

**UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
COMMON MINISTRY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JUNE 13, 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	Christie Reese	Lou Norsetter	
Stewardship	David Thie		
Worship	Virginia Riggs		
Communications Coordinator		Nicole Kinjerski	
Talents & Gifts			
Guest(s)			

Moderator Sandy Polarek called the meeting to order at the Metreau Apartments Community Room at 6:38 p.m.

Additions to the Agenda: None.

Congregational Joys and Concerns: Joys and concerns were shared.

Gathering Prayer: Steve led us in prayer.

Open Forum: None.

Senior Minister's Report: Bridget is again spending much time on Waitzmann Condo Assn. The current issue is the high cost of insurance for the condo owners. She would love some help on this. We had excellent response to the COMSA Adult Education session on 6/4. 15-20 folks want to volunteer. Sandy Polarek, Steve Jones and Bridget were at Wisconsin Conference Annual Meeting. The keynote speaker, Hon. Rev. Everett Mitchell (Pastor of Christ the Solid Rock Baptist Church and a Circuit Court Judge in Dane county) spoke on race. He pointed out that mainline churches need to be interested in race not simply from a justice or "reaching out" standpoint, but from the perspective that because the majority of the US population is going to be persons of color by 2050, churches which want to be relevant in coming decades will need to focus on race as a sustainability issue. Bridget reported also that the Conference voted to become an immigrant welcoming conference. Bridget also reported she had met with the Pastoral Relations Committee recently, and the Committee suggested that she spend some time on Mondays and Wednesdays during the summer to give a time to grieve her father's death. Bridget stressed she will be available for the Church's needs, but will try to have more limited office hours on those days this summer.

Clerk's Report

Minutes of the meetings of May 9, 2017 were approved. (Steve/Christie)

Correspondence: Thank you expression from John & Karen Wirch for hosting the Adult Gay Straight Alliance meetings during the year.

Treasurer's Report

Jeff distributed his usual report. Income was low (\$22,000) offsetting a higher than normal income in the prior month. 2nd mile pledges will be reported within the income line in the Sunday Still Speaking and in future reports. Expenses are at a consistent 93%. He plans to note some of the expenditure outliers. Cash flow has been fine. Jeff's report was accepted. (Steve/Deb).

New Business

- Immigration Advocacy Team: Bridget reported that the team is working on a survey and requested some Common Ministry input. The team's charge came from the visioning work in which many church members participated. A number of activities have been conducted, including two 2nd Sundays, a book group, and educational/discussion sessions. The majority who have participated have been on board with the effort. The purpose of the survey is to ensure they connect with people with differing understandings to try to identify what the Church is called to do next. What is the Church's willingness to participate? Bridget will tell Advocacy Team that we appreciate the survey in theory, and asks that Common Ministry review the draft survey in more detail and get back to her with comments by July 6.

Continuing Business

- Getting to Yes: Discussion of Pages 42-95. Next meeting 99-145.
- Delegates Report for Wisconsin Conference Meeting: See above. Steve added it was a wonderful conference. Sandy found Everett Mitchell to be a fantastic speaker, citing his saying "We need to have relevant conversations, relationships and welcome [others less familiar to us] into our home". Steve noted the General Synod will be in Milwaukee in 2 years (3rd week of June, 2019). They will need lots of volunteer help.
- EMC Second Mile Update – David reported we received \$38,775 in new pledges from 89 giving participants since the beginning of the campaign. Bruce Shafer will lead the fall EMC. As budget year continues and we know more about the search process, will need to think about how to manage those funds in the coming year.
- Associate Pastor Search – Deb shared that the Search Committee is pursuing a very exciting candidate whom they have interviewed twice. Bridget is scheduled for the next interview. Next step would be a face-to-face interview in Green Bay.
- Tech/AV Task Force Update – Jeff reported he and the contractor have been able to simplify the project and reduce the cost. It is close to completion.

Ministry Updates (if not included in minutes)

- EDUCATION
The June Faith Formation Field Trip will be this Thursday, 5-7pm. The Ministry is working to sign up teachers and aides for next year. They are working on setting up a "Pray-Ground" within the sanctuary. (Quiet area where a parent can bring an antsy child and still participate in the service.)
- GIFTS & MEMORIALS
No Report.
- INREACH
Thank you for the picnic. Everything was beautiful and it worked well.
- NEW MEMBER/MEMBERSHIP
No Report.
- OUTREACH
Christie asked for input on setting dates for fall events on the calendar. Service Sunday will be 11/5.
- STEWARDSHIP
David got confirmation from the City that the Madison Street project will start Monday.
- WORSHIP
Virginia reviewed the Worship minutes, which will be distributed.

Communications: Nicole Kinjerski was unable to be here. Common Ministry reviewed a potential replacement for the rainbow flag in the Church sign.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was approved. After prayer, the meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Thank you to Steve for treats. Thank you to Deb & Larry Rose for hosting the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Hohenstein
Clerk

Next meeting: August 8, 2017 – 6:30 PM -- Chapel Classroom

Future Schedule:

Common Ministry Meetings	Gathering Prayer	Treats
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

FINAL

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