**Official Board Minutes**

United Church of Christ (Congregational)

**June 22, 2021**

Meeting was called to order by Moderator Rachel Zielinski at 7:04 p.m. Pastor Heidi led the group in prayer.

Present were:

Jennifer Barry

Elaine Coffey

Greg Dickson

Ingrid Dickson

Sally Herzog

Sharon Heinrich

Irene Joyce

Pastor Heidi

Rachel Zielinski

**Minutes of the 5/25/21 meeting** were approved in a motion by Ingrid Dickson, seconded by Sharon Heinrich.

**Treasurer’s Report as of 5/25/21:** Sharon Heinrich**— Beginning balance: $5,961.07** Income: $0. Disbursement: $973.76 for Retreat Deposit**. Ending balance 6/22/2021: $4,987.31**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Advertising/Technology Committee**: Tom Gaumer sent a message that there was no report.

**Church Treasurer/Financial Secretary**: Sally Herzog reported that, as of this meeting, the church has $25,263.65 in the checking account; $39,035.44 in the savings account (includes PPP loan amount); and $10,451.62 in the rental property account. We seem to be on solid ground financially.

**Diaconate:** Jennifer Barry reported that Altar Communion will be resumed starting in July. Communion Sundays for the next three months will be July 11th, August 8th, and September 15th. Greeters and Ushers will be back starting on July 4th when we return to one service at 10 a.m. Thanks to everyone who helped begin sorting items upstairs; they plan to schedule another time to complete the job prior to the Garage Sale.

**Dinners/Free Lunch:** Betty Craig sent a message that there was nothing new to report. Pastor Heidi mentioned will need a volunteer to serve as point person to help Betty when the Free Lunches resume.

**Fit Club:** Irene Joyce reported that their start up has been slow, but they hope to meet more regularly in the future.

**Minister’s Report:** Pastor Heidi reported that we have a wedding scheduled on July 9th, two baptisms on August 22nd, and a baptism on September 19th. She will be in Colorado July 25th and August 1st, Rev. Oommen Thomas and Sharon Lempner will fill the pulpit on those Sundays, respectively. Pastor Heidi thanked everyone for their dedication during this time of transition.

**Mission Outreach:** Judy Carte sent a message that there was no report at this time.

**Music Committee:** Ingrid Dickson reported that Tom Foley will be on vacation June 27th and July 4th. Choir start back up 2nd or 3rd week of August and plan a triumphant return on Rally Day. The Bell Choir is finished until fall--many thanks to our ringers. Ingrid will attempt to sort and file music this summer. Summer guests are being lined up. Praise Group is still looking for participants with musical ability. Children's Choir will resume in full swing in the fall, with two cohorts divided by age. Mike Elkins had mentioned the church possibly purchasing a new keyboard with weighted keys. More information will be obtained.

**Organ Preservation Committee:** No report.

**Stewardship Committee:** No report.

**Sunday School/Christian Ed:** Linda Elkins sent a report that there are 2 Sundays left in the summer that need volunteers to teach. Thanks to everyone who has taught thus far. Elaine Coffey moved that people working with children are required to be vaccinated against COVID-19. Greg Dickson seconded and the motion was unanimously passed. Pastor Heidi mentioned that a new lectionary-based curriculum is being developed by Illustrated Ministry. She will meet with the Christian Education Committee to determine whether it is worth the cost of $20 a month.

**Thrift Shop:** Cathy Hawk sent a report that sales are brisk and they are using social media each week to advertise. They would like to move forward with purchasing the round tables and the artificial grass project. .

**Trustees:** Greg Dickson reported that, along with the round tables, 25 new chairs will be purchased (authorized prior to the shutdown), and the patio project is approved and ready to begin when Eric Stough, our landscaper, schedules installation. The Trustees voted to allow the service groups to return to using Pilgrim Hall, beginning August 1st. Ken Mehalko requested borrowing 50 chairs for the Strongsville Community Band’s use in the month of July.

**Women's Fellowship:** Elaine Coffey reported that Linda Ponstingle's Power Point presentation, "The Great and Not-So-Great Churches of Europe" had 19 attendees. July 6 – Socialize with Friends, while you sit and relax -or- bring your own craft and chat with friends. August 3 – Judy Carte gives tips on Aging Gracefully. September 7 – Picnic and Walk in a park (venue TBD). October 5 – dress for Halloween or wear your pj’s, and view the movie, “Young Frankenstein.” November 2 – prepare for our Christmas Tea and make centerpieces with Joyce Reed. Sunday, December 5 – Christmas Tea (time TBD) and ring tonechimes with Barb Fraunfelder in Pilgrim Hall. Women’s Fellowship may change their day and/or time once the AA return to meeting in Pilgrim Hall. They will discuss this at their July meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Date for the Garage Sale will be Friday, July 23rd from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. and Saturday, July 24th from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. We will start accepting donations on June 25th during church office hours. Please make sure donators unload their own items. We will need plenty of help sorting items from July 19th through the days of the sale (Friday, July 23rd from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. and Saturday, July 24th from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.). Please support this event since it may be the only fundraiser the Official Board has this year.

If anyone has any extra CLEAN, large-sized reusable tote bags from Marc’s, please donate them to the Garage Sale.

Retreat deposit of $973.76 has been paid by the Joyces’ credit card and reimbursed by the Official Board. We have February 18 -20, 2022 reserved at Templed Hills. Prices that the attendees pay per person should be the same as in 2020. Our group will provide our own dinner on Saturday night rather than purchasing a meal from the camp.

One person had expressed an interest in the job of Financial Secretary, but then backed out. Another church member has made an initial inquiry and we will follow up with him.

New Round Tables for Pilgrim Hall have been researched. We’d like to get them prior to the Garage Sale so that we can sell some of the old wooden tables.

No one has yet volunteered to collect parking fees during the Homecoming and/or Rib Burn-off.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

AA groups will be notified that they may return to use our facility as of August 1st.

Pastor Heidi got new sign inserts for 10 a.m. worship. Irene Joyce moved to reimburse Pastor Heidi $46.00, seconded by Sharon Heinrich. Motion carried.

Irene Joyce will gather information on a cigarette butt collecting tube to replace the large square outdoor ashtray that has become an erroneous garbage receptacle.

The church received a gracious note from Adria Bond, thanking everyone for recognizing her and for the gifts she received.

The consensus of the board was to cancel our July meeting, with the provision that we could vote electronically if something pressing came up before our August meeting.

Betty Craig motioned for adjournment at 7:56 p.m. (via phone), seconded by Pastor Heidi. Motion carried. The next regular meeting of the Official Board will be **Tuesday, August 24, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.**

Irene Joyce, Secretary