

The regular meeting of the Church Council of the United Evangelical Church was held on February 1, 1977, with the following persons in attendance: John Bond, May Getz, Willoughby Myrick, Louis Oberlander, Louis Parker, Jr., George Sauer, Randy Schmitt, George Tuerk, Marie Voelker, Albert Witzke, Carole Weidel, Debbie Bauersfeld, Lynn Stinchcomb, Robert Jackson, Robert Gundlach, Ernest Jones, and Pastor Hengen.

President George Tuerk called the meeting to order, and Pastor Hengen opened the meeting with a prayer.

The minutes for the January meeting were approved as read.

Financial Report:

Mr. Oberlander questioned an \$1800 deficit shown in the report for the month of January. Mr. Jones said that the poor attendance at the worship services was a factor contributing to this deficit. Mr. Tuerk added that it had been necessary to spend over \$50 to mail envelopes to those persons who had not picked them up. It is anticipated that contributions from these envelopes will help to defray the postage costs.

The financial report was approved as submitted.

Report of Committees:

Property Committee--Mr. Sauer brought up the matter of the energy situation. Pastor Hengen said that there was little heat in the office for evening counseling. Mr. Sauer asked that he be notified when evening meetings are to be held. Miss Weidel asked if the heat could be turned down in those rooms in the church school building which are not in use. Mr. Sauer indicated that this could not be done and suggested that the church school could meet in Friendship Hall, allowing the heat in the school building to be held at minimum levels. Mr. Tuerk pointed out that this arrangement would permit temperatures in the sanctuary to be kept closer to their usual levels. Mr. Parker moved that activity in the church school building be curtailed until further notice, and that the temperatures be maintained at levels sufficient to keep the pipes from freezing. Mr. Schmitt seconded it, and the motion was carried. In response to questions about the painting to be done by the Youth Group, it was stated that washing of walls and ceilings would not be necessary.

Spiritual Committee--Mr. Bond reported progress.

Ushering Committee--Mr. Parker brought up the matter of having choir members who are also council members come to assist with ushering during Communion. Mr. Schmitt said that some former council members who had been asked to help to collect the offering resented the request. It was decided to have choir/council members assist with Communion and the offering, with junior council members helping also.

Youth Group--Lynn Stinchcomb reported progress.

Youth Service--Mr. Schmitt reported progress. Pastor Hengen reported that at least 1, and perhaps 2, young people from our congregation were interested in going to Guatemala with the Youth Service Task Force during July, 1977.

Auditing Committee--Mr. Tuerk read a report from Ed Myers in which he stated that the books were in good order. Mr. Myers recommended that a monthly postage record be kept, and he cited Ernest Jones for his excellent work during his tenure as financial secretary.

Fellowship Committee--Mr. Tuerk said that Mrs. Voelker had discussed with the sewing group the idea of making new tablecloths. Since the group had agreed, Mr. Tuerk said that we should authorize the treasurer to issue a check to cover the cost of the fabric. The quality and price were to be left to the discretion of the purchaser.

Finance Committee--Mr. Schmitt suggested that we purchase offering envelopes long enough to accommodate a bill or a check, thus encouraging people to increase their contributions. After some discussion, Mr. Sauer moved that we keep the type of envelopes we have now. Mr. Jones seconded it. The motion failed, 5 to 7. Mr. Schmitt moved that we try the larger envelopes for one year, then return to the smaller ones if there is not a noticeable increase in contributions. Mrs. Getz seconded it, and the motion was carried with 8 votes in favor and 4 abstentions.

Christian Education Committee--The meeting to discuss the goals and objectives was rescheduled for Monday, February 7, at 7:30 P.M.

Old business:

Mr. Tuerk requested authority for the officers to increase the amount of the fire insurance to \$1.6 million to cover the buildings, until an inventory is completed and we can get a final figure to cover the buildings and contents. Mr. Parker moved, and Mr. Witzke seconded, that we give the officers such authority. The motion was approved.

