

**UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
COMMON MINISTRY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 9, 2018**

<u>Present:</u>		<u>Absent:</u>	
Pastors	Bridget Flad Daniels	Jon Pahl	
Moderator	Sandy Polarek		
Vice Moderator	Jeff Gibson		
Treasurer	Jeff Carels		
Clerk	Gail Hohenstein		
Education	Nancy Gibson		
Gifts & Memorials		Phil Enscoe, Nicole Polarek	
Inreach	Heather Collins		
New Member	Nicole Kinjerski		
Outreach	Christie Reese	Lou Norsetter	
Stewardship	Jammie VerGiesen		
Worship	Virginia Riggs		
Communications Coordinator			
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: Jeff G. shared a reading.

Open Forum: None.

Ministers' Reports:

Bridget reported that she is the NE Association representative to the Wisconsin Conference racial justice task force. It is working to provide resources to congregations on racial justice and is working with the conveners of the General Synod to develop a bold action on racial justice. For example, the Presbyterian General Synod utilized its offering to post bail for everyone in the local county jail. She was also asked by the Wisconsin Conference to chair the task force looking into the boundary training for pastors, which is the one continuing education subject required for clergy to retain ordination standing. The Music Director search and interim music coordination took a good deal of time, and she has been more involved in the pledge campaign than she has been in the past.

Jon: No report. Sandy mentioned that before Jon left he wrote a Catalyst grant to the WI Conference UCC for the incubator office space downstairs. We were not awarded the Lilly grant.

Clerk's Report

Minutes of the meetings of September 11 were approved. (Heather/Jeff C)

Two items were approved via email votes since the last meeting:

1. Common Ministry approved the inclusion of beer and wine in donated baskets for the auction.
2. Common Ministry approved the change in its regular meeting time from the 2nd Tuesday of the month to the 2nd Thursday of the month in order to accommodate the change in the Choir schedule from Thursdays to Tuesdays.

Treasurer's Report

Jeff Carels distributed his usual report. Income for September was \$16,534, consistent with prior years and pretty much right on budget. Expenses YTD are \$346,518, or 95% of budget. YTD expenses are \$6,929 higher than revenue. Jeff's report was approved. (Jammie/Jeff G.)

New Business

- Common Ministry Meeting Date/Time: The next Common Ministry will be at 6 pm, November 8. Stewardship plans to continue to meet on 2nd Tuesdays. Inreach and New Member Ministry will switch to 2nd Thursday.
- 2019 Budget(s): Jeff distributed preliminary budgets for 2019 and asked that each ministry review it and recommend any adjustments via email to Jeff.

Continuing Business

- Stewardship/Pledge Campaign for 2019: The brochure turned out very well. Thanks to Eric for the layout. Verbiage was excellent. Jammie looking for recommendations for 2 testimonial Sundays.
- Jazz & Jesus Update: 49 people were in attendance; 10 non-members or friends. The response was positive. Next events will be December 1 at 2pm and December 17 at 7pm.
- Music Director Search Update: Seong-Kyung Graham started officially today. Still on-boarding some. The Choir graciously moved its rehearsal date to accommodate her schedule. If possible, she may be asked to introduce herself to the Congregation at the November 4 quarterly meeting.
- Quarterly Meeting November 4: Worship, Gifts & Memorials and Nominating will report.
- Organ Campaign Update: Jammie said to date we have raised \$37,800, which is more than \$2,000 over our goal.. Parts order has been authorized and a timeline for repair is being established. All funds donated will be used for the organ.
- 2018 Budget Fundraising Updates: Heartland – no update (post meeting note: \$275 was raised through the pizza night). Auction set for October 19 at 7 pm. Tree/wreath sale: Jeff reported we will buy 35 trees and 50 wreaths from Whispering Pines. A number of trees are also being donated by Larry Krueger. Sales will begin the Saturday after Thanksgiving. Amazon Smile distributions will be made quarterly.
- Immigration Advocacy Team Update: The October 2nd Sunday speaker will be Dennis Rader, an immigration attorney. Efforts are underway to “place” the Immigration Advocacy Team within a Ministry.
- Tech/AV Task Force Update: No report.
- Memorial Garden Update: No report.

Ministry Updates (if not included in minutes)

EDUCATION

Things are going fairly well, although we still need 3-6 grade teacher part time. It was great to have the Wednesday night youth groups participate in the service on Sunday.

GIFTS & MEMORIALS

No report.

INREACH/NEW MEMBER/MEMBERSHIP

Two new members will join on Sunday. Don't forget about the potluck.

OUTREACH

Christie highlighted that we are not planning on repeating the Veterans Thanksgiving dinner this year, but instead will be hosting the EPH 2nd annual holiday meal for the EPH families (about 70 people) on Monday, December 10. Lots of help will be needed to make this a successful and festive event for the EPH families.

STEWARDSHIP

No report.

WORSHIP

No report.

Communications: No report.

Adjournment

Thank you to Christie for treats tonight!

Motion to adjourn was approved. After prayer, the meeting was adjourned at 7:4 pm (Heather/Jammie)

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Hohenstein
Clerk

Next meeting: November 8, 2018 – 6:30 PM -- Chapel Classroom
Future Schedule:

Common Ministry Meetings	Gathering Prayer	Treats
November 8	Lou	Heather
December 113	Steve	Steve
January 10	Sandy	Nancy