

**UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
COMMON MINISTRY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2016**

Present:		Absent:	
Pastor		Bridget Flad-Daniels	
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 6:05 p.m.

Sandy Polarek read the 23rd Psalm.

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

Open Forum: None.

Shared Reflection: Gail Hohenstein shared a reflection.

Senior Minister's Report: No report.

Clerk's Report

Minutes of the meeting of August 9 were approved. (Steve/ Sandy)

Treasurer's Report

Jeff distributed his usual report. Total giving for the summer has been very low, much lower than the normal summer lull. He is going to put a note in the newsletter advising the Congregation of this situation. A question was raised about summer attendance. (Post-meeting note: Bridget checked attendance numbers and they are actually a little bit higher every month this summer than in the summer of 2015.) Expenses have been at 90% of budget. Report approved. (Deb/Steve)

New Business

- **Associate Pastor Search:** Deb Rose reported they have been meeting regularly. Ben VerGiesen is acting as chair. The position description has been developed, and they will now work on the Church profile. There will be listening sessions on 9/25 and 10/2 to glean Congregational input.
- **EMC/Pledge Cards:** David Thie reported the EMC goal this year will be higher than last year's. Kicking off on 10/2. It will be helpful to be able to report that there is momentum and that Common Ministry is supporting the campaign. He distributed cards with the hope that we make our pledges by the 9/27. Goal is to wrap up the campaign by Thanksgiving. Cathy questioned whether we would continue the Neighbors in Need offering on 10/2 due to conflict with the beginning of EMC. It was agreed that we would continue the Neighbors in Need offering.

- Preliminary Budget Discussion: Jeff asked Ministry Chairs to think about changes that might be needed in their budgets for next year. Please get back to him within the next few weeks. The Personnel Committee will be asked to make salary recommendations by November.

Continuing Business

- SHIFT WI Conference Initiative – Video 4: Deferred to meeting's end.
- Tech/AV Task Force Update: We are still short of the collection goal. The service warranty on the firewall device is due. Jeff recommended that we get the new one and pay the service warranty on that item. They are beginning the wi-fi infrastructure project but will not do the rest of the project until we need it, for example if we experience wi-fi slowdowns. They will meet another time to establish implementation details.
- Visioning Team Update: All strategy groups are meeting and will report ideas/plans soon. A discussion ensued on the desire for better communications between the Visioning Teams and the Common Ministry so that we don't have multiple groups working on similar issues, and to resolve how budgetary issues work. Lou and Heather are going to meet with Bridget to talk about this.

Ministry Updates (if not included in minutes)

OUTREACH

New Community Shelter serving date 10/27. Howe Neighborhood Resource Center serving date is 11/3. There are sign-up sheets upstairs.

NEW MEMBERS/MEMBERSHIP

New Member meetings are 10/27 and 11/2. Please let Steve know which date you will be attending. New Member Sunday is 11/13.

GIFTS & MEMORIALS

No Report.

INREACH

Heather reported that 12th Night will be on 1/6. Heather moved that we have it here with beer/wine served. Steve seconded and the motion was approved. Spring Fling will be at the new Ashwaubenon Community Center and will be family friendly with child events. We have cooks for all Wednesday nights for the year. Cathy will check the interest cards to see if there are people interested in working with Inreach.

EDUCATION

Deb reported they have hired additional nursery staff. Mayflower is now using the nursery and side room for the Hedgehogs (2-year olds). Mayflower is now NACEY accredited. Sylvia is working with storytellers. The Faith Formation/NOOMA calendars are scheduled through December. Teachers are Sandy Polarek/Deb Rose, Shana & Paco Espinosa, Christie & Clay Reese, Heather Collins, Ed Tucker, Anne Rakow-Weist and Tim Harder. Aides are Matt Lyman, Linda Jerabek and Julie Thiel.

STEWARDSHIP

No report.

WORSHIP

Sandy reported that Rev. Helgevold, a UCC minister and the Protestant chaplain at a Manitowoc hospital, will be preaching on Moon Beach Sunday. There will be no faith formation this Sunday.

Talents and Gifts: No Report.

Communications: No Report. Should we be getting information from the Communications group?

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was approved. After prayer for the Bush family, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.