

**UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
COMMON MINISTRY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 10, 2019**

<u>Present:</u>	<u>Absent:</u>	
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	
Guest(s)	Jonathan Lee, UCC Pension Boards Kristi Zahn Lloyd Schaefer	

Moderator Sandy Polarek called the meeting to order at 6 :02 p.m.

Gathering Prayer: Heather shared a prayer.

Presentation by Jonathan Lee, UCC Pension Boards: Mr. Lee made a presentation which described the mission of the United Church of Christ Board for Ministerial Assistance, Inc. It serves those facing needs in every step of their pastoral careers—educational debt, mid-career burnout, and deficient retirement income. The UCBMA is facing challenges, largely in that in the next decade there will be 33% more retirees. To meet the need, they are conducting a capital campaign titled Generations of Service, through which they aim to raise \$20 million in 5 years. Currently about half of that total has been committed, and they have reached the point where they are reaching out to UCC churches which, based on their past support, they have identified as potential leaders in the campaign. They are looking for commitments to be made within the next 3 years to be paid over 5 years. They would like churches to consider contributions in the range of \$25-50,000. Discussion followed. Gifts & Memorials will review the request.

Additions to the Agenda:

Congregational Joys and Concerns: Joys and concerns were shared.

Open Forum: None.

Ministers' Reports: Bridget has reconsidered taking on a membership roll review and would like instead to conduct a pre-roll review retention project under which we would make re-invitation contacts to those members we haven't seen recently. She reported the copier has died. Eric has done a great job meeting and negotiating with copier salespeople. A new copier will cost

\$7,300 which is not in the budget. Monthly support will be \$945/year vs. the current \$1,400. It was agreed we would discuss in New Business.

Clerk's Report

Minutes of the meetings of September 12 were approved. (Jammie/Heather).

Treasurer's Report

Jeff distributed final August report. We were about \$4,000 under budget on revenue. Expenses \$6,700 under budget. September income was healthy. Motion to accept approved. (Heather/Nicole)

New Business

- **Women's Advent Event:** Sue Tucker has led for years and years and will not be going forward this year. There was a bulletin notice asking if someone would like to coordinate and no one has volunteered. Participation was significantly down last year. If no one steps up to coordinate, the event will not occur.
- **Nominating Committee:** Looking good right now. Looking for Vice Moderator, EPH delegate, and Stewardship Chair. Working on Inreach/New Member chair.
- **Copier Purchase:** 2 choices for funding the copier purchase were discussed—going over budget or requesting funding from Gifts & Memorials, which has funded such purchases in the past. Motion to request Gifts & Memorials to loan \$7,300 for the purchase with the intent that the Church reconcile the loan when the final financial results for 2019 are determined was approved (Jeff/Betty).

Continuing Business

- **Pledge Campaign:** Clay Reese, Jammie Vergiesen, Bruce Shafer, Jeff Carels and Bridget working on the campaign. Brochure will be mailed on Monday. The theme is Love Over All. Hopefully responses will be received by mid-November. Bruce is leading the follow up team.
- **Repurposing Update:** Contractor plans to be on track for completion in December.
- **ONA 20 Years Event:** Should be a wonderful event. Friday, October 18.
- **Sex Offender Policy Update:** Still in progress.
- **Fundraising – Auction, Christmas Trees:** Auction earned about \$1,800. Thanks to those who organized and those who participated. The Christmas Tree sale will have about 10-15 % more trees and 25% more wreaths. Will need folks to buy and sell. Decorating dates are 11/23 and 12/1. They will be collecting ribbon and ornaments for wreaths.
- **Tech/AV Task Force Update:** Jeff and 2 others will install a new digital sound mixer in the sanctuary which can be remotely controlled via iPad. It is expected it will be much easier to operate and will allow us to broadcast to allow meeting the goal of broadcasting the service in the nursery and the English Room.
- **JOSHUA:** Jeff reported the JOSHUA annual banquet is tomorrow. In November the Prison Reform Task Force is hosting a forum on the GB Correctional Institute. Goal is to not build another prison. WI has the worst record in the country in terms of numbers of people in prison. 73% have mental health issues which are not being treated. The forum will be November 21 at 6 p.m. at St. Matthew's. Jeff will write a newsletter article.
- **Memorial Garden Update:** Met with MG folks with a proposal. We will finalize and bring to CM in the near future.

Ministry Updates (if not included in minutes)

EDUCATION

Faith Formation is going well. Anyone willing to do children’s sermons in November please let Bridget know.

GIFTS & MEMORIALS

No report.

INREACH/NEW MEMBER/MEMBERSHIP

10/27 will be New Member Sunday. Need people to come and bring chili and then stay to clean up. 10/20 will be the celebration of ONA after church.

OUTREACH

This month is Dyslexia Awareness month. Panera fundraiser is next Tuesday 4-8. Diaper drive is about over. NEW cooking is going smoothly

STEWARDSHIP

Garage roof will be done before the end of the month. We are still waiting to hear on insurance for water/wind damage. Working to get the Cloud Room available for use.

WORSHIP

No report.

Communications: Avonelle worked on the ONA Gala invitation. The banner will be like the invitations. Should be ready in the next week or so.

Adjournment

Thank you to Nancy for treats tonight!

Motion to adjourn was approved. After prayer, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

(Achim/Jeff)

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Hohenstein
Clerk

Next meeting: November 7, 2019 – 6:00 p.m. -- Chapel Classroom

Future Schedule:

Common Ministry Meetings	Gathering Prayer	Treats
November 14	Sandy	Christie
December 12	Bridget	Achim
January 9		