

**UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
COMMON MINISTRY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MARCH 14, 2017**

Present:

Absent:

Pastor	Bridget Flad Daniels		
Moderator	Sandy Polarek		
Vice Moderator	Jeff Gibson		
Treasurer	Jeff Carels		
Clerk	Gail Hohenstein		
Education	Deb Rose		
Gifts & Memorials	Marlene Lanoue	Nicole Polarek	
Inreach		Heather Collins	
New Member		Steve Jones	
Outreach	Lou Norsetter	Christie Reese	
Stewardship	David Thie		
Worship	Virginia Riggs		
Communications Coordinator	Nicole Kinjerski		
Talents & Gifts			
Guest(s)			

Moderator Sandy Polarek called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Additions to the Agenda: None.

Congregational Joys and Concerns: Joys and concerns were shared.

Gathering Prayer: Deb Rose led us in prayer.

Open Forum: None.

Senior Minister's Report: Bridget shared her 2017 schedule of Sundays when she will not be in the pulpit due to vacation, Church functions (e.g. Church Retreat), and CLE. The Church office will be closed on the Monday after Easter. While working on the Second Mile Campaign Winnie identified 52 members for whom we do not have contact information, mostly adult children of members. Gail volunteered to make contact and determine whether they want to continue to be on the membership rolls. Bridget also shared the observation that our programming tends to decline as snowbirds return, meaning that they don't get much chance to participate in Church activities other than Sunday worship. She is going to contact a few of those households to learn what programming they might find attractive. Inreach has also discussed scheduling some activities so they would be available to these folks. Bridget is also working with Inreach to enhance how we do "internal caregiving"--how do we help congregants to support one another. Possibilities include meals when people come home from the hospital, care packages for ill members, card expressions of concern to members. Jeff Gibson suggested maybe tutoring young folks. Stephen Ministry may be reinitiated after the new staff person is on board. Bridget is continuing discussions regarding support for the Somali population in Green Bay. Bridget shared a first draft of a potential replacement for the rainbow sign outside the Church. She expressed that the process of written prayers in worship has been incredibly profound and well-utilized.

Clerk's Report

Minutes of the meetings of February 14, 2017 were approved. (Deb/Jeff)

Correspondence: None.

Treasurer's Report

Jeff Carels distributed his usual report. Income on the low side (after a big Jan) at 92% of budget. Expenses are also at 92% of budget. Jeff's report was approved. (Marlene/Deb) Jeff added we should let him know if there are additional items we would like him to include in his regular report.

New Business - None

Continuing Business

- Spring Common Ministry Retreat: The retreat is scheduled for April 8, 1-4 pm at the Church. It will deal with the book, Getting to Yes, and learning healthy ways to deal with conflict in the church. Bridget is in dialog with the Ethics Team of the Church & Ministry Team relative to leading the retreat. Deb and Nicole K will coordinate refreshments.
- Delegates:
 - Northeast Association Meeting – April 22, 9am-3 pm (Ripon). Steve Jones and Bridget are attending. One more person is needed. The theme is revitalizing congregations.
 - Wisconsin Conference Meeting – July 9-11 (Green Lake). Steve Jones and Sandy Polarek are attending, as is Bridget
 - EMC Second Mile Update – David reported that the mailing has gone out. The goal is to conclude the effort by first of May. He has been in contact with follow-up team. The goal was increased to \$50,000 due to the newly developed assessment from the city to repave (plus new curb and gutter) Madison St., which will result in a cost to the Church of about \$12,000. Moving forward with the mission of church requires more leadership, namely a second staff person. We all need to dig deep to close the budget gap. He hopes that Common Ministry will get back to Winnie promptly so we can show our early support. We've chosen our path, now we need to pave the way. Regarding the paving project, Sandy, Bill, and David went to the city planning meeting. The city will try to minimize disruption of weekend and special events. Work is expected to begin in late spring and finish in October. There will be a wheelchair access point at the terminus of Spring St.
 - Associate Pastor Search – Deb reported that the Church Profile was fine-tuned and as of today it is posted at the national and conference websites. The Search Committee is also looking at posting elsewhere to get a broader audience.
 - Tech/AV Task Force Update – Jeff Gibson reported on some complications and issues with the equipment. He is working with the vendors to resolve them. Nicole K. offered her expertise also.

Ministry Updates (if not included in minutes)

EDUCATION

Vacation Bible School in the works in collaboration with First Congregational UCC, De Pere. The OGHS loose change collection is going well.

GIFTS & MEMORIALS

No report.

INREACH

Bridget mentioned Inreach has asked for assistance to set up, serve or clean up Easter breakfast. Confirmation and Spring Fling (May 5) and church picnic are in the works. There will be child care and youth activities for Spring Fling.

NEW MEMBER/MEMBERSHIP

Bridget passed around a sign-up sheet for the New Member classes.

OUTREACH

Lou reported they are still looking for someone to coordinate meals for Souper Cooks and the also to coordinate work needed on the interior of Jubilee House when residents turn over (assessing what needs doing and recruiting folks to do it). Scott Daniels will coordinate the exterior work.

STEWARDSHIP

No additions.

WORSHIP

Virginia reported that mentors and Confirmands helped serve our most recent Communion. One youth has also volunteered to usher and another has been added to the Lay Reader list.

Communications: Welcome Nicole Kinjerski! She has a team to work with and will be meeting with them soon.

Thanks to Marlene for the treats.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was approved. After prayer, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. (Jeff G./Deb)

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Hohenstein
Clerk

Next meeting: April 11, 2017 – Chapel Classroom – 6:30 p.m.

Future Schedule:

Common Ministry Meetings	Gathering Prayer	Treats
4/11/17	David Thie	Virginia Riggs
5/9/17	Nicole Polarek	Nicole Polarek
6/13/17	Steve Jones	Steve Jones
8/8/17	Jeff Gibson	Heather Collins
9/12/17	Heather Collins	Jeff Carels
10/10/17	Marlene Lanoue	Jeff Gibson
11/14/17	Bridget Flad Daniels	Christie Reese
12/12/17	Lou Norsetter	Deb Rose
1/9/2018	Sandy Polarek	Sandy Polarek