Homecoming July 13th – 16th.

Thanks to Steve Herzog and his crew for the Pancake Breakfast and to Charles & Aimee Jannsohn for organizing the Winter Retreat.

NEW BUSINESS:

Rachel Zielinski moved that the Official Board recommend that the church move toward a long term goal of contributing 10% of the church's annual budget to Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) and its programs. Ted Bickley seconded and the motion was approved.

Rachel Zielinski moved to appoint Kelly Bickley, Eddie Bond, Jamie Habart, Lori Kovatich, Kenn Oerkfitz, and Lisa Pogozelski to the search team for the Associate Pastor for Youth & Families. Barb Fraunfelder agreed to consult and Pastor Becky will serve ex-officio. Lola Millhoane seconded and the motion carried.

Sharon Heinrich moved to move the March meeting of the Official Board to March 29th. Lola Millhoane seconded and the motion passed.

Sharon Heinrich motioned for adjournment at 8:28 p.m., seconded by Rachel Zielinski. Motion carried. The next regular meeting of the Official Board will be Tuesday, March 29, 2016 at 7 p.m.

Irene Joyce, Secretary