

**UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
COMMON MINISTRY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MAY 9, 2019**

Present:

Absent:

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

Moderator Sandy Polarek called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Additions to the Agenda: None.

Congregational Joys and Concerns: Joys and concerns were shared.

Gathering Prayer: Stacie shared a prayer of gratitude and diversity.

Open Forum: None.

Ministers' Reports:

Bridget expressed that it was a phenomenal Holy Week. A number of folks, particularly ones who participated in all the services, felt it was the most spiritual Holy Week they had experienced. She is glad to see that attendance numbers are back on track. She is working on a "Union Comes out of the Closet" reallocation of storage proposal for Stewardship to consider in anticipation of the proposed repurposing of the YCA room. Was able to schedule our off-site "spirituality of spirits" class (alcohol policy). It will be an off-site opportunity for her and Jon to do some education on Wednesday June 19 at 6:30 p.m. at Stillmank Brewery. The plan is to come to a policy in the fall.

Jon: Jon added information about the Spirituality of Spirits session. The Jazz Ministry grant from Calvin Seminary was awarded to Union. The Jazz Ministry Team is comprised of Jon, Julie Macier (Outreach), David Hassel (Worship), Seong (Music Staff), Adam Gaines, and Rissel Peguero. Grant funds will be disbursed in 2 payments. The first will be received soon; the second will be in 2020. Immigration Advocacy met yesterday and is looking at next steps. They may consider doing a comparable event next year on a different topic.

Clerk's Report

Minutes of the meetings of April 11 were approved as amended (Heather/Jammie).

Treasurer's Report

April was a good month. Revenues are still under budget, but less so. April income was sig higher than that of the prior 2 months. Total income last year vs. this year is exceeding that of last year. We continue to be under budget for expenses. Approved (Betty/Stacie).

New Business

- Bridget mentioned we had considered a bus for General Synod on 6/23. It does not make financial sense so she will be organizing carpooling.

Continuing Business

- Repurposing Update: Request for bid has been sent to 1 contractor. We are looking for 2 more.
- ONA 20 Years Event: October 24, 1999 was the actual date of the ONA vote. Bridget has contacted a couple of venues and a couple of national UCC speakers, as well as an LBGTQ trio that performs musical "standards". October 18 would be the best date. She and Avonelle are working on a new banner for the church front as well as a portable banner.
- Chancel Safety and Accessibility: Jammie reported the tape strip has been installed. Jon mentioned that Partners for Sacred Places consults on such issues. Hand railing will be installed on the work day.
- Sex Offender Policy Update: Bridget has worked to set a meeting date.
- Pictorial Directory Update: Please schedule your photos! Slots are filling up. There is no charge to have your photo taken and no requirement to purchase photos.
- Fundraising – Happy Joe's Pizza, other: Happy Joe's date is May 29. Make sure you tell them you are with Union Church. Auction will be 9/21. Stacie will do a short notice for the newsletter. Jeff Carels did a nice thank you in the Astor Neighborhood Association newsletter about the Christmas tree sale. Jon thinks we should develop a color book describing the church windows for sale.
- JOSHUA Block Party June 15 Update: There is another big festival on June 15 in Green Bay, so food truck availability for the JOSHUA event will be limited. The event will be relocated to our parking lot with 1 tent and 1 food truck. Bridget has reminded JOSHUA that they need to provide a Certificate of Indemnification from their insurance company, and has alerted our new insurance company of the event as well.
- Immigration Advocacy Team Update: Jon expressed the Immigration Advocacy event went well with about 85 in attendance. Breakouts were well received. Stacie's presentation was excellent. The team is still reviewing the evaluations. Jon will prepare a summation when the review is complete. Lunch was fantastic.
- Tech/AV Task Force Update: No report. Bridget mentioned she has had a request to listen to services on line.
- Memorial Garden Update: Meeting scheduled for next Thursday. Bridget noted final hymn on Memorial Day will be in the Memorial Garden.

Ministry Updates (if not included in minutes)

EDUCATION

Looking for new teachers for next year. Cleaning out closets in June.

GIFTS & MEMORIALS

No Report.

INREACH/NEW MEMBER/MEMBERSHIP

Heather noted summer coffee hours will be held, but will be asking for others to volunteer to prepare and serve. Summer fare will include just coffee, lemonade and water. Paper products will be used for the summer. If there are no volunteers for a Sunday, there will be no coffee hour that day. Picnic will be June 2. Help is needed for set-up and clean-up (9 a.m. set-up, cleanup after the picnic ends).

OUTREACH

EPH/Jubilee offering will be this coming Sunday. On the Mark got a \$5,000 grant from Nature’s Way. Jon added that Immigration Advocacy and Souper Cooks have gotten small grants from Thrivent.

STEWARDSHIP

Jammie reported that the parking policy is almost complete. He will distribute it after next week’s Stewardship meeting so that Common Ministry members have time to review it prior to the June meeting.

WORSHIP

June 2 is worship in the park. Help is needed to get equipment and gear to the park and back again.

Communications: Working on banner and pictorial directory.

Adjournment

Thank you to Jon for treats tonight!

Motion to adjourn was approved. After prayer, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

(Heather/Achim)

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Hohenstein
Clerk

Next meeting: June 13, 2019 – 6:00 p.m. -- Chapel Classroom

Future Schedule:

Common Ministry Meetings	Gathering Prayer	Treats
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		