

**UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
COMMON MINISTRY  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MARCH 8, 2016**

| <u>Present:</u>               | <u>Absent:</u>                |                 |  |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Pastor                        | Bridget Flad                  |                 |  |
| Moderator                     | Lou Norsetter                 |                 |  |
| Vice Moderator                | Jeff Gibson                   |                 |  |
| Treasurer                     |                               | Jeff Carels     |  |
| Clerk                         |                               | Gail Hohenstein |  |
| Education                     | Deb Rose                      |                 |  |
| Gifts & Memorials             | Marlene Lanoue<br>Gary Hassel |                 |  |
| Inreach                       | Heather Collins               |                 |  |
| New Member                    | Steve Jones                   |                 |  |
| Outreach                      | Cathy Putman                  |                 |  |
| Stewardship                   |                               | David Thie      |  |
| Worship                       | Sandy Polarek                 |                 |  |
| Communications<br>Coordinator |                               | Shaun Shouldeen |  |
| Talents & Gifts               |                               |                 |  |
| Guest(s)                      |                               |                 |  |

Moderator Lou Norsetter called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

**Joys and Concerns:** Joys and concerns were shared, followed by prayer.

**Open Forum:** None.

**Shared Reflection:** Marlene Lanoue shared a reflection.

**Senior Minister's Report:**

Bridget reports that things are going well, but without an Associate projects are taking her more time (safe sanctuary, position description for Associate Pastor, Mission Trip).

6 people have volunteered to write EPH reflections for the 365 day calendar project. Looking for 9 more. This would involve up to 200 words describing a service experience or why they serve or gratitude. It would be nice if connected to scripture, but a group of pastors will do this if necessary. Deadline to Bridget is 3/28.

Five households lined up to host students from the Lakeland College choir. Need 3 more. Apr 14-15.

Holy Week on track.

One of the owners of one of the Waitzmann Condos offered to sell to Union. Underlying purpose was to stabilize neighborhood and provide accessible housing. Another stipulation was that the houses be owner occupied. We administer them as condos. There appears to be no interest in purchasing. It may useful for EPH to buy it or for it to be used for other mission purpose. Marlene said she would inform EPH of the opportunity. We discussed at length the value of the condo association. One question that arose was should we look into making it a land trust, rather than a condo association, though that would be virtually impossible at this point, as the units are owned by individuals. How to move forward with the association will be a topic for future discussion. It was suggested that perhaps one or more of the original association committee members could speak to the CM.

**Clerk's Report**

Minutes of the meeting of February 9, 2016 were approved. (Heather/Steve) Gail will take care of incorporating corrections to CM minutes.

Common Ministry members to review them and provide any comments before the next meeting of Common Ministry.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Bridget on behalf of Jeff Carels distributed the regular report. We are ahead of budgeted income. Expenses have been lower on budget and actual. Not having youth ministry coordinator also helps the bottom line. Report was accepted. (Deb/Heather)

### **New Business**

- Delegates needed to NE Association meeting April 16 at Bethlehem UCC in rural Kiel. Steve and Lou approved as delegates.(Cathy/Sandy)
- Conference Annual Meeting June 10-12 at Green Lake. Sandy and Steve approved as delegates (Deb/Heather)
- We watched the WI Conference UCC first *SHIFT* video which encourages churches to make a shift “from maintenance to mission.” We agreed to watch video #2 individually and be prepared to spend some time at our April meeting discussing the questions at the end of videos #1 and #2. The videos can be found at [www.wcucc.org/shift](http://www.wcucc.org/shift)

### **Continuing Business**

- Visioning Team Update: In midst of brainstorming strategies. April 8 John Wimberley will meet with Stewardship Ministry at 3:30pm. Dinner at 4:30 – Stewardship, new CM Members, Visioning Team invited. 5:30-7:30 – Wimberly will meet with the Visioning Team. Bridget will send goals to CM.

### **Ministry Updates (if not included in minutes)**

#### OUTREACH

#### NEW MEMBER

9 to 11 new members this Sunday.

#### VICE MODERATOR

Audio Committee, David Thie, Jeff Carels, Jeff Gibson, and Tom Towill will meet after March 15 to discuss and bring a recommendation back.

#### GIFTS & MEMORIALS

Gary indicated that nothing was pending.

#### INREACH

Heather announced that the ministry has finalized Easter breakfast plans. Spring Fling will be May 6 Green Isle. YCA banquet – Deb will follow up on date. Inreach provides main meal, YCA deals with dessert and appetizers. Church picnic June 5.

#### WORSHIP

Highlighted Holy Week activities in calendar.

#### OUTREACH

Brat sales coming 8 nights. Garage sale is not clear. Stacie Christian is in charge and will decide if/when it will happen. Discussion of Strengthen the Church UCC offering. Steve moved that we include this as an offering opportunity. (Steve/Jeff) Motion carried.

#### EDUCATION

Karlyn Crowley will lead a discussion on April 3 on “Let Your Life Speak” by Parker Palmer in anticipation of his visit to St. Norbert on April 20.

All Church Easter Event (needs egg cartons).

Staffing nursery – need an additional staffer. Education recommended and Bridget approved raising the nursery staff rate from \$9.40 to \$12.50/hr. effective July 1. Education budget will cover it this year. CM expressed appreciation of the decision.

STEWARDSHIP

No report

**Talents and Gifts:** Nothing new

**Communications:** Bridget reported that a Communications Committee has been formed. Members are Shaun Shouldeen (chair), Jeff Ash, Katie Klaus, Chris Schulz, Nicole Polarek, and Tim Harder. Will report later on new projects.

**Other:**

**Adjournment**

After prayer, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeff Gibson, Vice Moderator, Substitute Clerk

Next meeting: April 12, 2016 – Chapel Classroom – 6:30 p.m.

| Common Ministry Meetings | Shared Reflection | Treats       |
|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| 4/12/2016                | Collins           | Norsetter    |
| 5/10/2016                | Flad-Daniels      | Polarek      |
| 6/14/2016                | Gibson            | Putman       |
| 8/9/2016                 | Hassel            | Rose         |
| 9/13/2016                | Hohenstein        | Shouldeen    |
| 10/11/2016               | Jones             | Thie         |
| 11/8/2016                | Lanoue            | Carels       |
| 12/13/2016               | Norsetter         | Collins      |
| 1/10/2017                | Polarek           | Flad-Daniels |