

**St. Paul UCC Church Council Meeting  
September 12, 2006**

The meeting was called to order by President Thomas Thieman with 16 members present including: Tom Thieman, John Voress, Lisa Davidson, Mary Finke, Ann Kuhn, Janice Schroer, Lowell Quellhorst, Roland Dicke, Ralph Plattner, Kathy Topp, Mark Dicke, Staci Jones, Betty Dietrich, Norm Holcomb, Virginia Kuenning, and Don Scheer. Meditation was provided by Don Scheer.

**Secretary's Report**

Minutes of the August 8, 2006 meeting were reviewed. Norm Holcomb made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Ralph Plattner seconded; motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report**

The Fund Activity Report for August was available for review. The year-to-date deficit is now \$16,866.55. After some discussion, Kathy Topp made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Betty Dietrich seconded. Motion carried.

**Committee Reports**

**"Catch the Vision"** – Phone calls have been made to recruit new members. The response has been positive; several people have joined and several more are thinking about it.

**Membership Committee** – There is a family cookout planned for Sunday, October 1 for new members who have joined the church in the last four years. At the cookout, we hope to become better acquainted and share new ideas with one another.

The first Sunday in May has been set for the 2007 Confirmation Reunion.

After a lengthy discussion, a motion was made by Don Scheer to suspend the motion approved in July to remove several sanctuary pews until after the December 10 congregational meeting. Roland Dicke seconded and the motion was approved. This will allow time for feedback from the congregation.

**Mission Report** – The Mission Team is working towards the Crop Walk, which is scheduled for October 8, 2006.

**Worship Report** – Based on the report from the Worship Committee, it was suggested that Worship and Membership committees should meet together to discuss the issues of attendance and worship programs. Ann Kuhn agreed to contact John Gilberg in that regard.

## **Reports**

**Board of Christian Education** – Janice Schroer reported that Spirit Safari is off to a good start, but they are still looking for helpers, even on a part-time basis.

**Deacon Report** – Nothing to report.

**Elder's Report** – The only item Ann Kuhn had to report was that the grape juice keeps spoiling, so they have to keep buying new.

**Rev. Tostrick's Report** – (Provided by Rev. Tostrick)

*During the month of August I prepared and led one Saturday evening worship service. I also made the following pastoral calls: 24 home visits, 17 nursing home visits, and 4 hospital visits. I officiated at one wedding and attended 6 meetings related to pastoral concerns.*

**Rev. Weir's Report** – No report (on vacation).

**Trustee Report** – A bill was received from Garmann/Miller for the plans they drew up for the Smoke/Heat system that were required for the State of Ohio. The state approved them. Dale Heitkamp has ordered all the materials and is ready to start as soon as everything arrives.

Lowell Quellhorst presented the pricing for all the different methods of trash removal. After a discussion, Ralph Plattner made a motion to use Lowell's suggested plan of keeping the current 2-yard Dumpster, but dumping it only every other week and purchasing village trash bags to dispose of food waste for times when it would have to sit too long before collection day. The Dumpster cost would reduce from \$690.60/year to \$522.60/year with the additional purchase of village bags as necessary (\$7/pkg of 5 bags). Mark Dicke seconded the motion, and it was approved.

## **Old Business**

**Website Update** – A tech rep from NKTelco will be evaluating the feasibility of combining all the technical needs to give a price quote.

**Establish Capital Improvement Fund** – No update at this time.

**Recommendation on where to place Lillian Schowe's gift** – Ann Kuhn is recommending that the money be used to educate children about the Bible, whether through stories, puppets, etc. Tom Thieman will take the suggestion to the Board of Controls, and then it can go to the Board of Christian Education.

**Property Insurance Report** – Tom Thieman has almost completed reviewing the insurance policy. There is nothing so far that would require discussion.

**Painting of the Parking Lines** – Tom Thieman thanked Lowell Quellhorst for taking care of getting the lines painted. Since the blue lines weren't painted to mark the Handicapped Accessible parking spaces, Lowell will try to take care of that himself. Also, it was pointed out that there are a few potholes that need patched.

**Update on Visual Technology** – Nothing to update at this time.

### **New Business**

**St. Paul UCC Child Sexual Safety Policy** – Janice Schroer reported that October 17 will be the annual Safe Church training program which will be presented to all the Spirit Safari teachers as well as anyone else.

**Review Memorial to Update Chapel Area** – No update at this time.

**Update on Church Picnic** – To be discussed at next meeting.

**Budget Meeting** – The proposed 2007 Budget was presented and discussed. Each council member will review it to address any questions at the next meeting.

Ann reported from the Mission team that they requested that a \$1000 line item be added to the budget on the General Fund side for local aid, instead of deducting any local giving from the "Benevolent Giving" funds, which does not list "Local Aid" on the offering envelope. During extensive discussion it was learned that the total amount distributed last year for Benevolences (OCWM, Missions, Seminaries, etc.) was about \$58,000, and that the church typically always exceeds the OCWM goal. By contrast, the amount used for Local Aid is less than \$1000. In light of the fact that it is such a small percentage, Norm Holcomb made a motion that the Local Aid funds continue to be drawn from the "Benevolences" offering, and that the words "Local Aid" be added to the list of benevolences on the offering envelope to clarify; additionally, since the 2007 offering envelopes have already been printed, a card should be printed up to attach to every box of offering envelopes explaining this. Lowell Quellhorst seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by council.

**Appoint Nominating Committee for 2007 Council** – Kathy Topp will begin getting names for nominations.

**OCWM Challenge** – To be discussed at the next meeting.

**Youth Wish List and Terri Goodwin's information on UCC Camps** – A packet of information (The Blue Ribbon Panel Report to the Ohio Conference Board of Directors) is available for review.

**New Members for Board of Control** – Terry Wissman (3 year term), Gary Wiedeman (2 year term) and Irene Jarvis (1 year term) have all agreed to serve these terms. Roland Dicke made a motion to accept these new members for these terms on the Board of Controls; Ralph Plattner seconded and the motion passed.

### **Announcements**

**Present Synod Resolution to Congregation Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>**—A ballot vote will be taken with a simple majority needed to pass.

**Crop Walk is October 8**

**Beacon to Have New Look in October**

**Spirit Safari Teachers and Youth Advisor Installation October 15**

**St. Paul Child Safety Training October 17**

**Singing Soldiers November 12**

With no other business to discuss, Ralph Plattner made a motion to adjourn. Virginia Kuenning seconded, and the meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

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Lisa Davidson, Secretary

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Tom Thieman, President