

**UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
COMMON MINISTRY  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MARCH 7, 2019**

<b><u>Present:</u></b>		<b><u>Absent:</u></b>	
Pastors	Bridget Flad Daniels, Jon Pahl		
Moderator	Sandy Polarek		
Vice Moderator		Stacie Christian	
Treasurer	Jeff Gibson		
Clerk	Gail Hohenstein		
Education	Nancy Gibson		
Gifts & Memorials		Phil Enscoe Nicole Polarek	
Inreach	Heather Collins		
New Member		Nicole Kinjerski	
Outreach	Achim Siefert	Christie Reese	
Stewardship		Jammie VerGiesen	
Worship	Betty Bienash, David Hassell		
Communications		Avonelle Weist	
Talents & Gifts			
Guest(s)			

Moderator Sandy Polarek called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

**Additions to the Agenda:** None

**Congregational Joys and Concerns:** Joys and concerns were shared.

**Gathering Prayer:** Bridget offered a prayer.

**Open Forum:** None.

**Ministers' Reports:**

**Bridget:** Bridget is just back in the office after her medical leave. Her surgery went well, and she thanks everyone for their prayers and support, especially Jon and the church staff for holding down the fort here. The Faith Leaders group on Connections for Mental Wellness, of which she is a part, is creating a workshop on May 30 for church leaders, as they are often the first to whom folks experiencing mental health issues turn. She is working with Worship and Education on plans for Lent.

**Jon:** Will be out of the office M-Th. He needs someone to work with PF group this coming Wednesday evening. The first Dinner Church last night was a "learning" first experience. Jazz Ministry dates are set for the Spring. He is working with Howe Community Resource Center on a Sister Family Project under which families from the congregation would "mentor" a family from Howe with the assistance of a case manager. Immigration event coming together nicely. The Brain Center of Green Bay had its first board meeting. He is putting together a team to work on the YCA Room repurposing project.

## **Clerk's Report**

Minutes of the meetings of February 14, 2019 were approved. (Heather/Achim)

## **Treasurer's Report**

Jeff distributed the budget report. Monthly income was \$12,502 vs. \$25,593 last year; however YTD revenue was \$124,392 vs. 2018's \$127,379. Expenses were below budget by \$4,000.

Insurance premiums are higher than budget. Bridget is working with Bill Johnson to look into a different carrier. Approved. (Gail/Heather)

## **New Business**

- ONA 20 Years: It was agreed we need to commemorate. Jon was approached by Human Rights Campaign which wants to have a film screening of the movie Gayby Baby on April 24 at the church. We discussed getting commemoration banner which could be displayed at church as well as at events such as PRIDE. There will be a special service on a Sunday near the actual anniversary date. We agreed to discuss additional possible commemorations next month.
- JOSHUA: Jeff is a member of the Prison Reform Task Force, which is focusing on issues around the 200-bed jail expansion project. One concern is the plan to eliminate face-to-face visitation and replace it with tablet visitation, which would involve a cost to the inmate. Jeff will write a newsletter article encouraging people to advocate with public officials on this issue. WISDOM Organizations (an alliance of Justice organizations in WI of which JOSHUA is a member) is sponsoring a Madison Action Day on March 26 which will focus on prison reform, housing, and mental health issues.

## **Continuing Business**

- Prayer and Treat Schedule: Sandy passed around the schedule.
- Sex Offender Policy Update: Bridget continues to work on the (with Christie Reese and Stacie Christian) and has made some progress.
- Pictorial Directory Update: Heather and Avonelle have been gathering information from a couple of studios. They plan for a proposal next month.
- JOSHUA Block Party June 15 Update: Still do not have a Union representative to liaison with the planning committee.
- Immigration Advocacy Team Update: Agenda for May 4 has been planned and a flyer has been developed. Jon will share it with Common Ministry and the Congregation.
- Tech/AV Task Force Update: No Report. Jeff is aware that the internet does not work well in the classroom upstairs. Bill and Jeff are working to move an access point which may help.
- Memorial Garden Update: No update.

## **Ministry Updates (if not included in minutes)**

### EDUCATION

No report.

### GIFTS & MEMORIALS

No Report.

### INREACH/NEW MEMBER/MEMBERSHIP

No Report.

OUTREACH

Immigrant Advocacy Day – Need 17 volunteers.

STEWARDSHIP

No Report.

WORSHIP

Maundy Thursday service will be Communion followed by a simple soup meal, all in Pilgrim Hall. On April 7 our choir will sing at West Side Moravian. On Good Friday our choirs will combine here. Bridget added that Ann Rakow-Weist has created installation near the baptismal font. Thanks to Anne for this contribution.

**Communications:** No Report. Avonelle is working on several things, including working with Eric to make the website calendar more current.

**Adjournment**

Thank you to Heather for treats tonight!

Motion to adjourn was approved. After prayer, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m. (Jeff/Heather)

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Hohenstein  
Clerk

Next meeting: April 11, 2019 – 6:00 PM -- Chapel Classroom

Future Schedule:

<b>Common Ministry Meetings</b>	<b>Gathering Prayer</b>	<b>Treats</b>
March 7	Jammie	Heather
April 11	Jeff	Stacie
May 9	Stacie	Jon
June 13	Jon	Bridget
August 8	Bridget	Betty B
September 12	Betty	Jammie
October 10	Heather	Nancy
November 14		Christie
December 12	Sandy	Achim
January 9		