

Community United Methodist Church  
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
August 9, 2017

**Members Attending:** Pat Becker, Nate Burke, Brenda DeGeer, Paul Dude, Rich Fleming, Chris Garofalo, Beth Hagemeyer, Sally Hines, Rich Kaffka, Kevin Markwell, Mary Markwell, Jim McCloud, Mark Overstreet, Lynn Pries, Pastor Tom Rawlinson, Betsy Roche, Ollie Taylor, Mike Wu

Chairman Rich Fleming called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the opening prayer.

The Minutes for the April 12, 2017 meeting were approved as corrected.

**Finance:** Treasurer Brenda DeGeer reported that we have had a strong giving year to date. Total revenue is \$25k over budget. Income looks good and expenses are under control. Utility rates have gone up. She is working on an issue with A T & T. The Treasurer's report was approved. (See report).

The Treasurer's job is being broken into components with a view toward Brenda's retirement. There is a need for a payroll service. As it stands, Brenda is the only one who knows how to do payroll. Now is an optimum time to switch and Paylocity has been recommended by Rich Kaffka. The service will ensure payroll taxes are paid correctly and on time and salaries are kept confidential. There will be an employee portal where employees can see their check stubs and w-2's and track sick and vacation time. The cost for this year is expected to be \$1,298 and is based on the number of employees. The information is entered into Paylocity's software from the church. It will save a lot of time and money.

**Motion: Brenda moved that the office budget increased by \$1,298 to cover the cost of entering into a contract with Paylocity to do payroll for this year. Ollie Taylor seconded. Motion passed.**

**Stewardship:** Mark Overstreet said that the first committee meeting for this year's drive will be next month. Ed Cotner is resigning as co-chair. He asked Mark to put together an effort focused on evangelism. Rich Fleming is going to meet with both pastors to put together a taskforce on how we can capitalize on the newly renovated facilities to attract new members. Lynn Pries will also be involved. Mark asked the council chairs to think about budgets so the stewardship team can go into the drive with a solid goal number to communicate to the congregation. Paul Dude asked Brenda DeGeer to send out the forms asking for budget requests. Since Paul is not going to be chair next year he asked that someone from the Finance committee be identified to succeed him so he or she could be involved in the Stewardship drive this fall. Ollie Taylor reported that the Nominations Committee is already moving in that direction. Commitment Sunday is in less than 3 months.

**Staff Parish Committee:** Betsy Roche reported that the revised role of the Director of Youth Ministry has been posted on the CUMC and other websites with added responsibilities related to college age and young adults. The overall goal is to support and invest in the youth of our church. If fulfilling the goal requires the role to be full time SPRC will work to do that as we remain within our budget. SPRC has received resumes, begun the selection process and is committed to hiring the best possible candidate. In the interim Debbie Craig, Natalie Overstreet, Eddie Green and Sarah Hollander will be handling Youth Ministry. (See report.)

**Building Committee:** Kevin Markwell said that some asbestos has been found during the renovations and needs to be remediated. The cost of electrical work originally estimated at \$25k has so far come in at \$2,300 and while there is still more work to be done the overall charge will be significantly lower than the estimate. The asbestos remediation will require the west Center Street door to be closed for four days beginning August 21<sup>st</sup>. This will be communicated to the congregation.

Rich Fleming said that Joyce Brunsting, Nominations chair, had asked him to make a motion to form a new Reconciling Church committee with June Green as Chair representing the committee on the Church Council.

Several questions were raised during a discussion and it was agreed that the motion would be held until the next meeting when someone could attend who could answer the questions.

Rich also mentioned that the CUMC Foundation is looking for an accountant with a background in Quickbooks and asked members of the council to forward the names of any candidates to Lynda Krazinski.

**Round Table:**

- Lynn Priess reported that on the last Sunday in October, the Evangelism Committee will hold an all church event to invite people to get involved in various church teams. Church committees will set up tables in Fellowship Hall after the worship service giving attendees an opportunity to learn more about the committees' work. Lunch will follow.
- Nate Burke said that people are being patient during the renovations and there have not been many complaints.
- Beth Hagemeyer said that Vacation Bible School was very successful and thanked the Evangelism and Mission Committees for providing meals. There will be a "Welcome Back" picnic on August 20<sup>th</sup> in the park and Sunday School starts Aug. 27.
- Chris Garofalo thanked choir members for coming on short notice to clean out his office before the renovations began. He also thanked the congregation for the successful fundraising for the piano. The piano cost \$40,000 and extras added \$2,300. We sold two pianos for \$5,500 which left \$36,800. We received \$38,875 in pledges and donations. Cash received to date is \$32,525 with \$6,350 to come in from pledges.
- Paul Dude suggested the church do another pictorial directory this year and he volunteered to help. He passed around an old Foundation report he found in his files.
- Ollie Taylor commented on the cooperation between lay people and clergy doing things behind the scenes when there is a need. A lot of people came in and helped clean, organize and move things to get ready for the renovations.
- Pat Becker said that the Missions Committee took the school supplies to ChildServ and 10 buckets have been turned in for RefugeeOne.
- Pastor Tom Rawlinson thanked everyone who helped with Bonnie Fisher's Memorial Service.
- Rich Kaffka asked about the membership numbers and was told that average weekly attendance is still decreasing but it is not a steep decline. The church has new software that can be used to identify inactive church members. He would like to be interviewed by the Task Force on attracting new members to the church. Pat Becker suggested that all Council members should be interviewed.
- Mike Wu said that there is a Stewardship Conference on Sunday August 26 from 8 am to 3 pm at the Barrington UMC.
- Sally Hines reported that the Bread for the World letter drive brought in about 100 letters and 30 – 40 people took information and said they would write directly to their representatives.

Pastor Tom led the Council in the Lord's Prayer.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, Oct. 11, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Hines  
Secretary

See additional reports from CUMC Foundation, Hunger Commission, Missions Music Ministry and Senior Outreach.