

The regular meeting of the Church Council of the United Evangelical Church was held on April 4, with the following persons in attendance: Randy Schmitt, Earl Jackson, J. Edwin Myers, Henry Schneider, Jr., George Sauer, Louis Oberlander, May Getz, Carole Weidel, George Tuerk, Margaret Craig, Ed Tomczewski, William Hoffman, Jr., and Rev. W. Scott Hengen, III. Pastor Hengen opened the meeting with a prayer. The minutes for the March meeting were approved as read.

Mr. Tuerk informed the Council that letters of congratulations had been sent to each of the confirmands. He also stated that the contract for the work on the pews had been renegotiated so that no payment would be made in advance. Instead payment is due when the work is completed and we are satisfied with results.

Financial Report: Mr. Schmitt brought to the attention of the Council the extra \$5,000 in a savings account which had resulted from the conversion of one of our savings certificates. Mr. Jackson moved that this \$5,000 be converted to a 6 year certificate paying 7 3/4%. Mr. Schmitt seconded the motion. Following a discussion of the amounts in our savings and checking accounts, the motion was carried. Mr. Schmitt reported that 650 sets and 2,000 envelopes in bulk had been ordered from the Globe Envelope Company, at a cost of \$390.98. Concerning the purchase of health insurance for the secretary and custodian, Mr. Schmitt recommended that we get the plan available through the Conference. Mrs. Slechta prefers this plan, although Mr. Wolferman indicated that he was on a Blue Cross plan with his wife.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Hengen listed the following accomplishments for the month of March:

1. Confirmation Class Dinner and Examination;
2. The Rite of Confirmation at the 10 A.M. service on Palm Sunday;
3. The "Last Supper" Tableau and worship experiences on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday;
4. Special music by the Peabody Trombone Quartet at the Easter sunrise service;
5. A continental breakfast served on Easter morning;
6. The Church School program, including a gift of a cross to each person present;
7. Announcement of an Easter to Pentecost attendance campaign;
8. The Guild Square Dance;
9. Rehearsals for the Youth Task Force show were held here;
10. The Pew Fund is progressing, and the color and fabric have been chosen;
11. The Youth Group show presented for the Women of the Moose;
12. Progress by the pastor on his work for the Doctor of Ministry degree;
13. The outpouring of affection and shared grief for the family of Al Fader;
14. The Festival Choir is to sing at the meeting of the Chesapeake Association at First & St. Stephen's Church on May 7;
15. A "greeter project" has been initiated; and
16. The series of sermons on the Gospel of John has been beneficial.

Mr. Schneider questioned the pastor about why there has been a lag in the development of an adult Christian education program, since the desire to have such a program had been expressed at the January congregational meeting. Pastor Hengen said that the Christian Education Committee needs to work on the problem to facilitate the development of activities of interest to young adults, older adults, or intergenerational groups. Such programs could be led not only by the pastor but by interested members of the congregation.

Pastor Hengen listed the following items of concern:

1. The attendance campaign in progress may be used to assist in a membership up-date to determine who our active members are. A United Christian Enlistment campaign may be an outgrowth of this project.
2. Letters had been exchanged between Pastor Hengen and the pastor of Cowenton United Methodist Church concerning the Smith family transfer. Pastor Hengen expressed his disapproval of the way the Methodist church had handled the transfer.
3. After the pews and painting have been completed, a list of items for additional improvements need to be prioritized and may include
 - a. the development of a young adult ministry center and library in Fellowship Hall;
 - b. organ improvements and/or renovations;
 - c. programmatic inclusion of the hiring of an associate pastor or seminary student to develop planning; and
 - d. improvements to the oil burners to make them more efficient.
 Priorities are to be based upon the congregation's assessment of its needs from 1980 to 1985.
4. No delegates have yet been appointed for the Association or Conference meetings.
5. There will be an increased use of the pastor's time for doctoral study through the summer months and will include the involvement of this congregation in the project. The pastor is to prepare a statement clarifying the congregation's role.

Reports of Committees:

Christian Education Committee--Miss Weidel recommended that a joint meeting of the Council and the 1975 Pastoral Search Committee be called during April as stipulated in the 1978 Goals approved by the congregation. The Council gave its consent for this meeting.

Property Committee--Miss Weidel reported that there were still Christmas pine needles on the pulpit, and there was an accumulation of dirt and dust on the stairs from the narthex to the balcony. Mr. Myers questioned the placement of the speaker wire leading from the the choir loft down to Friendship Hall. He said that it may be dangerous for someone using the stairs and should be moved. The ceilings in the men's room and ladies' room need to be painted. Mr. Tuerk reported that there were some small horizontal cracks appearing in the "Last Supper" carving. Miss Weidel suggested that Walter's Art Gallery be contacted to get the names of some people who might do the necessary repairs. Mr. Tuerk also recommended that 21st Century Enterprises be consulted concerning the fuel-saving device for the furnace. The Property Committee is to make a survey of how many things need to be done throughout the church property.

Membership/Stewardship Committee--Mr. Myers reported that between 14 and 16 women had expressed a willingness to serve on the greeter committee. He also reported that all of the offering envelopes had been delivered.

Youth Group--Mr. Myers reported that a retreat is planned for the first weekend in May at the Claggett Center.

Altar Committee--Mrs. Getz reported that Mrs. Zinn will continue to serve as chairperson for that committee. Mr. Tuerk said that he will resolve the problem before the next meeting.

Contemporary Worship--Mr. Schmitt asked permission to rent a film entitled "Martin the Cobbler" at a cost of \$35.00. The motion made by Mr. Myers and seconded by Miss Weidel was carried. Mr. Schmitt reported that the group is planning a 30 minute play for either May or June, and they are thinking about having an evening play for a fund raiser.

Fellowship Committee--Mrs. Craig reported that the continental breakfast and the Lenten coffee hours had been a success.

Pew Fund--Mr. Jackson made a motion, seconded by Miss Weidel, that the Council support the fund through the purchase of a council pew at a cost of \$6.60 per council member in addition to whatever amount each individual choses to give on his own. The motion was carried under advisement by a vote of 4 to 3.

Calendar Committee--The Explorer Scouts wish to hold a record hop on April 15 from 8 to 11 P.M. Permission was granted. Mr. Myers recommended consideration of the purchase of a postage meter at a cost of \$495. This would allow for an accurate accounting of funds spent for postage. He also reported that Mrs. Myers had volunteered to make bags so that the offering envelopes could be sorted before the money is counted, thus making the counting procedure easier and more efficient. There was no objection to this system.

There being no other business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned. All joined in praying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Carole P. Weidel

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Recording Secretary.