The January Congregational Meeting had been cancelled due to the weather. In order that the committee have sufficient time to develop the goals to be presented at that meeting, the meeting was rescheduled for February 18 at 8 P.M.

Mr. Bond said that he had received only two complaints on the amplifier, which hummed when the dimmers were used. This has been fixed. He was authorized to repair the other amplifier to be used as a back-up. Mr. Gundlach said that the outside chimes do not play, but Mr. Witzke said they were turned off inside.

New Business:

Irene McVickers fell inside the building and damaged a tooth. It was decided that she should submit a bill for the dental work, since our insurance would cover it.

Mr. Tuerk said that Pastor Hengen had met with ministers, and that the Pastor felt there should be a closer alliance between the local pastors. In that way they would be able to exercise more influence on problem areas.

Mr. Witzke thanked the council for the choir outing. He also requested the use of the church facilities for a family celebration of his 50th wedding anniversary. The consensus was to grant Mr. Witzke's request. He also requested help with the Lord's Supper Tableau. Mr. Schmitt and Mr. Gundlach said that they would be available.

Mr. Sauer said that the Boy Scouts were collecting newspapers and storing them here. If the insurance inspector or the fire department should come in, we would be cited for violations. Mr. Bond said that the matter should be brought to the attention of the Scout Master, and Mr. Tuerk said that he would do it. Mr. Sauer said that the Girl Scouts have stored boxes by the stage. The Pastor said that it is a total building storage problem, and he considers it a good idea to make a use survey from which can be derived recommendations for the reorganization of space.

Pastor's Report:

The Pastor's monthly report for the month of January 1977 included no weddings or baptisms, 1 funeral, 5 counselling sessions, 6 home and hospital visitations, and 2 professional consultations. A complete report is attached hereto.

Pastor Hengen relayed to the council a letter he received from Dr. Weisser thanking the council for the check and for payment of his motel bill for January 16th. He also thanked the church for the cordial reception given to him and to Mrs. Weisser.

The Pastor brought to the attention of the council a letter received from James D. Glasse, President of Lancaster Seminary. The letter thanked the church for the contribution of \$200.

In a notice from Steven Anderson, President of the Chesapeake Association, the 1977 Consistorial Banquet was announced for February 13 at Zion Evangelical Lutheran United Church of Christ. The cost is \$4.00 per person. Dr. Glasse is to be the speaker.

Pamela Luckhardt requested permission to hold a wedding reception in the church hall on February 26 from 2:30 to 5:30. The council granted permission. The Cub Scouts requested the use of the hall on February 28 for the Blue and Gold Dinner. This request was also granted.

Pastor Hengen said that he had attended special training sessions concerned with interpreting data from the membership inventory. Rev. Mary Wenck will be interpreting the data for our congregation. He announced that Vernon Luckhardt had resigned as Scoutmaster, and was replaced by Mr. Saunders. The Ladies' Aid has elected a new president, Mrs. Claire Hengen, and a new vice-president, Mrs. Marie Voelker.

The annual 3-hour Good Friday service will be held at United Evangelical this year. The Pastor was concerned that only partial reports had been turned in by the various groups for presentation at the congregational meeting. He hoped that all groups would have a report ready. Pastor Hengen asked that the delegates to the May 1 meeting of the Chesapeake Association, and the June meeting of the Central Atlantic Conference in Montclair, N.J., be chosen. He also said that he had discussed with Mr. Jackson, Mr. Schmitt, and Mr. Bark the possibility of the direct deposit of his pay. Mr. Jones said that he felt it better to continue in the present manner, since having the cancelled check helped to keep the books straight. Mr. Tuerk said that the treasurer and the financial secretary would discuss it, and it would be brought up at the next meeting.

There being no other business before the council, Mr. Sauers made a motion that we adjourn. Mr. Parker seconded it, and the meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Carole P. Weidel

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Recording Secretary