

**UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
COMMON MINISTRY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JANUARY 10, 2017**

Present:

Absent:

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

Moderator Lou Norsetter called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Lou thanked everyone for being available.

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

Shared Reflection: Sandy Polarek shared a reflection.

Open Forum: None.

Senior Minister's Report: Bridget thanked those who were willing to participate in the weather-cancelled MLK celebration yesterday. We will host next year. She and the Church office staff have been busy with holidays and with the Annual Report, which will be available for distribution this week. Printed copies will be available at the Church, and it will be available on the Church website. A big thank you to Eric for all his work on the report. Bridget also mentioned she is working with a St. Norbert's graphic arts student on a new rainbow flag for the outside sign. It should be available to go up in the spring.

Clerk's Report

Minutes of the meetings of December 13, 2016 were approved. Deb/Steve. Approved.

Correspondence: Thank you notes from several staff members were read.

Treasurer's Report

Jeff distributed his usual report. Income was great for December, bringing annual income to 104% of budget. We received a lot of "non pledge" income. Expenses were at 91% of budget, mostly due to positions not filled and lower utility costs. Although budget lines were exceeded in a few areas, we ended the year with a \$5,151 surplus, making a multi-year accumulated surplus of about \$55,000. Jeff's report was approved (David/Steve)

New Business

- 2017 Budget Proposal: Jeff distributed a summary with two options for consideration--one using half of the surplus in 2017 (ending with a \$9,685 deficit) and one using all of the surplus in 2017 (ending with a \$34,685 deficit). Stewardship recommends using half of the deficit and running a second mile campaign to raise about \$35,000 in the spring. Gail moved approval of the presentation of the proposed budget at the Annual Meeting using half of the surplus. Deb seconded and the motion was approved. Larry then discussed the proposal for a second mile campaign in the spring, which was approved. (David/Steve)
- Treat/Shared Reflection Sign-up: Lou distributed a sheet for 2017 sign-ups.
- 2016 Annual Meeting Preparation
 - Nominating Committee Slate of Incoming Leaders for 2017: Lou reviewed the Nominating Committee slate for 2017.

- Other Issues: The proposed agenda was reviewed. After discussion it was agreed the meeting will be held in the Sanctuary with lunch upstairs after the meeting. Deb and Gail will work together to develop a plan for the luncheon and will submit written notes to help with future meeting plans.

Continuing Business

- Gifts & Memorials Conversation: Tabled to the February meeting.
- EMC Update: Dave reported there have been 147 positive pledge responses and 17 “no pledge” responses, totaling \$316,411 in pledges as of January 6.
- Associate Pastor Search: The Church Profile is being proofed. It will be distributed to CM for comment at the February meeting.
- Tech/AV Task Force Update: Cable for the Sanctuary access point was strung. Jeff testing it; we may need to provide a power supply. Firewall and security software have been installed.

Ministry Updates (if not included in minutes)

NEW MEMBERS/MEMBERSHIP

No Report.

GIFTS & MEMORIALS

No Report.

STEWARDSHIP

No Report, except that another \$50,000 of the Gifts & Memorials loan has been repaid from Capital Campaign funds.

WORSHIP

No Report, except to share that MLK Sunday was wonderful.

INREACH

No Report.

OUTREACH

No Report.

EDUCATION

No Report.

Church Projects As Available:

- Advocacy Strategy Team: The Advocacy Team gave a very positive and well attended Second Sunday presentation on their initial work around studying becoming an Immigrant Welcoming Community. The Small Group Strategy Team is starting a book group based on The Book of Unknown Americans, which deals with Latin-American immigrants. The Advocacy Team looking at a curriculum developed by the Wisconsin Council of Churches to be used during Lent.
- Talents & Gifts: No Report.
- Communications: No Report.

Adjournment

Common Ministry shared in a sparkling grape juice toast to thank to Lou for her 2 years as Moderator.

Motion to adjourn was approved. After prayer, the meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Hohenstein, Clerk

Next meeting: February 14, 2017 – Chapel Classroom – 6:30 p.m.

Future Schedule:

Common Ministry Meetings	Shared Reflection	Treats
02/14/17	Jeff Carels	Gail Hohenstein
03/14/17		

04/11/17		

APPROVED