

**UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
COMMON MINISTRY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 11, 2016**

Present:

Absent:

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)			

Vice Moderator Jeff Gibson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

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

Open Forum: None.

Shared Reflection: Steve Jones shared a reflection.

Senior Minister's Report: Bridget reported she has been busy with regular and special services and working with the Ministries. She believes people are feeling very connected and have had positive experiences here. She expressed thanks to those who help the people who make the special services and rites come off without a hitch (e.g., hospitality at funerals, ushers, turning over the Church between services. She has seen people in church who haven't been here since she started her Ministry. She also reported she met with the Personnel Committee last week to (1) set the process for staff reviews, (2) work on the process for Bridget's review, and (3) has provided the Personnel Committee with information on the WI Conference compensation guidelines. Nominating has been having very good luck with filling positions. She mentioned the upcoming Adult Ed series on end of life issues, and is pleased with how it is coming together. Service Sunday is getting good responses. Halloween is going to be a good chance at evangelism.

Clerk's Report

Minutes of the meeting of September 13 were approved. (Heather/Steve)

Treasurer's Report

Jeff distributed his usual report. September in past years is usually a slow income month, however this month was below average for the 4th month in a row. Expenses are about \$19,000 over income. YTD deficit is almost \$25,000 based on cash received YTD.

Approved. (David/Steve)

Jeff also mentioned that the annual audit was conducted this week with no issues. Many thanks to Bob Fahres for conducting the audit.

New Business

- **Associate Pastor Search:** The Search Committee is working on finalizing the Church profile. The team seems to be working together quite well.
- **EMC Update:** Dave reported we are off to a good start, with \$108,000 from 38 donors. He is feeling encouraged. He asked that Common Ministry get your pledge cards in asap, and let him know if you will participate in the follow-up effort which will begin on 11/6. Jeff volunteered to do the Stewardship testimonial this coming Sunday.

Continuing Business

- **Tech/AV Task Force Update:** The Task Force will be meeting next week to organize the plan to install wires and repeaters.
- **Visioning Team Update:** Bridget said strategy teams really began meeting in August. They are at the stage of brainstorming. Bridget has confirmed with them that they should stay in contact with the Ministry is most germane to their work to ensure no duplication or work at cross purposes. . There was discussion on how best to communicate with and engage the

Congregation regarding the work and plans of the Strategy teams. Bridget will share a list of the Strategy Teams and their members with Common Ministry. We should remember that it was not intended that all the Strategy Teams would begin work immediately.

Ministry Updates (if not included in minutes)

GIFTS/MEMORIALS

Gary reported that they are still working on getting further information on the UCC Funds.

INREACH

No report.

OUTREACH

George's Secret Elves, shelf stable foodstuffs for needy schoolchildren to supplement food while they are on Christmas vacation will be taking collection the 4 Sundays in November.

NEW MEMBERS/MEMBERSHIP

Please let Steve know which of the 2 New Member class you will be attending. Please come with sign-up sheets to let people get involved immediately.

EDUCATION

No additions.

STEWARDSHIP

A work day is being scheduled for 11/5 to do some deep cleaning in kitchen and other tasks TBD.

WORSHIP

Bridget will be participating in a Protestant service at St. Norbert's on October 18. Gail will provide treats.

Talents and Gifts:

Cathy noted we did not have TAG card with EMC.

Communications:

Bridget reported the group has not met recently due to Shaun's move. Nominating is working on a chair.

Shift Video Discussion:

It was agreed that this had been covered in discussions at Retreat.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was approved. (Heather/Deb) After prayer, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Hohenstein
Clerk

Next meeting: November 8, 2016 – Fellowship Rm – 6:30 p.m.

Future Schedule:

Common Ministry Meetings	Shared Reflection	Treats
10/11/2016	Jones	Thie
11/8/2016	Lanoue	Carels
12/13/2016	Norsetter	Collins
1/10/2017	Polarek	Flad-Daniels