

The regular meeting of the Council Board of the United Evangelical Church was held on January 16, 1968.

Those in attendance were: Albert Fader, George Sauer, William Single III, Richard Single, William Voelker, Louis Smith, Ernest Jones, John Lenning, Robert Logue, Fred Long, and Louis Parker, Sr.

The meeting was called to order by President Albert Fader and the meeting was opened with a prayer by Pastor Paul A. Rasche.

The minutes for the meeting for the month of December were read and with minor corrections were approved.

The Monthly Financial report for December was reviewed and approved as submitted. A profit of \$1265.00 was made on the Oyster and Sour Beef Supper, as per Ernest Jones.

Report of Committees:

Finance Committee: Richard Single will secure a new appraisal on our Church property which is currently appraised at \$465,000 for the Church and Church School Building, and \$27,000 for the parsonage. These amounts, it is felt, are not adequate considering today's building costs. Mr. Single through patient checking, will be able to secure for us broader and improved coverage at a reduced rate. George Sauer has consented to take this inventory of the contents of the Church property. Richard Single suggested that we compensate Mr. Sauer for this huge task. The Council Board approved of this and came up with the amount of \$50.00 per week. Fred Long made a motion that we pay Mr. Sauer at the rate of \$50.00 per week for taking inventory of Church property contents. John Lenning seconded this motion, and it was unanimously carried. Richard Single said that a written certified appraisal by a qualified, reputable concern would cost about \$500.00. William Voelker made a motion that we give Richard Single the "go ahead" on securing the appraisal at the approximate cost of \$500.00. George Sauer seconded this motion and it was unanimously carried. Richard Single has asked Paul Bauersfeld to inventory the Church School Building contents.

Property Committee: George Sauer checked some prices on a dishwasher for the parsonage, Whirlpool would cost \$168.95 less installation. John Senning could purchase a Westinghouse for \$171.00, but suggested to wait for the 1968 model which should be vastly improved. Dick Single asked Pastor Rasche to check the prices at Luskins as in many cases their prices are cheaper than all other discount prices.

Lou Smith informed us that a 24' x 4' rug for the Narthex would cost \$125.00 from Dick Anderson - would be a while before we could get it. We will tape the old cocoa rug down until the new rug is purchased. Lou Parker will bring in a roll of all-purpose tape to hold the old rug in place.

Our sextant did not show up for work for two weeks. George Sauer has been helping Bentrup. An ad will be placed in the newspaper for a new sextant by Mr. Sauer.

Membership Committee: Progress

Altar Committee: George Sauer said that everything was back to normal after a busy Advent and Christmas season. Mr. Fader informed us that while all the natural greenery we use is beautiful, it is not practical, because of the mess it makes and the discomfort it causes the Church members who are bothered by the falling needles. Mr. Fader requested that the Property Committee be given the OK to purchase artificial garlon, wreathes, and tree. The Council Board gave the Property Committee the OK to do so.

Fellowship Committee: Pastor Rasche and Mr. Fader thanked the Fellowship Committee for the fine reception they planned and worked out for Dr. and Mrs. Weisser. Dr. Weisser said that he and Mrs. Weisser appreciated the reception that was accorded them and that they enjoyed it very much. He said he did not hold the Fellowship Committee responsible for the bad weather we had for the reception. The cost for this reception was \$151.34.

Pastor Rasche said that the congregation was very generous in their giving of food stuffs for the ten Christmas baskets. We did not have to resort to the Poor Fund for filling these baskets. Pastor Rasche was also pleased with the ease in which this task was handled by the participating churches of the Canton Christian Council.

Mrs. Grace Fader has requested permission to discard all unusable items from the closet off Friendship Hall. She would then clean this closet up and store all holiday decorations in it in an orderly manner. There would be a new lock and key put on this closet and all organizations of the Church could use these decorations after securing permission from the Council Board.

Pulpit Committee: President Fader thanked chairman, William Single and his committee for the proficient job they did in securing for us a fine Visitation Pastor.

Calendar Committee: Mr. Albert Fader asked for the use of Friendship Hall for the wedding reception of his son Wayne Fader on April 6, 1968 at 1 p.m. Permission was granted by the Council Board.

Music Committee: Louis Parker Sr. reported that Donald Schnader was not successful in getting Mr. Herbst in to approve his recommendations for rectifying the accoustics problems in the Church. Donald said that he would do the best he could with the present set up.

