

January 31, 1982

The annual Congregation Meeting of United Evangelical Church of Christ was held on Sunday January 31, 1982, at 11:50 A.M. in Friendship Hall. Mrs. Grace Fadar presiding.

Pastor Hengen opened the meeting with a prayer.

Mrs. Fadar thanked everyone for coming to the meeting today. The weather is still icy. The book of reports were palled out to any one that did not have them.

The minutes from the last congregation meeting were read. Hearing none the minutes were approved as read.

First on the agenda, was the pastor's report. Asked if there were any questions, there was none. Asked Pastor Hengen if he had any thing to say, He commented, the report speaks for itself, except he brought to our attention his recommendations and ~~st~~ stastictics.

Next came the Financial report on Income and Expenses. Asked if there were any questions. There was none. At this point, Mrs. Fadar thanked Mr. John Strong for the wonderful report and also thanked him on behalf of the Church for the wonderful and hard work of keeping the Church books.

Next came the Audit of the Church books. No questions asked. Mr. Edwin Myers was called upon to add anything to the report. He said there was only one discrepancy and that was the bank's error. this has been corrected. The bank charged us with a 50.00 dollar withdrawal and when asked for a photocopy of the cancelled check, they found the cancelled check and now the ~~books~~ books are balanced.

The Church School's Financial Report was next. Before going on with this report, Mr. Mack wanted to go back to the Church's Financial report. He wanted to know why we had investments for the same period at different percents. Mr. Single explained these differences to everyone's satisfaction.

Going on with the church school's report. Mr. Rowell was asked if he had anything to say. He stated that there was water on the church school's floors from a ~~leak~~ leak on the fourth floor. It had seeped through the ceiling and on down into the gym. Mr. Jones walked in at this time, and since he is the Property committee chairman, he told us that the water fountain had burst, but that he had brought in a machine and at this time the water was cleaned up, and a plumber had been called in for Monday morning.

Ms. Pat Jenkins asked for the floor and she gave her opinion why this had happened. She thinks or rather she stated that the council of the church was too intent on saving money than having children come to Sunday School. She told us that it was only 32 degrees in the church school fourth floor. and that if they could'nt get some heat in winter and some cooling in the summer, there would be no Church School. They only have 15 children now. And Parents do not want their children in one room. they do not pay attention. She also told us that all during the Church service they were upstairs with trash cans and mops cleaning up the water. They had the whole thing cleaned up before Mr. Jones got the machine up there. She thinks that noone cares whether or not there is a Church School.

Mr. Jones spoke again and said he wanted to thank them for their work It was an oversight on his part, as he was intent on getting something to clean it up as fast as he could.

Mrs. Dolores Canoles wanted to know why they could'nt use an electric heater in the rooms they would be using. The answer was that it was too expensive. Mr. Will Myrick said that for 15 children it made no sense to heat the building with electric, steam, or hot water.

Mrs. Dorothy Jones asked why children could'nt meet in the quiet room. Mrs. Borkman answered that the older children were ahead of the smaller ones, that they would get bored with hearing ~~there~~ their lessons and the smaller children's lessons and singing would interfer with the older group.

Billy Hoffman spoke up to say that unless we had a Church School, we would not have a church in the future, as the children of the church school are the members of the future.

Mrs. Fadar's answer to this was that the council does care if there is a church school. She said there has been a church school as long as she can remember. Mrs. Fadar told us she has appointed a special committee, regarding the concerns and future of the Church School. We, the council, want to fill the building with children once again. The members of this committee are: Mr. George Tuerk, chairman, Mr. William Single III, Mrs. Dorothy Jones, Paul Bauersfeld, non council person and representative of the church school, and Pastor Scott Hengen. This committee was just formed and these people have not had a chance to do anything yet. But you will be hearing from the council as soon as this committee comes up with something.

Dolores Canoles seems to think that we need more non-council persons on the committee than council members. Mrs. Fadar said she was willing to work with anyone who had ideas. Mrs. Fadar said this would be brought up at the ~~xxx~~ council meeting and that the parties involved would be hearing from the council shortly. She went on to say that she thought that all the church members would like to see the Church School fill up again with children.

John Bond told us that there was a 220 line that went all the way up to the fourth floor in case they did want to use electric heat. Asked how he knew of this, John answered that he had had it done.

The Ladies Aid report was next. Mrs. Hengen was called on to speak. She reminded every one that they were having a Sour Beef and Dumpling dinner, the Wednesday after Easter. Donation 5.00 dollars. There were no other comments or no questions.

The next report, The Sewing Group, there were no comments and no questions

Next, The Young Women's Guild, No comments and no questions.

