

**St. Paul U.C.C. Council Meeting
September 8, 2009**

The meeting was called to order by President John Voress with 17 members present including: John Voress, Jeff Paul, Cindy Newman, Cheryl Barlage, Terri Goodwin, Kathy Topp, Norm Holcomb, Larry Kuhn, Dennis Dicke, Ann Nelson, Zelta Fogt, James Gilberg, Karl Mesloh, Gary Wehmeyer, Tom Braun, Rev. Strang, and Katie Jackson. James Gilberg gave the meditation.

Secretary's Report: Minutes of the August meeting were discussed. A motion was made by Dennis Dicke and seconded by Larry Kuhn to accept the report as printed. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Tom Braun presented the report and a discussion was held. We have a deficit for the current month of \$4,682.54 and a deficit for the year to date of \$6,328.68. A motion to accept the report as presented was made by Norm Holcomb and seconded by Ann Nelson. Motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership Committee: New membership orientation will be held on Sunday, September 13, 2009, right after church in the Assembly Room. New members will be taken in on Sunday, September 20, 2009 during the morning service. It was decided to have deacons wear name tags with their name and DEACON on it so people will know if they have question whom to ask. Also it was discussed to have the clip-on name tags for everyone like the greeters wear. It would be each individual's responsibility to wear the name tag every Sunday.

Mission Committee: Gary Wehmeyer reported that the mission committee will be meeting on September 12, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.

Worship Committee: This committee will be meeting quarterly.

OTHER REPORTS

Board of Christian Education: Terri Goodwin reported that there were 50 people in attendance for the Child Safety Program. A renewal program will be held in August of 2010 for people who were not able to make it to the first program. The Young and the Rest of Us class will be meeting in the Night Owl Theatre. The Christmas program will be held on Sunday, December 13, 2009, during the morning worship service.

Trustees: Kathy Topp reported that she has contacted Tom Thieman regarding production of handrails for around the church and Educational Building. Carpets in the Educational Building will be cleaned. The library heat register has not been replaced yet but installation is scheduled soon.

Norm Holcomb reported that he is still working on a second bid for the air conditioner for the Assembly

Room. He had a request from the janitorial staff for new entry rugs. He will check on this. The outside lighting project is coming along. We are waiting on a sample to see how this special light will work. Larry Kuhn reported he got a quote from Minster Supply for a new cellar door. This would cost \$1127.66. The trustees would handle having the door installed. A discussion was held and Larry made a motion to purchase a new cellar door and Kathy Topp seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Pastor Strang's Report:

- Worship: Sermons in September will focus on "discipleship."

- Installation service: Tentatively set for 3:00 p.m., November 22, 2009.

- Cottage Meetings: Visioning at the parsonage (get acquainted and begin to ask/answer, "Who/What is God calling St. Paul UCC to do and be?"). First two were well attended. I will compile notes and present to October council. Remaining dates are: Wed., Sept. 9, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Sat., Sept. 12, 10:00-11:00 a.m., and Sun., Sept. 13, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

- Confirmation: 10 youth. Adult Mentors.

- Elaine Mikesell will be coming to church on September 13, 2009 to thank us for our OCWM contribution.

- Called to Care meeting is scheduled for September 21st in the library.

- Bible studies are scheduled for Oct. during the day and for Nov. in the evening

- Membership: New members orientation is scheduled for Sunday, September 13, 2009. Reception of new members (and 4 baptisms) is scheduled for Sunday, September 20, 2009. New members will receive God is Still Speaking red commas.

- Pictorial Directory: Rev. Strang talked with a representative from Olan Mills and Jeff Paul talked with Greg Garman from New Bremen. They will be checking into this project further.

- Bill Kuck Gift: Mr. Kuck will gift \$50,000 over the course of three years.

- \$20,000 in 2009

- \$20,000 in 2010

- \$10,000 in 2011

Bill and his daughter Sherri toured the building on Friday with Dot Koeper. I spoke with Sherri today on the phone and will visit Bill in Findlay in the near future to accept the payment for St. Paul UCC. I suggested to Bill's daughter that the gift might go toward the Youth Director Endowment. She thought that would be very fitting, especially since our focus as a congregation is very youth-oriented.

- Veterans Day Observation on November 8, 2009. I will solicit names of veterans and active duty personnel for listing in the bulletin. I am working with Roland Dicke.

- Jean Homan's request: Jason Evert, motivational speaker, is speaking at NBHS on September 10, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. on honoring women, modesty, chastity,

and abstinence. The cost for his speaking event is \$1800. Jean is soliciting donations from area churches and organizations to help cover Mr. Evert's speaking cost. The church council decided not to participate in this.

•Vanco Services: Electronic giving. We will be looking into this more.

•Pastoral Care--August 12 thru September 8, 2009.

Weddings: 2

Hospital Visits: 9

Home Visits: 7

Nursing Home Visits: 3

Office Visits: 4

Katie Jackson's Report:

•JYFS—15 enrolled right now, planning to send a letter home with all third grade through fifth grade students at New Bremen Elementary inviting them to attend JYFS.

•Jr. High—Had 25 students at last week's meeting. We talked about building community within our group. We talked about the importance of respecting and supporting each other, which is part of Jesus' vision for the church. We also have 3 new adult leaders for the program this year. The time change (ending at 8:30) worked out great. Also, having the 6th graders in that group was good. We will be starting our new curriculum tomorrow, starting with lessons from the life of Jesus.

•High School—Starts Sunday. We will start the new curriculum. I am excited to start meeting with the high school students soon!

•Continuing Education—NYWC (National Youth Workers Convention) is in Cincinnati this year, October 30 through November 2; \$375 per person; hotel costs \$110.00 per night. SYMC (Simply Youth Ministry Conference) is in Chicago, February 26 through March 2, 2010; \$319 per person, will rise to \$339 on October 31st. \$50.00 deposit, then full payment due January 25th; Hotel costs \$119.00 per night. A discussion was held and Norm Holcomb made a motion to send Katie and two other adult representatives to the Chicago workshop and Dennis Dicke seconded the motion. Motion passed.

•Upcoming Youth Events:

September 26th—Pumpkin pancake sale

October 11th—CROP Walk

October 18th—Youth Sunday

November 8th—High school breakfast at the parsonage

November 13th-15th—Fall retreat for grades 8 through 12

December 4th—Skillet concert in Troy

OLD BUSINESS

•Wish List: We have a new freezer in the kitchen. This was provided by the Funeral Luncheon and the Senior Luncheon Committees.

•Staff Policies: Jeff Paul and his committee are still working on these policies.

•Budget Committee: The committee met and worked on the budget for next year. They will be

meeting on September 23, 2009 at 6:30 to finish the budget and will present it to the council at the October meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

More "commas" will be made by Thieman Stamping.

A thank you note was read from the Auglaize County Fair Gospel Tent Committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next Church Council meeting will be on October 13, 2009. Norm Holcomb will have the meditation.

A motion was made by Cheryl Barlage and seconded by Norm Holcomb to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. The meeting closed with all saying the Lord's Prayer.

Cindy Newman, Secretary

John Voess, President

PROJECT OF THE YEAR Have you contributed lately?

Due to the magnitude of needed maintenance and upgrades, the Project of the Year was extended over two years, 2008-2009. These major projects have been completed:

- Electrical upgrade in Educational Building
- Sidewalk replacement

So far, nearly \$10,000 has been contributed for these projects. Please give prayerful thought to including the Project of the Year Fund in your giving to help offset a considerable shortfall.

Please note that contributions to the Building and Property Care Fund are not used for Project of the Year expenses.