

**St. Paul UCC Church Council Meeting
November 14, 2006**

The meeting was called to order by President Thomas Thieman with 14 members present including: Tom Thieman, John Voress, Lisa Davidson, Mary Finke, Ann Kuhn, Janice Schroer, Lowell Quellhorst, Roland Dicke, Kathy Topp, Mark Dicke, Betty Dietrich, Virginia Kuenning, Don Scheer, and Rev. Weir. Meditation was provided by Virginia Kuenning.

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the October 10, 2006 meeting were reviewed. Roland Dicke made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Kathy Topp seconded; motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

The Fund Activity Report for October was available for review. The year-to-date deficit is now \$11,859.52. Virginia Kuenning made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as written. Don Scheer seconded. Motion carried.

The "October 2006 Year-to-Date" Funds Report was also reviewed. It was noted that the Organ Fund now has a negative balance. Contributions to the Organ Fund would be greatly appreciated.

Committee Reports

"Catch the Vision" – The team met in October with 11 members present. They reviewed the past year's accomplishments and agreed upon the main focus and goals of the committee. Meetings are set for the first Monday of each month.

Membership Committee – No report other than noting the next meeting is scheduled for November 16.

Mission Report – Ann Kuhn reported that the Mission Team had received a request from CUE for a \$100 donation. Janice Schroer made a motion to donate \$100 to CUE from the benevolent giving. Mary Finke seconded the motion and council approved the motion.

It was noted that the 2007 Project of the Year will be a Mission Project. The Mission Team may have some ideas to suggest at the December meeting.

Rev. Weir also noted that the Mission Team has also been quite busy with the project of compiling a list of all the organizations and contact names of worthy mission causes.

Worship Report – Nothing to report at this time.

Reports

Board of Christian Education – Janice Schroer reported that the Christmas Program has been scheduled for December 17. There will be music at 6:30 and a program at 7:00.

Janice also reported that the recent Safe Child program had 29 participants. Spirit Safari attendance has been averaging around 60 children per week. There is still a need for an assistant superintendent. Anyone with a suggestion should notify Theresa Hemmelgarn, Diane Gilberg, or Rev. Weir.

Deacon Report – Nothing to report other than that the deacons will check and see how the sound is since the speaker under the balcony was re-wired.

Elder's Report – No report.

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

During the month of October, I made 15 hospital visits, 16 nursing home visits, 19 home visits, and 5 office visits. I also conducted 1 wedding ceremony and 3 funerals, and planned and helped to lead 1 worship service at Heritage Manor Nursing Home.

Rev. Weir's Report – Rev. Weir wanted to express gratitude to everyone who worked so hard to make the Wing Ding a success.

Rev. Weir and Terri Goodwin will be at the Maria Stein Spiritual Center for the Youth Retreat Nov. 17-19 for the confirmands and the 7th graders. They will be back in time for the Sunday service to hear Rev. Jack Seville preaching.

Dec. 9 will be the outdoor "Search for Christmas Treasure" and the rest of the Christmas schedule will be published soon.

The large informational brochures have now been printed and are available. They look fabulous and it was a job well done by all involved, with a special thanks to Kelly Muether for her talented graphic design.

The Associations of the United Church of Christ has requested Rev. Weir to be a member of the Church and Ministry Committee of the Northwest Association UCC because of his background in counseling and clergy. This would start in April, after his term on the Faith Formation committee was completed. However, because it will require Rev. Weir to be in Tiffin one full day per month, Rev. Weir brought the issue to council. After discussion, Janice Schroer made a motion to allow Rev. Weir to serve on the committee. Kathy Topp seconded her motion, and council approved.

Trustee Report – Lowell Quellhorst reported that he and Ralph Plattner had patched the sidewalks. The trustees have also replaced all the light bulbs in the large chandeliers in the sanctuary. They have also replaced the bulbs in the cross in the auditorium. Ralph has re-wired speakers in the sanctuary to solve the problem under the balcony. The trustees are ready to move the computer and the other changes requested in the Youth room whenever they are needed.

Kogge made two trips to replace valves in the heating system. Heitkamp Electric has been working on the Smoke/Heat System and it should be very close to completion.

The trustees suggested a leaf collector for the lawn tractor. Tom Thieman suggested they get bids so that council can consider it before early next fall.

Old Business

Website Update – There are no further updates; the e-mail addresses have been changed and everything is now established and running.

Flooring in the Youth Room – Terri Goodwin suggested that they could get laminated hardwood flooring similar to the type installed in the Monkey Business room; she's getting a quote.

Update on Visual Technology – The proposal for the visual technology request hasn't been developed yet.

Approve the 2007 Budget – The final copy of the 2007 budget was available for review. It was noted that the Church Growth & Development expense is now a zero because it had been started for a specific expense years ago that is now no longer used. There were no revisions, and Roland Dicke made a motion to accept the budget to present to the congregation at the Dec. 10 meeting. Mark Dicke seconded, and council approved the motion.

Nominating Committee Report – Kathy Topp reported that she has made more than 42 phone calls, but still needs to fill two deacon positions and the trustee position. Of the positions that she has filled, Joyce Holdren has agreed to be treasurer, Greg Maurer has agreed to be junior elder, and Cheryl Barlage, Shirley Henegar, and Brice Schmitmeyer have agreed to be deacons. Kathy suggested that possibly putting a notice in the bulletin and having another person helping with phone calls would help fill the remaining positions.

New Business

Youth Ministry – Lori Winner made council aware that she is looking for volunteers to assist with Wednesday afternoon JYFs. Council suggested looking for volunteers from high schoolers, parents, and others willing to help. If there were enough volunteers, they could use a rotating schedule and possibly only need to volunteer just one Wednesday a month.

Candelabras Need Located – Two of Rev. Jim Egbert's candelabras that he loaned for use at the Wing Ding are missing. The search is continuing, and it will need to be printed in the bulletin so that if anyone knows where they might be we can locate them. Otherwise, preparations must be made to replace them.

Announcements

Stewardship Sunday Nov. 19th

Holiday Gathering for Staff and Council Members Dec. 5th 6:30 pm.

Congregational Meeting for Budget Approval and Election of New Officers Dec. 10th

Thank you note and \$300.00 Donation from the Buckeye Hustlers 4-H Club

Thank you note from Auglaize Valley Regional Coordinating Team for use of St. Paul church for Kinderfest.

Donation from Reynolds & Reynolds of \$200.00 to Mission Group from Sharon Fiely winning their Holiday Card Contest.

Letter from Elodie Sollman with a Donation from the estate of Lendor Sollman.

Tom Thieman extended thanks to all who participated in the Wing Ding, including Janice Schroer for the use of their truck. Everyone's help made the Wing Ding a success.

With no other business to discuss, Lowell Quellhorst made a motion to adjourn. Mary Finke seconded, and the meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Lisa Davidson, Secretary

Tom Thieman, President