

Zion UCC Consistory Meeting Agenda 10/8/24

Call to Order at 7:06 pm by Edie

Present: Robin F, Edie B, Dave D, Elena C, Debby W and Ted (trustee representative)

Absent: Kailee, George, Bob, Pierre and John

Approval of Consistory Meeting Minutes – motion to approve minutes made by Dave d and seconded by Edie B.

Treasurer's Report

As of 10/4/2024 there is a balance of \$54,173.43 in the operating account and \$5,561.70 in the restricted funds account.

The revenue for September was \$18,105.57. The net income was \$-1,160.12. In comparison: The revenue for September 2023 was \$10,398.40. The net income for September 2023 was \$-3,197.39. The YTD income for 2024 is \$155,355.25 and the net income is \$10,567.72. The 2023 YTD was \$139,547.18 and the net income was \$-4,974.86.

Notable P&L events in September:

54701 Property Insurance - \$3677.75 (awaiting reimbursement from the Trustees for this payment)

55404 Water & Sewer - \$743.19 Cost of maintaining the new grass areas

55404 Fire Safety - \$680.00 Annual System Inspections

Quarterly payments to UCC - \$2486.50 total for OWCM, Western Area & NY Conference per capita

We are continuing to trend in a positive. The property insurance payment created a negative bottom line although we are awaiting the reimbursement for that payment.

A motion to close was made by Dave D. and seconded by Robin F. All members attending approved.

Kalee's Member in Discernment (MID) update

#1 – She misses all of you. She has a small hole in my heart because her life is not the same without all of you in it weekly. (AnnMarie feels that way too)

The past month of pastoring at 1st Congregational has been fruitful and life-giving for her. The church members are wonderful. She feels more balanced as a pastor and chaplain. The church days have been devoted to networking, meeting people in the community, working on creative projects for the church, and, most importantly, having more time with God. (God never left her, but she is more aware of God's presence). 😊

This weekend, our church is at the Farmer's Market. We have been crafting together for the past three weeks. She has also been making crosses and other crafts during her downtime. The goal of the Farmer's Market is to share about our church and give prayer items to help others grow in their faith.

She looks forward to the retreat with Zion and 1st Congregational on October 19th at Whirlpool State Park. (12:00 - 3:00 PM). The theme is "Letting Go."

Random Thoughts:

- Being part of Hope's Ordination service was exciting!
- The NU event was great to network with others!
- Tonight, she is attending the Interfaith Prayer Service by Community Mission.
- She continues with Hospice 3 days a week.
- Thank you for being part of her ordination journey.

Pastor's Report

- November 17 will be Stewardship Sunday and lay preacher, Angie Staniszewski, will be preaching on the importance of Stewardship.
- She is meeting with Canal View this month to plan for a monthly event starting in November for a new ministry plan with them.

- She has been busy with funerals lately, including two more this week. If she is not in the office when you're looking for her, call her cell phone or send her an email and she will get back to you as soon as she is available.
- We had Kids Escaping Drugs lead a presentation for kids and then parents about vaping during youth group. They were wonderful, and the kids were extremely respectful and receptive. When the kids went to have fun, the parents were able to stay and learn more.
- There is a youth group retreat at Dunkirk this weekend, as well as the Halloween Happening Trick or Treating event. She will be at one of the cabins handing out candy on behalf of Zion.
- Trunk or Treat is returning on October 26th! This should be another wonderful community event after the community dinner.

Trustee's Report (Ted)- have been coordinating with Ron J (treasurer). The contract for new pew cushions has been signed and measurements will be taken to start this project. An RFP (is a business document that announces a project, describes it, and solicits bids from qualified contractors to complete it) has been formulated for plans on renovating Kuck Hall. They are looking into ceiling renovation to modernize it, new material on the walls with fresh paint, new window treatments, lighting and fans as well as a sound system upgrade. Pastor asked if it was possible to speed up the projector hookup mounting. An RFP has also been formulated for new sidewalks and a courtyard upgrade project.

Both projects must be presented to the congregation for approval.

Fundraising, Stewardship, and Outreach (John)-they need more volunteers to sign up to help with the rummage sale.

Committee Reports

- Christian Education & Missions - (Edie) - The KenTon Crop Walk was held Saturday October 5. We were the host church this year, Zion UCC Tonawanda raised \$2,047.00 this year and the entire KenTon group raised \$10,505.00! Last year, Zion raised \$2,046.66 and the total group raised \$8,637.00
- Health Ministry - (Debby)- Started Blood pressure checks (thank you to Mallory F. and Deb C who volunteered to do this). We had 4 people come to the clinic. This will be held the first Sunday of every month between 10-10:30 am (in between the 2 services). The CPR class has 13 people pre-registered and will be held Saturday October 12 from 3-4:30 pm. The next class is November 16 from 11-noon in Kuck Hall. It will be on Emergency Preparedness. Our speaker is Tim Kornacki, Director of Corporate Emergency Management at Kaleida Health. It is free for anyone to attend.
- Altar Guild - (Robin)- no report

Memorials - (George)- Memorials were received for Dodie Johansen. Current balance: \$4393.40

PPRC/Admin - (George)-need to rewrite the church's safety policy to qualify for better insurance coverage

- Community Assistance Ministry - (Dave)- we helped multiple people this Summer
- New Member - (Dave)- no report
- Environmental Ministry - (Pierre)- no report
- Network of Religious Communities - (Pierre)- date for recognition dinner will be in April of 2025. Our church needs to nominate some deserving members.
- Community Dinners - (Bob)- Taco night dinners went over successfully.
- Food Pantry - (John)- John W. is here every week volunteering to assist people with our Food pantry. He is doing a wonderful job, and it is so appreciated. Post its our on the door for items that need to be replenished if anybody is willing to help
- Coffee Hour - (Ted)- really need bakers. It really does not have to be every week but any baked good would be so appreciated.

Old Business

- Continue working on Consistory Manual/Handbook Debbie began. -- should this wait until the bylaws are revised? Decision was yes as it will change the format of the handbook.
- Still collecting: Professional/Hobby directory is being created. To submit yours, fill out this link: <https://www.zionuccton.com/professional-directory/>

New Business

- Need new picture of the congregation.
- Christmas commercial- Need to plan an evening for people to sing Silent Night for the commercial. A plan was made for Wednesday night November 6 as choir is already in the building practicing and it will be dark out (to enhance the mood/meaning of the song). A motion was made by Dave D. and seconded by Debby W to use \$200 to do the commercial which will be placed on social media to promote our church.
- Looking for ways to promote the volunteering of other people in our congregation that will bring new ideas, etc. Bookmarks being made was suggested by Pastor Duffy.
- Adults have been asking for a church mission. Exploring the 8 Great Days of Hope Buffalo (a non-profit organization) which is usually held in July. Elena C. will be looking into this and reporting back.
- Thinking about moving the annual congregation meeting up in the calendar year as recommended by our auditor to effectuate the annual budget. Thinking about doing it the last Sunday in December (29th) following the service. If anybody has any questions or feedback on this, please speak to a consistory member. Consistory will start working on next years budget at their November meeting.

A motion to close was made by Debby W and seconded by Edie B. All members attending approved. Time was 8:33 pm

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

Next Meeting: November 12, 7pm