

CHRIST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
CONSISTORY MEETING
November 13, 2014, 6:30 pm

PRESENT: Pastor Donald Mason, Larry Noll, Georgia Hemperly, Howard Bixler, Shirley Wolfe, Ruth Troxell, Doug Snyder, David Troxell, Jean Rhine, Sharon Riganati, Michele Sinadinos, Judy Barchet, Carl Graybill, Alice Gibble and John Gibble.

ABSENT: Andrew Mason.

The meeting was called to order by President Larry Noll and Pastor Don opened with a prayer.

CONGREGATION SPEAKS: Marilyn Beaubien provided information regarding the Great Lakes Scrip Center program. The church would take orders for gift cards. Money would be transferred and gift cards would be mailed back. Marilyn would handle accepting the money and orders on a Sunday, making the deposits, and distributing the gift cards the following Sunday. She would also cover costs to have the cards mailed back. There are a large number of retail outlets participating, and the church would receive a percentage of the money based on the individual stores. This ranges from 1 or 2% all the way to 14 or 15%. A motion was made by Michele Sinadinos, seconded by Judy Barchet, to allow Marilyn to handle this program. Marilyn would set up the account at Jonestown Bank, and she and Howard Bixler would be signatures on the account. Motion was passed.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Since June, the pastor has performed 15 home visits, 23 hospital visits, 8 office visits, and 12 home communions. During this time he spent 2 weeks in Germany and had 7 sick days. He provided Consistory with a copy of the current by-laws and will email some suggested changes. The changes are mostly changes to names of committees, but also include a change to add email as a way of notifying the congregation as necessary in addition to USPS. It also includes wording that a liason can represent one of the standing committees in lieu of the committee chair, and a change to the responsibilities of the assistant treasurer position. Consistory will be reviewing for other necessary changes, which will then be recommended at the annual Congregational Meeting in January.

SECRETARY REPORT: Secretary's report was approved as written.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Willie Bixler reported that Christ Church is currently in crisis mode with finances. We are not meeting our current expenses, and have borrowed money from both the outreach funds and the building fund. Consistory spent considerable time discussing possible ways of meeting our shortfall. Some of the ideas will hopefully be implemented in the near future, but perhaps other members of the congregation will also have suggestions on ways they can help.

Dave Troxell reported on the transition of the financial secretary position from Betty Heisey. Shirley Wolfe will take over the posting of the envelopes, Spessard Trust, memorials and the

building/elevator funds. Willie will take over the endowment/trust fund, and the church secretary will handle payroll. As we add additional duties to our secretary, we need to find a way to remove other duties to make time for this. We are looking for a volunteer to take over the Wake Tree.

Dave reported that we have over \$10,000 in Spessard Trust available for outreach and suggested that we use this to pay as much of our outstanding outreach as possible. Utilizing these funds would allow us to pay the remainder of our OCWM funds for 2013, \$1800 of our designated missions (last category on envelopes), and all of the various special offerings received this year. We will still be short approximately \$12,000 to be current with our outreach. Carl Graybill made a motion, seconded by Michele Sinadinos, to use these funds as recommended. Motion was approved. Dave provided us with a proposed budget for 2015.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Judy Barchet reported that with the exception of the Assistant Treasurer /Financial Secretary position, all open positions are ready for recommendation.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: Carl Graybill reported that he has filled the positions on this committee and they will be meeting with the staff. Committee members are Louise Bixler, Steve Kreamer and Shirley Wolfe.

YOUTH DELEGATE: Nothing to report.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE: Michele is working with a contractor to repair the steps at our rental property. She is also looking into the inspection and maintenance requirements for the elevator. We will be placing orange cones at the entrance to the alley to see if they slow down traffic. If so, we may implement them routinely on Sundays and during special events.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE COMMITTEE: The visitation committee meeting is being rescheduled. The opera fudge sale is ongoing. Janet Bucher will be giving a class on baking communion bread on November 21, as more bakers are needed.

STEWARDSHIP: Doug Snyder reported that he received 29 “giving” cards back from the stewardship campaign, but is hoping to get additional ones. He will be sending thank you letters to those who turned in the cards, and will be reaching out to shut ins for their cards.

WORSHIP AND WITNESS COMMITTEE: The committee is working on implementing some new ideas into the worship service. They hope to establish several worship teams to generate various different worship ideas.

HOSPITALITY AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Ruth Troxell reported that Kevin Biddle directed the county Choir Fest, with over 50 members singing. We will be having the “hanging of the greens” and general church decorating on November 23. They are considering a hat/glove/scarf tree to provide warmth to those in need. Several youth will be attending the Thanksgiving breakfast, with a lock in at church the night before here at CCUCC. We have

reservations for the Consistory dinner meeting at the Batdorf on December 11. The carpet will be replaced in the hallway and conference room. Celebrations will be held January 24, the annual meeting January 25. In January they will be having a meeting to go through “stuff” remaining after all the renovations. Ruth reminded us of the new regulations on clearances necessary for individuals dealing with youth and also on child abuse. She will keep us apprised.

PASTOR/PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE: John Gible indicated they are attempting to get the committee in compliance with the bi-laws. 3 individuals were selected by the Pastor – Teresa Haak, Jim Erdman and Georgia Garrison will serve in this capacity. A motion was made by John Gible, seconded by Georgia Hemperly, to accept this recommendation. Motion approved.

RENEWAL TASK FORCE: John Gible reported that Kevin’s book study has promoted new ideas including holding invitational events to bring in new members, using the demographics provided. Members have visited other churches to see what they are doing to revitalize the church. John is working to get a LVC student to update our website.

The above reports were approved.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: The Pastor shared a letter he received from the A-C school Transition Specialist offering a student to volunteer at the church. No action was taken at this time.

A discussion was held as to who needs to have signature authorization at Fulton Bank. After discussion it was decided that as Vice-President and nominated incoming President, Georgia Hemperly should be on the accounts in addition to Howard Bixler, Treasurer and Dave Troxell, Finance Chair. A motion was made by Shirley Wolfe, seconded by Michele Sinadinos, to accept this recommendation. Motion was approved.

John Gible shared a letter from the American Foundation for Children with Aids requesting we participate in a Christmas fundraiser for them. The consensus was that not being able to meet our current outreach commitment, we were not in a position to take on any others in a financial way. He will notify them.

We approved building usage for New Horizons on April 25, 2015.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 and concluded with The Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Wolfe
Consistory Secretary