Next, Youth Group report. Billy Hoffman said that since the Group disbanded, they had a Christmas party that only 5 members attended, with Pastor Hengen and Himself. He also stated that some did not seem interested, but they were trying to get Youth interested, and he would help all he could.

Next, Senior Choirs report. President Will Myrick, was asked if he had any thing to say. Will only reminded the congregation about our choir shows on May 7 and 14th. May 7th is dinner and show, and May 14th show only.

Next was Widow and Widowers report. The only thing they had to say was that between the weather and other Church activities, they had a hard time meeting.

Next, The Boy Scout report: Mr. Edwin Myers spoke for them, He told us that on February 22, 1982 they will hold their Blue and Gold Dinner, and that Billy Hoffman will be getting an Eagle Scout award, the highest award you can receive in the Scouts. He also said they will have a Scout Sunday in our Church, and he asked Pastor Hengen to give them a better recognition than he did last year.

This ended the reports.

Mrs. Fadar complimented each organization on the beautiful reports they had done, and she hoped that in the ensuing year each one would have nice things happening to them.

Old Business: NONE

Mrs Fadar asked if any one had any questions to ask of the council members at this time. Mr. McNeal asked for the floor. He told the council and the congregation, ~~xxx~~ that he thinks people have keys that are not entitled to them for the fact that money was taken out of the office and also that a number of the custodian's cleaning products were missing. Things were going out faster than he was using them. He also told that he has come to work and found chairs gathered in a circle and popcorn and soda cans all over the floor, which was not there the previous day when he left, and nothing was on the calendar for that particular night. He is concerned as a member and as the custodian. His opinion was to change locks and make a list of keys to those people that were supposed to get them. Mr. Ed Myers said this had been done once, but that it was hard to keep track, because people would get

copies made and therefore you could not keep track of them.

Mrs. Fadar explained about the money situation to the congregation. It was money she had put in the safe to pay for food on Tinsel Sunday. She said the insurance co. had reimbursed us, but they would not continue to do so. She also told them, congregation, that we, the council was unaware that any thing else was missing, but that it would be looked into.

Mrs. Marty Craig told how she left her coat in the narthex, because she was giving out the bulletin, then she came into the church for service. When Church was over her coat was gone and Mr. Single happened to go up in the choir room and there was her coat. This happened on a Sunday when the Choir sang at First United Church. She also said that she puts change in her pockets and of course they were empty.

Mrs. Dolores Canoles asked for the floor, and said she thinks that when children and young people come to church, they should be in church and not be in the office socializing. She said in her opinion, there were too many running loose in the church while service was going on. She also told how the choir has found their robes mixed up, thrown around off the hangars, etc. It is very aggravating to the choir to hunt for their robes. This has happened twice.

Mrs. Fadar asked any one of the congregation to notice any thing out of the ordinary to please come to her or to Mr. Single, who is vice-president.

Mrs. Dolores Canoles wanted to know why Mr. Tuerk and Mr. Oberlander were put on the church council instead of Mr. Raddatz and Mrs. Everett, who were elected, but not put on the council. Mrs. Fadar explained that since she is new as president of the council, she asked Mr. Tuerk to sit on a committee, because of his expertise in running the church, and that he could help her a great deal. The same thing with Mr. Oberlander. He knows a lot about the Church property and he comes in to assist any Group that might be meeting here at that time. She asked if her explanation was satisfactory and Mrs. Canoles said it was enlightening.

New Business: NONE

Mrs. Fadar said that as she listened to all the reports, she was very proud of our organizations. She expressed her concern over the Church School once again and hoped the new committee would come up with something to report soon.

Mrs. Fadar also commented on the decline of church attendance. She turned the floor over to Mr. William Voelker. Mr. Voelker had already put his figures on the blackboard. The last report he gave on this subject, went back to 1977. Today he had gone back to 1973, which showed ~~xxx~~ that the membership from that year up to the present day had declined steadily. Mr. Voelker, was interrupted by a confrontation between Mrs. Oberlander and Mrs. Canoles. The membership committee chairman, Mrs. Dorothy Jones said they had already started to work on the membership.

Mrs. Oberlander apologized for disrupting the meeting, and Mrs. Fadar accepted the apology. Mrs. May Getz praised the response she gets from the young people to be alcoholics.

Mr. Edwin Myers motioned to adjourn and Mr. Will Myrick seconded it. The meeting adjourned until next November.

Pastor Hengen gave the closing prayer, with the whole congregation joining in saying the "Lord's Prayer".

Respectively submitted,
Clara Wise
Clara Wise, Secretary
Church Council