

THE UNITED EVANGELICAL CHURCH OF BALTIMORE, MD
Church Council Meeting
May 13, 2008

The President, Harvey Jacob, called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Present: Bob Osborne, Olga DeBloom, Calvin Gundlach, Cissy Funk, Ursula Jacob, Nancy Gray, Dale Sanders and Rev. Cathy Oatman.

Devotion: Bob Osborne

April Minutes: The Minutes of the April 8th meeting were approved as written. Bob Osborne made the motion to accept the Minutes and Olga DeBloom seconded the motion. All in favor.

Correspondence: We received a "Thank You" card from the Parker Family.

Financial Report: We have \$7735 expenses over income through April 30th. A deficit of \$27000 is projected for the year. Without a current secretary, we have not had to pay a secretarial salary for a number of weeks. We hired Garrett Jacob as handyman and we have paid him \$225 to date for his services. The value of our CEG stock has dropped \$1000. Dale motioned to accept the financial report as presented, which was seconded by Calvin. All in favor.

Property: The Higgins Company will be working on the front window and the two small windows in the Narthex by the end of May. Nancy Gray reported that she had called several places regarding getting prices on plaques for the 10 windows in the sanctuary. A letter will be send to all donors with sample wording for their approval. The letter will be written by Rev. Cathy. \$48091 has been paid for the restoration of the windows thus far. \$43915 for the side windows and \$4176 toward the front window. After paying for the work on the large front window , the rest of the money will be used for the donor plaques. A decision was reached that the brass plaques should measure approximately 3" x 5" and be applied to the window sills with two screws.

Membership: Letters were sent out to people new to the neighborhood in March and April. The letters being send out in May will include free tickets to the Museum, free coffee and dessert at area restaurants, etc.

Fellowship: We are planning an October Fest in celebration of our church's 135th anniversary. Cissy Funk will serve as chairperson for this event. She has discussed securing a band with Rev. Bell. She will also obtain any permits. We will be looking into renting a stage, trash collection, etc.

We are also planning a church music concert with Robert Gundlach as chairperson. We will be placing an announcement in the Endeavour.

Christian Education: The Youth Group will be selling flowers on Mothers Day to raise money for their trip to Knoxville, TN. They will be going July 24-28.

The Sunday School teachers held a meeting in April at which it was decided that they would like to follow an optional lectionary for the school classes since the prescribed one seems to move too fast. It was decided to have only one Christmas Eve service at 7:30 pm.

There will be no pageant on Tinsel Sunday.

Calendar: Olga will coordinate the calendar used by council with the one kept in the office.

Music: The choir is exploring the use of new music. Olga made a motion to postpone the acquisition of new hymnals which was seconded by Dale. All in favor. A discussion on whether to have one or two worship services for the summer resulted in a decision to retain both services.

Visioning: The next small group potluck lunch will be on June 1st. Then, on June 29th all groups will combine to hold an all church potluck lunch at which time information gathered during the last 6 months in the small groups will be shared with the congregation.

Parish Relations: Discussion groups will be started in the Fall. Rev. Cathy has requested a 3 months' Sabbatical sometime between May 2009 and May 2010. This would be a time of intentional study and rest. The exact time will be decided on at a later date. Dale Sanders made a motion to grant the request which Nancy Gray seconded, with Olga DeBloom abstaining. Majority in favor. A decision was made to have the same person substitute for Rev. Cathy for the entire three months. It was decided to have a guest minister once every three months. This motion was made by Dale and seconded by Cissy. All in favor.

Pastor's Report: Our new members are invited to join the June 1st ^{29th} small group pot luck.

Old Business: Dale Sanders, Eric Sanders, and Calvin Gundlach are planning on participating in Earl's Place fund raiser run, January 1, 2009.

New Business: It was decided not to try to have a picture taken of the entire congregation for the African Festival, as requested. The deadline of June 6th was considered to be too short.

Rev. Cathy, Nancy Gray and Harvey Jacob are considering attending a seminar on July 8th in Detroit, MI sponsored by The Nonprofit Centers Network. A decision is to be reached at the June Council Meeting.

Dale made a motion to adjourn at 9:35 which was seconded by Olga. All in favor. Meeting adjourned after reciting The Lord's Prayer.