

**THE UNITED EVANGELICAL CHURCH OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND**  
**Church Council Meeting**  
**April 14, 2009**

Harvey Jacob called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

**Present:** Diane Borkman, Olga DeBloom, Cissy Funk, Nancy Gray, Calvin Gundlach, Harvey Jacob, Barbara Matthew, The Rev. Cathy Oatman and Clarence Rowell.

**Devotion:** As part of the devotion, Rev. Cathy asked council members to mention one thing the church has done in the past year that they were proud of. We then read 1 Peter 5 and said a prayer.

**Minutes:** A few minor corrections were made and a motion was made by Olga and seconded by Nancy to accept the minutes of the March, 2009 meeting as corrected. All voted in favor.

**Financial Report:** Harvey brought to our attention that the reason we were \$2,354.72 expenses over revenue for the end of March, 2009 was because we paid the church insurance, the pastor's health insurance and we had a very high gas bill. Cissy made a motion we accept the financial report as presented which was seconded by Olga. All voted in favor.

**Discussion:**

- (a) A letter was sent from Constellation Energy to buy more stock which was unanimously turned down by the council.
- (b) The council agreed to sponsor a \$100.00 ad in St. Brigid's Carnival ad booklet. Harvey made a motion we accept and this was seconded by Barbara. All voted in favor.
- (c) Harvey brought up that he is making progress working on the bell tower assembling the hardware to add lights to the sides.
- (d) Church School Building – Harvey feels we should have a business plan drawn up. Harvey and Nancy both expressed how depressing it is walking through the building knowing that major money has to be spent to make changes. The pastor feels we don't know how to find the money to make it a non profit organization.
- (e) The church is not being cleaned properly. The council will get Dale Sanders to look into this since this was his project before.
- (f) There is concern about our church budget shortfall.

**Church Committee Activity**

**Property:**

- (1.) Clarence brought up that the front pew by the Quiet Room needs fixing.
- (2.) Gary Jacob is working on the lights in The Friendship Hall.
- (3.) Harvey brought up that the gutter on the church roof needs to be replaced.

- (4.) Harvey brought up that many slates on the church roof needs to be replaced. He will get two estimates from two companies in Pennsylvania.
- (5.) Olga stated that we need a new ice machine. The council will get Dale Sanders to look into this.

**Membership:** The pastor will begin a new class in May.

**Altar:** All OK.

**Fellowship:** Nothing to report.

**Christian Education:** Clarence stated they will have a meeting next week. They are doing a rotation model between Easter and Pentecost. Students rotate through different teachers.

**Calendar:** Carol the secretary is maintaining the calendar of events for the church and providing it to the council for each meeting. A calendar committee is not necessary.

**Ushering:** We need more greeters.

**Music:** The council wants to explore the new hymnals that were used during Lent with the congregation.

**Spiritual:** Diane will look into a program that supports troops overseas.

**Visioning Groups:** This will wait until the fall to begin again.

**Parish Relations:** The pastor stated they will have a meeting in May to finalize lay responsibilities during her sabbatical and this is part of the change in by-laws that needs to be addressed.

**Pastor's Report:**

- (1.) The Small Church Vitality Workshop was attended by the pastor, Barb and Rob Gundlach. The pastor and Barbara gave encouraging reports.
- (2.) So far sixty members have turned in the survey on the church's alcohol policy. A yes or no vote on this will be taken at a Congregational meeting on Sunday May 17<sup>th</sup>.
- (3.) Earl's Place coming to speak on 5/24/09.
- (4.) There will be a June 28<sup>th</sup> choir concert with German singers. Rob Gundlach is arranging this. There will be a luncheon with a slight cost and the concert will begin at 1:30 p.m. The council agreed on a free will offering to support the singers.
- (5.) There will be a Chesapeake Association Spring meeting on 4/25 and a Church Vitality workshop on 5/2.
- (6.) The pastor made ten visits in April, 2009.

**Old Business:** Rev. Ben Griffin accepted the proposal submitted to him to be our pastor during Rev. Cathy's sabbatical.

**New Business:** The next council meeting will be Tuesday May 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Adjournment/Closing Prayer:** Clarence made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Diane. All voted in favor. The meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m. after saying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Calvin R. Gundlach*

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(Recording Secretary)