Ushering Committee: Louis Smith said that all was going well. Al Fader requested that Lou Smith handle the 8 o'clock Communion, and William Voelker the 10:15 a.m. Communion.

Auditing Committee: Progress

Spiritual Committee: Progress

Old Business: Ad in Guide Lou Smith spoke to Mr. Crawley of the "Guide", but was unable to get a better price on our Ad. Lou is going to find out what he can get for \$150.00.

Hoffman Home Capital Fund Drive: Pastor Rasche reported that there would be a meeting Thursday night January, 18, 1968 and that he would like to have a "key man" to represent our congregation from the Council Board. Louis Smith volunteered to be our representative at this meeting and all subsequent meetings when it was possible for him to do so.

William Single thought it would be wise to first fulfill our commitments to Lancaster Theological Seminary which would be next year, and then work the Hoffman Home into our budget with some special solicitations to augment it. Mr. Fader suggested we take the money from the "poor box" and promote the giving. He would also use one line of the "Weekly Bulletin" for reporting progress. Pastor Rasche said that this could be the beginning.

Help for Youth Fellowship Friday Nights - There is a Mr. John DeGevanni of the Y.M.C.A. who is interested in young people. He is desirous of working with our "Youth Group". The Council Board agreed to have him work along with Mrs. Marie O'Donnell.

Pronouncement on Selective Conscientious Objection - William Single has secured the go-ahead from Reverend Francis X. Pirazzini to distribute the exchange of correspondence between him and our Church Council to the area Churches. Bill asked the Council Board for permission to do so and received it. He will send out this correspondence and report the response he gets from it.

Dr. Weisser takes his place among us - Pastor Rasche welcomed Dr. Weisser to our midst at the Council Board meetings and asked him to speak out. Dr. Weisser said that he was fully aware of the problems encountered by a Church this size in keeping its attendance up. He went on to say that he believes very strongly in visitation and its value to a church. Dr. Weisser would make visitation his prime task. He requested the names of the members whom we would like to have him call on first, and also for some volunteers who were familiar with the neighborhood; this would assist him in working up an expedient visitation sequence.

Pastors Rasche and Weisser talked some things over concerning the work schedule for our Visitation Pastor and put the following to the Council Board for approval:

The work week would be 25 hours, not including the Sundays when there was a calling.

The 25 hours would be put in as Dr. Weisser sees it required; quite a bit of this time, in the beginning, would be put in at evening time making visitations.

The 25 hours would not be entirely spent on visitation - there would be time devoted to all phases of his work.

Our Visitation Pastor would have two consecutive work days off chosen at his convenience.

Dr. Weisser would like to preach at times in other churches when there wasn't a calling at our Church, as he would like to have his spiritual impact felt by the community.

Dr. Weisser would be here for emergencies on Monday during Pastor Rasche's time off.

Pastor Weisser would report for short period only during Council Board meetings - just enough to get his pick up.

In the beginning Dr. Weisser would take part in the services quite regularly and possibly three Lenten Services.

Congregation would be made aware of Dr. Weisser's duties.

In closing Pastor Weisser said that he hopes he can succeed, in a measure, in bringing our delinquent members back to Christ.

The Council Board was in full approval of Dr. Weisser's duties as outlined above.

Mr. & Mrs. Gus Sohn requested a transfer to St. Johns Church - they were commended to their new church.

Canton Recreation Council presently have 20 to 25 girls playing basketball in our gym on Tuesday nights. Bureau of Recreation requests permission to have same age group of girls in to play basketball on Thursday nights; this session will also be supervised by a responsible group. The Council Board approved these sessions provided they know any session is subject to cancellation when we see fit.

Pastor Rasche reported our 1967 statistics for our Church attendance and our benevolence giving to O.C.W.M.

Pastor Rasche also mentioned that our 95th Anniversary is coming up and that we should all start to think about it.

Pastor Rasche outlined a master plan for 1968 in a calendar block form pointing up all of the special appeals and events. He also entered in these blocks when a special speaker would be required. This comprehensive plan enables the Council Board members to think and plan in advance concerning these important events, and eliminates the quick-spot planning.

Dr. Weisser informed us that he would have all the boxes out of the way soon and welcomes all of us to his home.

There being no other business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned.

Dr. Weisser closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Louis W. Parker Sr.
Louis W. Parker, Sr.
Recording Secretary