

Zion UCC Consistory Meeting Agenda November 13, 2024

Call to Order by Dave D at 7 pm

Present: Bob S, Dave D, Robin F, George D, Debby W, Ron J, Pierre

Absent: John, Edie, Elena, Kalee and Trustee, Ted

Devotion and Lord's Prayer

Approval of Consistory Meeting Minutes -Motion to accept made by Debby and seconded by Bob. All attending members approved.

Treasurer's Report (Ron J)

- As of 11/5/2024 there is a balance of \$53,853.32 in the operating account and \$8,558.81 in the restricted funds account.
- The revenue for October was \$15,491.86. The net income was 1,778.08. In comparison: The revenue for October 2023 was \$12,811.59. The net income for October 2023 was
- 802.60. The YTD income for 2024 is \$170,847.11 and the net income is \$12,345.80. The 2023 YTD was \$152,358.77 and the net income was \$-4172.26.
- We are still waiting for the Trustees to reimburse the General Account for the \$3,677.75 insurance payment we put forth on their behalf in October.
- Notable P&L events in October:
51710 Pastor FICA - \$1,407.46 Quarterly Payment
56001 Plumbing Repairs - \$198.10 Estimate for repairs
56003 Building Other - \$199.00 rodent control

Budget planning/discussion: Discussed changes to the budget for next year, and adding insurance for Pastor Elizabeth

Kalee's Member in Discernment (MID) update

- She hopes we are all well. Thank you to everyone who attended the retreat with Zion and First Congregational of Niagara Falls at Whirlpool State Park We loved the day and having our churches join together. The weather was perfect. Our themes of "Letting go" and "Be still" brought a lot of connection between God and each other.
- At First Congregational, we were busy preparing for the Market in Lewiston. The extra items we did not sell are now being sold this weekend at the Senior Center in Clarence. We also had a church cleanup day in Niagara Falls. We had a great time serving together.
- She continues to work at Niagara Hospice for 3 days, and the remaining days are spent for the church. She is growing in confidence in her new role as pastor. It has been an honor getting to know the church members better.
- This past weekend was our area WNYACIC. I am also taking the Boundaries Class. She will complete the class on Thursday. She has started the long journey of becoming Board Certified as a Chaplain, there are many essays to write, and it will take some time. She would like to complete the process before ordination.
- She was also approved for Lay Ministerial Standing.
- Thank you to Zion UCC for all the support for our church. We appreciate the love as we started up a new Facebook page.

Pastor's Report

- November 17 will be Stewardship Sunday and lay preacher, Angie Staniszewski, will be preaching on the importance of Stewardship. Kalee is on call while Pastor Duffy is away Saturday through Saturday of next week.
- November is Stewardship month. The Stewardship cards will be collected all month, then we'll put a chart together to show all the ways our members are involved in our church to help us serve the community.
- Huge thank you to John and Jeff for the Rummage Sale, and a huge thank you to all the volunteers. You're amazing!
- The longer "Silent Night" video has been created, and she will create a shorter 20 second one. The \$200 designated last month will be used to advertise on Facebook and Instagram.
Note: Ron J. will add a budget line labeled specifically for advertising costs.
- Discussion Item: (This will come up in the Budget section). Due to Trevor's new firm, the Duffy family needs to acquire Health Insurance from the UCC.
- Dates that she added to the calendar:
 - Nov 30 (starting at 3pm, same time as Community Dinner) we will have Christmas Decorating. This way volunteers can help with the dinner and/or decorating. Debby W. will come and get everything out of the closet that week. There will be a poster board of pictures from last year on how they were set up and where.
 - Christmas Pageant recording will be on Saturday, December 7 starting at 10am.
 - Breakfast with Santa on December 14 for the Youth Group at 10am. Thank you to "Santa" Mike Thorp!
 - Canal View cookie decorating on December 19th in the afternoon/evening (time TBD)
 - Christmas Caroling and Blue Christmas will be closer to Christmas, date TBD.
 - Christmas Eve: if enough choir members are available, we would like to do lessons & carols at 10am. Then we'll have only 1 Christmas Eve service at 5pm.

Trustee's Report -no report

Fundraising, Stewardship, and Outreach (John): Total earnings from the Rummage sale was \$4,673.00. The next fundraiser is the basket raffle scheduled in February

Committee Reports

- Christian Education & Missions - (Edie): from Sue C.: We are starting to get ready for Christmas. We're doing another video pageant with the kids doing some live songs. Elizabeth will film and edit it on December 7.
- Missions from Sue H.: Still collecting calendars for the vets. She has made 2 deliveries of at least 70 each time. Our ARC mission hit a snafu. Late October Pastor texted the social worker that we have dealt with, and she is no longer working there. After a few phone calls, we were able to find a contact person who was able to find someone to help us keep supporting these needy children. Pastor has since made contact and said person is working on putting a list together. Pastor will receive an email with the list. Hopefully our supportive congregation will be quick shoppers, and the children will receive the gifts before they break for Christmas.
- Health Ministry - (Debby): Emergency Preparedness class is scheduled for Saturday November 16.. Hoping it is well attended. No classes in December due to the holidays. January class is Medicare

- ABCs. Blood pressure clinics are getting busier. Thank you to Deb C and Mallory F., our RNs who volunteer to do this for our congregation every month. Exercise class continues to grow in attendees!
- Altar Guild - (Robin): no report
- Memorials - (George): Laurie M. said memorials were received for Dodie Johansen, Charles Rudick and Bill Roberts. Current balance is \$4,513.40
- PPRC/Admin - (George): no report
- Community Assistance Ministry - (Dave): no report
- New Member - (Dave): we have enough people ready to join to hold another dinner. The decision was made to make it Dec 9 at 6 pm. December 15 service will be the children's service and since it is one service we will also have the new members officially join that day as well.
- Environmental Ministry - (Pierre): need new members and ideas to assist in their mission
- Network of Religious Communities - (Pierre): they are planning the annual appreciation dinner April 10, 2025, at the Grapevine on Dick Road in Depew. We will need to talk about who we want to be recognized by our church for their service.
- Community Dinners - (Bob): Women's Fellowship hosted the last one, which went very well. Next dinner, Rick and Ted will be cooking turkeys for the Thanksgiving community dinner on November 30.
- Food Pantry - (John): have a low stock. Need to ask the congregation to take the post it notes on the food pantry door to get the items listed. Also need cash donations
- Coffee Hour - (Ted)- thank you to the bakers who have provided more goodies for Coffee Hour. Keep it up! It is much appreciated.

Old Business

- Continue working on Consistory Manual/Handbook Debby began. -- waiting until the bylaws are revised.
The manual will explain the roles Consistory and Trustees have in decisions at our church.
- Still collecting: Professional/Hobby directory until the end of the month.
<https://www.zionuccton.com/professional-directory/>

New Business

- A new group from AA has asked to use Kuck Hall on Mondays. There is a rental fee they will pay.
- Debby asked for some kind of lighting in the shed for people that need to go in there. Dave suggested some kind of motion light (battery operated?) that we could have inside and outside of the shed by the door for security and safety reasons.
- We need to find two new members that are willing to be on Consistory as two people have terms that are up. If anybody is interested, please speak to Elizabeth.
- Discussed who was willing to be President and Vice President starting in January 2025.

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

Dave closed the meeting at 9 pm.

Next Meeting: December 10, 7pm

Respectively Submitted,

Debby Williams, Consistory Secretary