

**St. Paul U.C.C. Council Meeting
February 10, 2009**

The meeting was called to order by President John Voress with 13 members present including: John Voress, Jeff Paul, Cindy Newman, Cheryl Barlage, Terri Goodwin, Kathy Topp, Larry Kuhn, Mark Barhorst, Dennis Dicke, Ann Nelson, Zelta Fogt, James Gilberg, and Gary Wehmeyer. Meditation was given by Terri Goodwin.

Secretary's Report: Minutes of the January meeting were discussed. A motion was made by Gary Wehmeyer to accept the report and seconded by Ann Nelson. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: In the absence of Tom Braun, John Voress gave the treasurer's report. Total income for the month was \$17,193.71 and total expenses were \$15,664.62 leaving a surplus of \$1,529.09 for the month. A discussion was held and a motion was made by Mark Barhorst to accept the report and seconded by Cheryl Barlage. Motion carried.

Church was cancelled on Sunday, February 8, due to Rev. Youngkin's sudden illness prior to the church service. A plan is being put into place so that we can have a church service if a similar situation ever presents itself again.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership Committee: Cindy Newman reported on several projects that the membership committee is working on: nametags, signs around the church and red friendship folders. The committee will be meeting soon to get these things finalized.

The Confirmation Reunion will be held on Sunday, May 3, 2009.

Mission Committee: Gary Wehmeyer reported that Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, Mississippi will be the mission project for the month February.

Pulpit Committee: The committee has received a few more résumés. They continue to check references for these people.

OTHER REPORTS

Board of Christian Education: Terri Goodwin reported that a Leadership Empowerment Day will be held on Feb. 22, 2009, at Bluffton.

Terri will be leading a new Sunday school class for parents bringing their children to the Spirit Safari Club. This class will be called The Young and the Rest of Us. It will start on March 1 and go until Easter, from 9:10-9:50 a.m. each Sunday. The group will meet in the chapel area of the Assembly Room.

Deacons: Mark Barhorst asked when the new members of council will be installed. John Voress said he will talk with Rev. Youngkin about when this will take place.

A special candle on the altar will be lit for all new babies born to members of our church. This program will replace the rosebud on the altar that had previously announced new births. A pink ribbon will be around the candle if the baby is a girl and a blue ribbon if the baby is a boy. The deacons will light this candle when they light the altar candles.

Video taping is still a problem. The deacons are going to try leaving the camera on the tripod so all is set up correctly every week.

John Voress will confer with Rev. Youngkin as to when Saturday communion will be held when the Saturday occurs at the end of the month and Sunday starts a new month. Does he want to have them together on the same weekend or separated?

Trustees: C & J Electrical will reconnect the organ wiring to the new electrical panel on Feb. 12, 2009. When they finish this, the electrical project will be complete.

The heat in the chapel area of the educational building is not working correctly and has been an ongoing problem due to a valve that sticks. As the building was constructed in 1951, the trustees have requested Kogge Plumbing & Heating in St. Marys to quote on upgrading all heating system piping for the registers along with adding shut-off valves to each register for more efficient servicing.

The sealing of the bricks on the church needs to be done. This was last done in 1991 and should be performed every 7 to 10 years. Larry Kuhn will check on a place in Delphos that does this kind of work.

Delores Stienecker and Joyce Holdren have reorganized newly framed, matted, etc. pictures and other items in the display case in the educational building. Archival materials were used to preserve the pieces.

Allen Bushman will paint the entrance doors to the auditorium. Larry Kuhn and Norm Holcomb will check on the water seepage through the walls in the church basement.

Terri Goodwin (for Rev. Youngkin): Terri Goodwin will conduct the confirmation class for Rev. Youngkin on Wednesday, February 11, 2009. She will also serve as a backup for Rev. Youngkin if he cannot be here to do the service.

Terri will ask the confirmation students to serve as acolytes on Sunday mornings.

OLD BUSINESS

Wish List: If anyone knows of anything that the church could use and would like to see it on the Wish List, please let John Voress know.

Youth Search Committee: The committee has selected Katherine Jackson as the new Youth Minister. She has worked part time at St. Paul UCC in Wapakoneta. She has a Youth Ministry degree from Ohio Northern University. She will start on Feb. 23, 2009. A discussion was held about hiring Miss Jackson as our Youth Minister. A motion was made by Mark Barhorst and seconded by Terri Goodwin to hire Miss Jackson. Motion Passed. She will be going to a workshop for continuing education the last weekend of February. James Gilberg made a motion to pay for her registration and motel and Kathy Topp seconded the motion. A discussion was held. A vote taken and the motion passed.

Staff Policy: Jeff Paul has a committee formed to work on staff policies of the church. They will be meeting and have information for the next council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

A representative will be coming to discuss the prospect of a new copier for the office.

Sanctuary Custodian: Due to custodial contractual considerations for Greg Hainline, Larry Kuhn made a motion to give John Voress the authority to hire a new sanctuary custodian should the job open up. Mark Barhorst seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Lawn treatments: A discussion was held. Cheryl Barlage made a motion to hire Healthy Lawns of Coldwater to do a 4-step lawn treatment program for the church at a cost of \$397. Zelta Fogt seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Church Tour: On Sunday, April 29, 2009, several churches in the area are opening their doors to people who would like to tour them. We will be joining several neighborhood churches in this project. We will hand out our church symbols and stained glass windows pamphlets to visitors. This is a good way to have people come in and see our beautiful church.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A thank you was read to the Church Council from Rev. Leah Matthews. She says: *Thank you so much for the gas card (already spent) and the New Bremen "throw". It is a gift that will assure me of remembering my great days in New Bremen. Thank you also for the joy of serving in ministry with all of you at St. Paul! In Christian love, Leah Matthews*

The next council meeting will be held on March 10, 2009 at 7:30. Kathy Topp will have meditation.

A motion was made by Dennis Dicke to adjourn and seconded by Mark Barhorst. Motion passed.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Cindy Newman, Secretary

John Voress, President