

THE UNITED EVANGELICAL CHURCH OF BALTIMORE, MD
Church Council Meeting
March 4, 2008

Present: Olga deBloom, Harvey and Ursula Jacob, Nancy Gray, Clarence Rowell

Devotions: Harvey and Pastor Cathy

The president, Harvey Jacob, called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

Correspondence: Robert Gundlach sent us an e-mail stating he wishes to have use of the sanctuary and organ from 2 – 4 pm on April 28th as he will be taking a certification test conducted by the American Guild of Organists. An e-mail was also received from Cathy Fifield regarding the disposal of an old TV, speakers, etc. which may have belonged to Casa de Restauration. Harvey told her to dispose of the items as she sees fit. A thank you letter was received from Lancaster Seminary and Hoffman Homes for our donations.

Financial Report: Harvey reported that our CEG stock which increased in 2007 is decreasing in value now. It has dropped in value from \$23000 to \$22500. Our CD that matured in January was moved from Carrollton Bank to Rosedale Federal S & L in order to take advantage of a higher rate of interest. We currently show an increase in investment funds due to accumulated interest from year 2007 that was posted in January.

Fees for church use: Some of the church facility use and service fees will be increased to be more compatible with other churches. The new fee schedule is available in the church office. This action was approved by Council vote, motioned by Nancy Gray, seconded by Olga DeBloom, all in favor.

Plaques: Nancy Gray brought in samples of plaques to be placed on the window sills in the sanctuary. A decision was made to continue looking for different kind of plaques. A letter will be going out to all of the people who donated money toward the window restoration in regards to the wording on the plaques.

School Building: Talks continued about the use of the school building by non-profits. We plan to continue pursuing this avenue during year 2008.

Adopt a Project List: Discussions on circulating a “ Adopt a Project List” of needed items and upgrades for our church are still continuing.

Property Maintenance: A man was interviewed for the position of maintenance handyman, however he was looking for full time work, whereas we only need someone part time. A decision has not been reached whether to pay by the hour or for each project.

Front Window: In April or May the large front window and the south facing narthex windows will be cleaned and refurbished by the Higgins Company at a cost of \$14000.

Olga will call J.C. Penny to inquire about replacing the cords that open and close the large drapes.

School Building Heating System: Decision has been made to wait for the end of the heating season to replace a badly corroded and leaking pipe under the rear stairwell.

Membership: We have post cards to send to members and other people who have attended our church in the past. We are also having 50 postcards sent to new neighbors at a cost of \$30 a month. An agreement was reached to continue this advertising effort.

Fellowship: This year we are celebrating our 135th anniversary. Arrangements have been made to have a party at the Lantern Gardens in Rosedale on September 21st.

We discussed the possibility of inviting our neighbors and congregation to a concert in October. A motion was made by Olga and seconded by Nancy to pursue this possibility. Approval by the congregation will be solicited at a special meeting.

Music: At the present a committee is perusing several different hymnals. A final decision will not be made until some time in the future.

Vision Group Meetings: There are currently four Vision Study Groups. We plan to continue with the dinner meetings.

Parish Relations: The committee is planning a meeting for April.

Pastor's Report:

The young people in the confirmation class went on a visit to Hoffman Homes.

Old Business:

We are studying as to whether Sprint is paying enough for the electricity they use.

New Business:

The Canton Baptist Church has sent their thanks to our congregation for the food we contribute to the Food Bank. A notice should be put into the bulletin.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 pm. after closing with The Lord's Prayer