

Zion UCC Consistory Meeting Minutes, May 10, 2018

Tim Schlegel moved to open the meeting.

Paster Duffy began the meeting with prayer.

There was a change to the April 2018 minutes: Char Burchfield's end of the year picnic is projected for June 2019, not 2018.

Treasurer's Report:

As of 05/03/2018 there is a balance of \$3203.25 in the operating account and \$12,388.45 in the restricted funds account. There are no outstanding payments due at this time. Next payroll is due on 5/11/18.

Net income is showing a balance of \$917.28 for the month. Given the fact we lost a collection due to the weather, this was a nice accomplishment. The budget was for a deficit of \$603.65 for April, so that is a swing of \$1520.93 in the right direction. I have included a copy of the month to budget report for April for your review. We had budgeted to be experiencing a deficit of \$9,320.35 to this point. We are in fact showing a deficit of \$4,436.49 year to date. This means that we are actually \$4883.86 ahead of our projections. While we are still running a deficit for the year, we are 47.6% ahead of the game. As I have been saying right along, we are definitely on the right track and just need to keep the momentum going.

Glen Gordon motioned to accept the treasurer's report; Bill Roberts seconded. Report approved.

Glen Gordon motioned to accept the Trustees Report; Bill Roberts seconded. Trustee's Report was approved.

Community Building

Pastor's Report

Pastor Duffy

1. The constitution does not note the dollar amount that the Trustees are authorized to spend without prior approval from Consistory and the congregation. There are also some small things that need to be amended to bring the constitution up to date with current norms. Consistory will do a close read to find all of these small mistakes.
2. Northtown Subaru's Dog Days of Kenmore event is June 10 from 12-4. Pastor Duffy will be there from 1-1:30 blessing dogs.
3. We're welcoming ten new church members and their families on Sunday. This is a great new member class. Six of them are transferring from other churches and the other four were not members of another church when they began attending Zion. Most of them came to Zion because they were invited! This is added proof that inviting people to church is still the best way to get new members. All of the new members commented on the genuine kindness and welcoming nature of the church.
4. Confirmation is Sunday, May 20. The two services will be slightly different. The 9am will be a regular worship service with the confirmands introduced, but the 10:30 service will have a very brief sermon and the service of confirmation. Both services will have communion. Celebration of Confirmation will be after the 2nd service.
5. Pastor Elizabeth will be away on Sunday, June 24th to officiate a friend's wedding in Lake Placid. Ted Zientek will be preaching at both services.
6. Summer worship begins in July. The summer music schedule will be arranged soon, taking into consideration vacations planned by all the musicians.

Committee Reports

- Administration: No report.
- Christian Education: Children's program coming June 10. No movement yet on missions for the children, although they are working on coloring placemats for Kairos and perhaps doing a collection for military service members overseas.

- Missions: Char has organized a prayer wall. Please sign up for a slot to pray for the prisoners at Kairos.
- Church Life + Community Dinners
 - a. Last dinner was April 30. Cost: \$137.96 Guests: 80 Volunteers: 15
 - b. Menu: Turkey, potatoes, stuffing, corn, dessert
- Memorials: No report this month. Current balance: \$2679.37.
- Outreach: Bill Roberts has been meeting weekly with some homebound folks in the area. Brighton Memorial is closing officially in June, and Bill would like to be there to act as a support.
- Veteran's Voices: Benefit concert is June 2, featuring the Panfil Brothers. Sue Clark, Ted and Elena Camp, and Bill Roberts will also be singing at the concert. Bill Roberts handed out free tickets to a disabled veterans organization and a Vietnam Veterans organization. Basil Chevrolet is selling tickets. Glen Gordon, Sue House, and Gaye Mehlretter are all selling tickets. Bill Roberts strongly encourages all to buy a ticket and attend for this worthy cause. The homeless veteran that Veterans Voices has been helping is in a difficult situation looking for housing once again.
- Pastoral Parish Relations: No report.
- Health Ministry: Always accepting more Dash's tapes. Blood pressures were taken in April. Jean King is organizing a CPR and AED training for sometime in October. Once there is a date, Char Burchfield suggests that we advertise this training to encourage people to visit the church.

Strategy Planning

Old Business

1. Prison Ministry Updates: Char Burchfield reports that church members have been very generous with their donations for the incarcerated men. Please keep cookie donations coming. She also organized a prayer sign up wall in Kuck Hall. We will also have tables set up on Sunday, May 13 to color placemats. Please color them however you would like and sign with your first name and your age. These are incredibly important to incarcerated people.
2. Church Safety: Consistory members visited Ebenezer Church of Christ on April 30 for an active shooter training conducted by West Seneca Police. It was enormously useful.
 - a. Discussed having a fire drill or "awareness" moment during service to make sure all church members can identify where their exits are.
 - b. Discussed having more ushers to welcome but also keep an eye on folks entering the church.
 - c. Trustees will give us a report when they hear back from their security consultant.

New Business:

1. Pastor Elizabeth raised the fact that Plymouth Crossroads is in need of donations. Erie County cut their funding, and the Catholic diocese cut their funding because Plymouth Crossroads was helping a young gay man. Reports are that Plymouth Crossroads' funding is in very bad shape. Trustees will discuss a donation.
 - a. Sarah Handley-Cousins noted that many church members might not know exactly what Plymouth Crossroads is and does. Pastor Elizabeth will arrange with Plymouth Crossroads to come more often to meet and talk at the church to inspire more to support the home.
2. Consistory will explore options for advertising the church and church events to students and staff at UB North.
3. Discussed the slow moving community garden project. Most of Sarah Handley-Cousins' leads for grant funding fizzled out. She will keep looking at this in hopes of getting something together for next summer.
4. Architect Douglas Klotzbock from K2 Architecture came to evaluate our chancel. He specializes in churches. He will draw up 2-3 ideas and send them. Rob Voss noted that we are required to have 3 architects for a competitive search.
5. Jeff Quinton and Char Burchfield discussed a possible summer outdoor movie night. Jeff Quinton also mentioned perhaps inviting or booking food trucks.

Glen Gordon moved to close the meeting; Bill Roberts seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 pm.

Closing prayer: In the Church, for the people, with one another. Amen.

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 14th.