

**UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
COMMON MINISTRY  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF AUGUST 9, 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	Gary Hassel	Marlene Lanoue	
Inreach	Heather Collins		
New Member		Steve Jones	
Outreach	Cathy Putman		
Stewardship	David Thie		
Worship	Sandy Polarek		
Communications Coordinator		Shaun Shouldeen	
Talents & Gifts			
Guest(s)			

Moderator Lou Norsetter called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

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

**Open Forum:** None.

**Shared Reflection:** Gary Hassel shared a reflection.

**Senior Minister's Report:**

Bridget reported on various uses of the building that she has approved.

- a) Music for the Sake of Music. Lessons for students on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays (AM). Security issues will be worked out. They will pay \$25/hour for maintenance when needed. Bridget was asked if adults could also receive lessons. She said it was her understanding that the lessons were for children, but she agreed to look into it.
- b) "The Real Nashville Concert" August 19. Organized by church member, Paul Wilmet. Fundraiser for Darjune Recovery Community and Stop Heroin Now.
- c) Somali Muslim women meeting place – Bridget is working out details with their Imam.

There was a group discussion on criteria of when to assess fees and procedures. No action was taken.

**Clerk's Report**

Minutes of the meeting of June 14 were approved (Dave/Heather).

**Treasurer's Report**

Jeff distributed his usual report. The normal drop in summer giving has been experienced, however the church has not had to use its line of credit. The Treasurer's report was approved (Dave/Heather).

**New Business**

- Cathy Putman asked that the stewardship committee look into portable air conditioning units and/or Mitsubishi Ductless cooling systems.

## **Continuing Business**

- SHIFT WI Conference Initiative: Discussed section 3, parts 1 and 2. Video 4 on the docket for September's meeting. (Find at [www.wcucc.org](http://www.wcucc.org). Click on SHIFT link.)
- AV/WiFi Report/Recommendation: Dave and Jeff G presented recommendations from the AV/WiFi Committee. The report recommends installing WiFi throughout the building, providing audio access to streamed worship in the nursery and English room, installing high quality audio/video system in Pilgrim Hall, outfitting a portable AV cart for mobile uses, and upgrading the sound board in the sanctuary. Common Ministry approved moving forward with the WiFi and audio access steps and agreed to revisit the remaining recommendations in 6 months. A mini-capital campaign will be run to cover the difference between the Greenlaw Memorial funds and the cost of this phase of the project. (Sandy/Jeff C).
- JOSHUA Wine and Cheese Fundraiser 7/22: Bridget reported that despite the hot weather, the event went well, raising \$6,000. We will be inviting them back.
- Visioning Team Update: Bridget reported that strategy groups are still forming. One focus is parents supporting one another in raising children in the faith.
- EMC Update: Dave Thie reported the EMC schedule;
  - September 13 Common Ministry will be asked to make their pledges
  - October 2 Campaign starts
  - November 6 Pledge Sunday
  - Follow Up calls shortly thereafter
- Report Conference Annual Meeting June 10-12: Steve, Sandy and Bridget attended. Sandy shared the following:
  - Keynote speaker Rev. Cameron Trimble of the Center for Progressive Renewal stated that "Enthusiasm is not an enemy of intellect." Common Ministry appreciated the encouragement to allow for more enthusiastic expressions during worship.
  - The world has progressed beyond how we worship now.
  - She encouraged use of music written in the last 100 years along with traditional hymns/anthems.
  - Pray-ground. Incorporate space within the sanctuary for children such as tables with appropriate quiet activities.
  - Executive Director Scott Anderson of the Wisconsin Council of Churches stated that they are working on a new initiative to address childhood poverty.
  - Former Union member Jean Wallenfang is now the pastor of Williams Bay UCC.

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

### OUTREACH

EPH needs volunteer servers for the November 3 concert at Howe School.

### INREACH

Corn Roast 9/11.

### EDUCATION

September schedule: 9/11 open house, 9/18 no school, 9/25 programming begins.

### GIFTS & MEMORIALS

UCC Foundation report should be ready for September's CM meeting.

### NEW MEMBERS/MEMBERSHIP

Cookie jars are needed. The group is looking to beef up communications.

### STEWARDSHIP

Dave recognized Bill Johnson for his contributions to stewardship, especially the painting project.

### WORSHIP

Bridget suggested that we introduce a blessing activity for members who are moving away.

**Talents and Gifts:**

It was suggested that we look at making this an official ministry.

**Communications:**

T-shirts are in.

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn was approved. After prayer, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Gibson, Vice-Moderator / Substitute Clerk

Next meeting: September 13, 2016 – Chapel Classroom – 6:30 p.m.

Future Schedule:

Common Ministry Meetings	Shared Reflection	Treats
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