

**UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
COMMON MINISTRY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2019**

Present:

Absent:

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

Moderator Sandy Polarek called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

Additions to the Agenda:

Congregational Joys and Concerns: Joys and concerns were shared.

Gathering Prayer: Betty shared a poem.

Open Forum: None.

Ministers' Reports:

Bridget: Bridget has focused on staffing in light of Scott's medical issues and working on the issues surrounding the water damage. Lower level work will start later this month.

Jon: Book tour trip was exhausting but rewarding. Faith Formation is off to a good start even with the shuffling of classrooms. The PF team is complete. Their service project will be a documentary about Union's history. Adult Ed theme is "The Green Gospel". We are still looking for some speakers. The Green Bay Mayor and his family will be at the retreat and will offer some words. Jazz Ministry services are all planned. There will be a St. Francis Blessing of Pets on 10/4. The Brain Center received a significant pledge and will be looking for an Executive Director soon. They are planning a 5/30/20 Brain Health Summit here. Jon continues to be interested in Food for Soul, a 501(c)(3) that works with congregations to turn them into "Community Diners" using excess food from restaurants and serves gourmet meals to the homeless.

Clerk's Report

Minutes of the meetings of August 8 were approved. (Heather/Jammie)

Treasurer's Report

Jammie shared that August income was better. Revenue is now just \$4,000 under budget. Expenses are \$6700 under budget. Approved. (Christie/Heather)

New Business

- Pledge Campaign: Bridget will distribute pledge cards to CM within the next week. "Love Over All" is the theme. Process will be similar to that used in years past. The campaign will be addressed in church beginning 9/29. Pledge Sunday will be 11/10. The campaign committee includes Jammie, Clay Reese, Jeff Carels, Bruce Shafer, Jeff Gibson, and Bridget.
- Roll Review: Review of membership rolls hasn't been done since Bridget was here, and should be done as it will impact what we pay to the WI Conference and NE Association. We may consider adding a new category such as "alumni member" or "friend of Union" so people can feel a part of the community but not be voting members. A small committee will be established to do the review. Helen and Gail volunteered to work with Bridget.
- Letter from Jon: John distributed a letter requesting a period of unpaid leave, which was approved. (Jon was not present during the discussion /vote on this item.)

Continuing Business

- Repurposing Update: Work will continue as planned before the water damage.
- ONA 20 Year Anniversary Gala: Invitations will be in the mail tomorrow. It will be a fundraiser for the new Pride Center. The date is Oct 18 at 5:30 and dinner at 6. Chris Davies, the National UCC minister for INFO (Innovation and Formation) will speak briefly on where ONA churches are going next.
- Sex Offender Policy Update: Bridget distributed a draft policy which had been previously distributed to members of Common Ministry. Bridget will bring it back for approval later this fall with a few changes.
- Fundraising: The Christmas tree committee has met. The sale will start the day after Thanksgiving. Sat Nov 23 is the date set for wreath-making. We will need folks both to get the word out and to staff the lot for a session or two. The auction plans are all set. Jon spoke with someone about a possible church windows photo book fundraiser and is still hoping this will happen. A spring bulb fundraiser may happen next year.
- Tech/AV Task Force Update: Jammie for Jeff moved to authorize use of Greenlaw Memorial funds plus up to \$400 from the Worship budget to buy a new audio mixer. Seconded by Jon. Approved.
- Memorial Garden Update: Meeting on the 30th.

Ministry Updates (if not included in minutes)

EDUCATION

No additions. We have 4 Confirmands this year. Tim Harder, Ed Tucker and Steve Hartmann will back-up Bridget. Emmaline Weist is the peer leader.

GIFTS & MEMORIALS

Lloyd Schaffer has agreed to participate on the asset management work for Gifts & Memorials.

INREACH/NEW MEMBER/MEMBERSHIP

Meetings are set. New Member Sunday will be a chili potluck. Another 7 to Sup is planned. The new Visitation ministry is meeting 10/3 at 6 pm. It is intended as a ministry of presence for a shut-ins or persons with special need, including regular visits and a monthly support meeting.

OUTREACH

No additions.

STEWARDSHIP

No additions.

WORSHIP

No additions. Confirmation Sunday will be June 7.

Communications: Banner and invitations are being worked on. Church directories have been shipped.

Adjournment

Thank you to Jammie for treats tonight!

Motion to adjourn was approved. (Jammie/Heather) After prayer, the meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Hohenstein
Clerk

Next meeting: October 10, 2019 – 6:00 PM -- Chapel Classroom

Future Schedule:

Common Ministry Meetings	Gathering Prayer	Treats
October 10	Heather	Nancy
November 14		Christie
December 12	Sandy	Achim
January 9		