

**COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES FOR JULY 9, 2014**

**Members Attending:** Chris Garofalo, Grace Imathiu, Bill Abernethy, Nancy Abernethy, Beth Hagemeyer, Forrest Rice, Betsy Roche, Lauren Rheingans, Dawn Roth, Ollie Taylor, Sylvia Kupferer, George Groves, Roger Shuma, Alana Shuma, Richard Kaffka, Jennifer Weddle, Mary Markwell, Brenda DeGeer, Sarah Meacham

**Call to Order:**The meeting was called to order by Chair Bill Abernethy at 7:05. He led a short meditation on the grace of God.

The **May minutes** were approved as published. Get well wishes were conveyed to Sally Hines, our absent Secretary.

**Staff-Parish:** Chair Betsy Roche introduced three new members of the staff: **Dawn Roth, Coordinator of Christian Education; Lauren Rheingans, Director of Congregational Care; and Chris Garofalo, Director of Music Ministries and Organist.** All three have been well-received and already have significant objectives on which they are working.

**Finance:** The church is in a positive, healthy situation financially. All bills, including the Apportionment, have been paid in full through the month of June. The committee is starting to work on the 2015 budget and hopes to present a tentative budget to the Church Council at the November meeting. Committees with budget proposals for 2015 should begin their preparations for this to be successful. Forrest Rice was commended for his well-written article about wedding vows. (This had nothing to do with church finances, but Jim McCloud's finances were reflected as a result of his daughter's wedding.)

**History/Records:** This committee was represented by Alana Shuma. The committee has gone through many slides, pictures, etc. There is another work day on Saturday, July 19. They are developing a system for evaluating and classifying items in the archives. Development of a processing manual and a method by which to utilize the archives will make it easier for all to tap this resource. Alana suggested that it will be helpful to include this committee as a voting member of the Church Council. A discussion included the following points:

What is the purpose of Church Council? What does the Book of Discipline require? History/Records is required to submit a budget. Should they be a voting member of Church Council? Connections to the community, especially NCC, are valuable. A church historian often sits at the table in other churches. Pastor Grace will submit the idea of including History/Records as a voting member of Church Council to the Nominations Committee.

**Building Committee:** Dale Zimmerman sent David F. Schultz, our architect, a letter stating that our building plan needs a Phase 1 with a price tag of \$1.5 million. Items to emphasize are the sprinkling and heating systems, the Welcome Center, and an office area created within the parameters of our present structure. The Building Committee will meet when the architect presents ideas for this adjustment to the building plans.

**Trustees:** No report. (The wedding of Jim McCloud's daughter Rebecca was a great event.)

**Senior Outreach:** The committee will review the present ministries and determine the needs of the people which they serve.

**United Methodist Men:** A meeting to reignite the men's ministry in this church will be held on Sunday, July 13.

**United Methodist Women:** The women are filling out the slate of candidates for the coming year.

**Christian Education:** A rotating teaching schedule has been developed for the children's (pre-school through fourth grade) Sunday school classes.

**Called-To-Be Conference:** Our new staff member, Lauren Rheingans, is in charge of this conference. Eight to ten high school students and a group of NCC students will be attending the conference, which will explore **what it means to be called to ministry**. The challenges of elders, deacons and lay members in ministry will be covered. The Staff-Parish Committee is sponsoring the candidacy of three of our NCC attendees, and, of course, our own Rev. Sarah Meacham in the ordination process. Matt Wilkie is also in the process of becoming a minister, but is officially sponsored by his home conference in Kansas.

**Pastor Report:** Pastor Sarah informed us that one of the high school students attending the Called-To-Be Conference is her brother Eli!.

**Pastor Report:** Pastor Grace noted that the one-page Feasibility Report summary as well as the full, thirty-six-page Feasibility Report were both posted on the church web site. Lisa Bauer, our Child Coordinator is now the senior staff member, having served our congregation for fifteen years. Pastor Grace, almost at two years of service to CUMC, is next in line! (We all know who is in charge though.) July 13 there will be a special meeting between services for reigniting the men's ministry at CUMC. On July 20, there will be a service to bless pets as well as special recognition of those attending the Called-To-Be Conference discussed above. An exploration of short-term ways of caring for those who grieve will be started (continued?). It was noted that Joan Uebele, a lifetime member, finished her first stage of chemotherapy and had received a very large stack of birthday cards in celebration of her 75<sup>th</sup> birthday. Pastor Grace concluded with the following thoughts: What is our mission/vision/purpose? She desires that we become a mission-driven church, not a church that just fills the pews. She expressed the desire that we correct her in love whenever we see fit to do so.

**Closing Prayer:** New seminary graduate/staff member Lauren Rheingans illustrated the value of a good education as she led us in prayer to close the meeting.

**Next Meeting:** The Church Council will meet again on Wednesday, September 10, 2014 at 7:00 in the Parlor.

Respectfully submitted,

Ollie Taylor