

The semi-annual Congregational meeting of the United Evangelical Church was called to order on Sunday February 9, 1985 at 11:50 A.M., Vice-President Voelker presiding.

The secretary read the minutes from the previous Congregational meeting. They were approved as read.

Reports from Church Organizations were accepted as announced in the program.

Financial report was studied and accepted as presented.

Pastor Fair announced that services would be held on Ash Wednesday beginning at 8:00 P.M. This year we will celebrate Holy Communion and also ashes will be given for anyone wishing to receive them.

The theme of the Lenten services this year will be the Lord's Prayer. The Pastor urged all to attend to make use of Lent as a time of study and devotion.

New Business:

Mr. Parker announced that fuel oil consumption has greatly increased - 600 gallons missing in several days. There is a possibility that a leak has occurred in the tank. Plumbers say that the average life of an underground tank is 12 years and ours is 28 years old. A pressure test of the tank may cause more problems such as oil in the church basement or in sewer lines. More leakage could be caused by filling the tank, so it is being kept at about 350 gallons. Consults on a new tank show price would be approximately \$1500-\$2000.

Mr. Single asked if any City Officials have been informed. Since the oil leak would cause some pollution in varying degrees, our insurance company should be informed as well as the EPA, Fire Department, and Coast Guard. Action will be taken to inform these agencies.

Mr. Jim Martin asked if excavation between the buildings will be possible and will the present foundations hold up to the drilling.

Pastor Fair says he talked to a plumber who doesn't think we can dig out the old tank. Solution may be to put new tank above ground or blow fiberglass into the old tank to seal leaks and create a lining.

Mr. Martin said it would be difficult to line the tank with fiberglass and be sure all leaks were sealed.

Mrs. Fader said Mr. Strong had found blueprints in the archives for the exact position of the tank. Also he says a 1000 gallon tank cannot be used above ground.

Mrs. Thelma Smith suggested conversion to natural gas. She feels if the United States were cut off from the foreign oil supply it would become very expensive, and this may be a good time for us to change to gas.

Mr. Ed Myers also suggested looking into conversion. He says St. Peters has cut their fuel costs in half by converting to gas.

Mr. Norman Parker suggested installing a small above ground tank as a temporary solution, until we decide what we should do. Also he feels if we do have to replace the tank, it should be fiberglass since it will last indefinitely.

Mr. Voelker said we will be moving quickly on this problem.

World Day of Prayer

Mrs. Grace Fader reminds us that World Day of Prayer will be held on March 1, 1985 beginning at 1:30 P.M. and will be hosted by Salem Methodist Church.

There being no further business to come before the congregation, the meeting adjourned at 12:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Mrs. Patricia C. Jenkins
Church Council Secretary