

Community United Methodist Church
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
October 12, 2016

Members Attending: Al Brunsting, Joyce Brunsting, Adam Cook, Ed Cotner, Brenda DeGeer, Paul Dude, Janet Eifler, Rich Fleming, George Groves, Beth Hagemeyer, Sally Hines, Rich Kaffka, Susan Keaton, Sylvia Kupferer, Kevin Markwell, Mary Markwell, Jim McCloud, Derrick Swistak, Pastor Leo Waynick, Jennifer Weddle.

Chair Rich Fleming called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the opening prayer. Rich welcomed Kevin Markwell, new Chair of the Building Committee.

Minutes of the February meeting were approved as written.

Pastor Leo told the council he and Pastor Grace have agreed on a schedule for her return. Pastor Grace will be in the office on Nov. 1 and both she and Pastor Leo will attend the Nov. 9 staff meeting. Pastor Leo's final sermon will be on Nov. 13 with a guest preaching on Nov. 20. Pastor Grace will preach on Nov. 27.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Brenda DeGeer said that things are going well and are stable. We are running 4% behind the budget but \$10K over 2015. Brenda explained that some money categorized as unpledged is actually pledged and will be moved into that category. There are some larger planned expenses coming up at the end of the year. She reviewed the money available in the building fund (\$1.5M). She has met with the auditors who will start their work soon. (See report.)

Motion: Rich Kaffka moved the Treasurer's report be approved. Jennifer Weddle seconded. Motion passed.

Finance: Paul Dude said that the Finance Committee had spent the last meeting reviewing the budget requests. They will be giving the Stewardship Committee the number for the bare bones bottom-line expenditures. The budget will be approved at the next council meeting in Dec. or Jan. The plan is to avoid having a shortfall in the dollars pledged that requires us to go back to the congregation a second time. Commitment Sunday will be Nov. 6. Al Brunsting commented that all the pledge cards don't come in on Commitment Sunday and it is difficult to make projections at that time. Brenda assured him they will be able to come up with a good estimate.

Stewardship: Co-chair Ed Cotner said the goal for 2017 is \$750K which is \$35K over last year. Representatives of the major committees will speak in worship so people understand where the money goes. Rich Kaffka commented that communication is a challenge and we need to let every member know everything that is going on at CUMC.

Youth Ministry: Adam Cook passed out packets of information that gave details about the youth program. On Friday nights, several small groups meet at the church including Dungeons and Dragons, the Nerd Club, and the Teen Book Club. Attendance in the small groups has grown more than Sunday School attendance. The work trip is expected to have 21 participants in 2017 compared to 18 in 2016 and 15 are expected to attend the retreats as compared to 11 last year. When young people have visited the church they have stayed involved but their families did not continue to attend after visits. Adam is pleased that there is an effort to revitalize the 11:00 service and that may make a difference. Al Brunsting suggested he should bring specific recommendations to the Church Council. The idea of an ad hoc committee that would focus on attracting families and young adults into the church was discussed. Pastor Leo expressed frustration that he has not had time to follow up on visitors. It was agreed that we need a systematic way to follow up. Adam said he would like to form a committee and Chair Rich Fleming told him to go ahead. Pastor Leo will talk to Lynn Priess (Evangelism Chair) about the issue.

Building Committee: Kevin Markwell began by briefly reviewing the history of the project and the fact that after approving the plan and raising the money the estimates came in so high that it was not feasible to move ahead. The Committee is currently reviewing two alternative plans. We are already 1 year into a 3 year

window to build with our current permit. He and Pastor Leo will be meeting with the architect next week. The committee will present alternatives to the congregation before anything is done. Some procedures have been established. Bids will go out to multiple contractors. Invoice approval will require two signatures. We do not yet know how much it will cost to change the existing plan. The regular communications with the congregation will resume shortly. If we were to change architects we would have to start over completely. It is standard procedure that the plans remain the property of the architect. (See report.)

Roundtable:

- Mary Markwell said the Knitting group will be having a sale before Thanksgiving.
- George Groves reported that 3 UMM members went to the meeting in Williams Bay, Wisconsin. There is a Regional Leadership Conference scheduled for Nov. 4th.
- Janet Eifler said that she and her husband will be going to Wesley Woods to do some repair work and in return the youth group will be able to go there for a retreat at no cost.
- Derrick Swistak said that the Playground has been well received. There will be a children's book fair this weekend.
- Susan Keaton mentioned the UMW book circle's 50th anniversary. The Library Committee is busy bringing in new items for advent. They have also set up a bookmobile near the Hospitality Table.
- Joyce Brunsting asked everyone to let her know if they had a need for additional committee members so the Nominations Committee can assist in finding them.
- Sylvia Kupferer reported that the handicapped seating area in the Sanctuary is done. The Tre Diva concert was very successful and all the proceeds will go to the Music Ministry.
- Pastor Leo said that Pastor Grace wants all the reports for the Nov. 29th church conference to be turned in by Nov. 15th.

Chair Rich Fleming thanked everyone for attending and Pastor Leo led the closing prayer.

The meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m. (See additional reports from Music, Trustees, SPRC, and the Children's council). The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for December 14th.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Hines, Secretary