

Community United Methodist Church  
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
December 13, 2017

**Members Attending:** Pat Becker, Joyce Brunsting, Al Brunsting, Nate Burke, Gary Chipman, Paul Dude, Rich Fleming, George Groves, Beth Hagemeyer, Sally Hines, Pastor Grace Imathiu, Rich Kaffka, Sylvia Kupferer, Kevin Markwell, Jim McCloud, Nick Nicholas, Mark Overstreet, Pastor Tom Rawlinson, Betsy Roche, Ollie Taylor, Jennifer Weddle, Michael Wu,  
Visitor: Dale Zimmerman

Chairman Rich Fleming called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and led the opening prayer. He welcomed CUMC's new Youth Director Nick Nicholas and introduced Dale Zimmerman as the future Council Chair.

The Minutes for the October 11, 2017 meeting were approved as presented.

**Finance:** Finance Chair Paul Dude reported for Treasurer Brenda DeGeer. The numbers on the report are through October. The Pledges are coming in and it is encouraging especially since there have been fund drives for the building and for the new piano. Unpledged giving is a little light. Expenditures are contained and within the budget. Payroll was on track as were the non personnel expenses. Nate Burke, Chair of the Trustees has asked for a capital account for the Trustees which will be talked about at the next meeting. Pastor Tom Rawlinson will work with committees and individuals to prioritize their budget askings before the January Finance Committee meeting. We have not yet had to use our building loan. Rich Kaffka asked about the large balance the Mission Committee was carrying and Pat Becker said it is because there is a large expenditure due in February.(See report)

**Stewardship:** Mark Overstreet said that currently there 115 pledges in for a total of \$617 k and last year we had 127 pledges for a total of \$552 k at this time. The committee is still waiting for a number of pledges. At the last Finance meeting the forecast was for \$650 k and he is now thinking \$680 k may be possible. Things are positive at this point. Al Brunsting asked about an estimate for unpledged giving and Mark responded that they did not have one yet. Last year the estimate was too high and they are trying to avoid a repeat.

**Staff Parish Committee:** Betsy Roche welcomed Nick Nicholas and said SPRC is delighted to have him and he will be working on expanding the youth and young adult programs. Betsy has been working on the report for the Charge Conference and expressed how delighted she was with the retired clergy and spouses affiliated with CUMC. Ollie Taylor praised Betsy for her work as SPRC Chair and said she has brought so much to the SPRC

**Building Committee:** Kevin Markwell reported that we have spent 44% of the money budgeted for the Renovation project and have not yet dipped into the loan. The sprinklers are working in the balcony and the rest of the sanctuary will be completed after the first of the year. He said that if we could not hold services in the sanctuary for two Sundays in January it would save 6 to 9 days on the schedule. He asked for everyone's thoughts. After discussion it was agreed that we should hold services in Fellowship Hall for the two Sundays in January when they will be working on the Sanctuary.

Sylvia Kupferer, Senior Ministry Chair, said that handicapped parking has become a problem. We only have three spaces and many people have difficulty getting into church. We need more spaces convenient to the door. She asked that the church consider designating some spaces in the back lot close to the door as "Special Needs" instead of Handicapped. Sylvia will work with Nate Burke on getting a sign put up.

Ollie Taylor said several people have asked about a plan for dealing with someone coming into the church with a gun and shooting. Nate Burke said he believed there were some materials presented at the conference on this issue. Rick Kaffka suggested our insurance agent and the Police Department could give advice. Beth suggested that we have numerous teachers in the congregation with training on what to do in this kind of situation. Ollie agreed to take on the project to put together a plan. It was also suggested we need a weather radio in the office and one in the usher cabinet.

### **Round Table:**

- Jen Weddle passed on a hello from our former Associate Pastor Sarah who was in town recently. Jen is ending her time as president of UMW and is looking for a new president.
- Nick Nicholas reported that he is getting things up and running with the youth groups and is looking at mission trips for this summer. Confirmation class will start Jan. 20.
- Beth Hagemayer said that there will be a Wise Friends Talent Show on January 6 at 6:30 p.m.
- Nate Burke asked that people talk to Suzanne, our Administrative Assistant, or him if they see something in the building that the Trustees should know about.
- George Groves said that the UMM had not met. There were 4 men from CUMC who attended the Spiritual Congress and 3 who attended the national meeting in Indianapolis. There is a UMM conference scheduled for February that he highly recommends.
- Mike Wu reported that Paul Dude and Bill Matthews will be joining the Foundation.
- Pat Becker said that 14 people attended the dedication of the Habitat home CUMC members worked on and Dick Legg was honored at the dedication. The Mission team donated cleaning supplies to the family that moved into the home. They will be participating in a 2018 Habitat Home and are looking for a fundraising idea.
- Sylvia Kupferer said that the Senior Ministry has added the Parish Nurses under the umbrella of their ministry. Thirteen people took advantage of the free blood pressure screening so it was time well spent.
- Pastor Tom reported that Financial Peace University is finishing up and it was a fantastic group. He is also convening a budget subcommittee that will prioritize the list of programs and activities that requested funding as part of the budget process. A list of the things that would be cut if there was not enough funding could be published and people could volunteer to fund individual activities. After a discussion about pledging it was agreed that the Stewardship Committee will get the list and decide how to proceed.

Rich Fleming mentioned that it was the last meeting for several chairs and council members and thanked them for their service. Pastor Grace thanked Rich for chairing the council.

Pastor Grace asked for prayers for members Bob Carey and Genevieve Spiegler and for Sharon deWaard's father. She spoke about Elena Khaneeva who joined CUMC as a North Central student. She thanked Sylvia and Tom Kupferer for providing hospitality to her when she needed a place to stay.

Pastor Grace led the council in the Lord's Prayer. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

The Church Conference is on Dec. 18, 2017 and the next Church Council meeting is to be determined.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Hines  
Secretary

See additional reports from the Foundation, Missions, Music Ministry and Senior Ministry.