

Church Council Minutes Union Church, September 22, 2014

Present: Jean Boyce (Clerk), Jenny Bromley (M&S), Kevin Burke (CL&G), Shirley Carlberg (Treasurer), Joan English (recorder), Kent Gilbert (Pastor), Doug Hindman (Vice Mod.), Debbonnaire Kovacs (FD), Greg Lakes (Sustainagility), Rachel Small Stokes (Assoc. Pastor), Bill Stolte (Properties), Michelle Tooley (M&S), Gail Wolford (Moderator)

Devotion:

Gail offered the devotional, reflecting on the story of Esther, and “what is required of me,” in the many contexts of a person’s life.

September minutes approved.

Sustainagility Task Force Greg represented the Task Force, and answered any questions. The group was commended for their work and the scope and depth of the report generated (att). There was discussion about how to proceed, how to put these good ideas into action. Perhaps Boards can be asked to read the report and pick out one or two points to work on, how we can use this work to advance our highest and best goals. One suggested change – instead of using the name “Fancy Farm,” we call that idea “Annual Gathering on an Epic Scale.” It was agreed to change this terminology. After discussion, Gail offered to write a memo, signed by herself and Doug, asking that Boards study and reflect upon the Sustainagility document and report their responses to it, actions they may undertake, leading with a bit of history. Agreed.

Jean confirmed that we have a quorum, its lack last month prevented bills from being paid and any business, beyond discussion, happening at all.

Motion to accept, with gratitude, the report of the Sustainagility Task Force, made by Doug, seconded by Debbonnaire, passed unanimously.

Motion to distribute the report to Board chairs and members, with a framing cover memo by Gail and Doug, made by Michelle, seconded by Jenny, passed unanimously.

Discussion of the video being produced by Dave Harl – it does encourage tithing, but not in a tone of “thou shalt,” it’s more of a “many do” tone.

Financials Shirley distributed reports. Despite the fact that we some \$17,000 under budget for the year, the picture is much less bleak than it has been at this time in previous years – this time last year we were \$30,000+ under budget. We are \$13,000 to the good on expenses, showing that we are being careful with spending.

Old Business: Dave Harl is owed \$1000 for video production. At last meeting CL&G agreed that funds may come from their line item #5530 but the Council couldn’t vote due to the lack of a quorum.

Kevin moved that we do so, Jean seconded, motion passed.

Sue Peterson Blyth was nominated to complete Dorie’s term on the Worship Board. Jenny moved, Debbonnaire seconded that she be appointed. Motion passed. This action will be reported at the December budget meeting.

Steve Rhodes has been nominated, and will be voted upon, as Honorary Lifetime Deacon on October 12 (this does not require a second, as the Nomination comes from Church Council – just needs a vote).

Reports:

Mission & Service Jenny brought some forms for the church to fill out to enroll us in Kroger’s rewards program – once the church enrolls, we will direct people how to use their own shopping cards to direct Kroger’s reward dollars to Union Church. No Council action needed.

Mission has decided not to make any disbursement dollar decisions by email – all are invited to take a look at the Mission & Service portion of the website – Jessica added forms, info, has done a great job.

Rev. Rachel – 6 new members joined on Sept. 14. Newcomers Picnic was a great success. Susie Ritchie & CL&G have done a great job systematizing our hospitality events: 2nd Sunday – members accepted, 4th Sunday – welcome/orientation session. Rachel will preach with half of the new FCC co-pastorate, Rev. Lisa Caldwell-

Reiss, on October 5 at First Christian. David Milley will soon be leaving us for a job at Southern Illinois University (boo for us, but a huge YAY for him).

Childrens Church and Sunday School began well! Edd Easton Hogg is leading Childrens Church using the Godly Play curriculum. Kent is now a Kentucky Colonel, presented by Rep. Rita Smart on Sept. 21! We will participate in the Habitat for Humanity Apostles Build Nov. 1.

She brought back data from the NGLI meeting shared a PINCH model of dealing with conflict – whether in church, workplace or interpersonally – that deals primarily with clarifying expectations. Copy attached, it's a good model to keep in mind.

Rev. Kent reported that he is working on a response to objections to the proposed Fairness Ordinance. Human Rights Commission plans an education piece in the paper. Unfortunately, he reported, there's a high likelihood it will fail to pass, and we have to figure out how to respond. He and/or he and Rachel, may need to come to Church Council for its approval on a statement on the church's behalf, affirming our stance on welcoming all people.

He will be away some in October baptizing Mark Pettis' new baby.

We haven't got a final accounting of the sanctuary renovations just yet – some parts are slightly over budget & some slightly under. Feedback is very favorable.

Next meeting October 20.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan English