

**UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
COMMON MINISTRY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JUNE 11, 2020**

Present:

Absent:

Pastors	Bridget Flad Daniels Jon Pahl		
Moderator	Sandy Polarek		
Vice Moderator	Heather Collins		
Treasurer	Jeff Gibson		
Clerk	Gail Hohenstein		
Education	Nancy Gibson		
Gifts & Memorials		Nicole Polarek Phil Enscoe	
Inreach & Membership	Denise Olson		
Outreach	Christie Reese	Achim Siefert	
Stewardship	Clay Reese		
Worship	Betty Bienash		
Communications Coordinator		Avonelle Weist	
Guest(s)			

Meeting held via Zoom.

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

Congregational Joys and Concerns: Joys and concerns were shared.

Gathering Prayer: Jon shared a prayer from Martin Luther King Jr.

Open Forum: None.

Clerk's Report

Approval of the minutes for the regular meetings of May 21 were approved. Approval of the regular meetings of March and April and the Special Meeting of March 19 were deferred until the next meeting. (Christie/Jeff)

Treasurer's Report

Jeff sent the attached May budget report. As of May 31, we have utilized all of the PPP money for purposes authorized (payroll, pension, health and utilities from the end of March through end of May) therefore the PPP money does not have to be paid back. Treasurer's report accepted. (Heather/Gail)

Ministers' Reports

Bridget has worked about 1/3 time while on Family Leave due to events in the world, including COVID-19 and Black Lives Matter. She returns to office hours on Monday, and will be doing the bulk of it from home. Josie's baptism date is to be determined.

Jon shared that he doesn't know how Bridget did it all of the work alone, and expressed gratitude for those who have stepped up and helped out. He is still working on events at the Mauthe Center. He noted the church members' participation at the march on Sunday.

New Business: None

Continuing Business

- Online Payment Policy Vote: Motion to accept the Information Security Policy distributed at the May meeting was approved (Jeff/Clay). Clay volunteered to lead the compliance effort. Bridget will touch base with Heartland on Monday to determine when new computers will be installed.
- Reopening the Church Task Force Updates:
 - Worship: Betty reported the group has met. (Steve Hartmann, Sherry Warren, Jeff Gibson, Heather Collins and Betty Bienash). They created list of assumptions and concerns, they are looking into different areas and prioritizing the work. They are hoping to be able to report at least key ideas by August 11. Bridget shared that she has heard from one church member who is concerned about not reopening. Sandy reported most people she has interacted with are pleased we are going slowly and some would like to continue on line worship at the same time as we are worshipping live in the Sanctuary. Many have expressed they are pleased with the quality of the online services and the breadth of participation. It was agreed we should continue our inreach conversations with Congregation members, and Jon will send a reminder to the calling team.
 - Technology: Clay said they are working on setting up a meeting. (Shaun Shouldeen, Jon Pahl, Eric Harkoff, Jeff Gibson, and Clay Reese) Jon will look into about potential grant opportunities.
 - Outside Use: Jon presented a draft policy. Concerns were discussed. It was agreed that a revised draft would be distributed for approval Friday morning. **AFTER MEETING UPDATE**: The attached draft policy was approved by email vote on Friday, June 12.
- Priorities & Budget Update: Heather reported they will have an update in July with a proposal in August. Survey results are being compiled. Team has been working hard and doing a great job.
- Fundraising - May 27 Happy Joe's: Happy Joe's raised \$90.23; First quarter Amazon Smile raised \$42.02.
- Memorial Garden Sculpture Update: No update.

Ministry Updates (if not included in minutes)

EDUCATION

Volunteers are still needed. They are considering some adult education on-line. Bridget shared her hope that it would focus on racism and white privilege.

GIFTS & MEMORIALS

No report.

INREACH/NEW MEMBER/MEMBERSHIP

They are looking at trying to do some on-line "touching base" opportunities, e.g. virtual coffee hour after church.

OUTREACH

There has been progress on the Blessings Box with a goal of an early July opening. It is being coordinated by Marty Berry, Heather Collins and Claudia Doelger. Ann Rakow-Weist has agreed to head up the painting decorating and signage. Watch for a donations request for initial stocking. They would like to have a dedication of the box at one of the first in-person Sunday services, and are looking for ways to publicize the dedication. There will be a donation request for We All Rise in the Friday email. Outreach membership will match the first \$500 donated. (Send checks to the church office.)

STEWARDSHIP

Heather & Clay will meet for Blessing Box materials storage space. Fellowship Room flooring issue needs to be remedied.

WORSHIP

Betty expressed appreciation for volunteer tech group, especially Clay Reese, Shaun Shouldeen, Tom Towill, the music staff, readers, all who have contributed in so many creative ways to the virtual services.

Communications

No report.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was approved. After prayer, the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m. (Heather/Denise)

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Hohenstein
Clerk

Next meeting: July 16, 2020 – 6:00 p.m. -- Zoom

Future Schedule:

Common Ministry Meetings	Gathering Prayer	Treats
July 9		
August 13	Bridget	Sandy
September 10	Betty	Gail
October 8		Christie/Clay
November 12		Nancy
December 10		Heather
January 14		Bridget

APPROVED