

United Evangelical Church
Council Meeting Minutes
Of Meeting Held October 12, 2004

Attendance: Rev. Cathy, Clarence Rowell, Darlene Waters, Ursula Jacob, Cass Young, Shirley Willingham, Julie Hovermill, Kris Orendorff and Nancy Spirko

The spiritual message was read by Harvey Jacob.

The minutes were read and approved.

Correspondence: An e-mail from the UCC Central Atlantic Conference was received by Clarence requesting a donation of \$250.00 for the *Amistad* Conference. The *Amistad* is a former African slave ship that will be docked and on display at the Inner Harbor from October 22 through October 31. Council decided since our financial situation is not good a donation would not be made.

Introduction of Guests - Harvey Jacob attended the meeting to update the Council on the financial situation of the church and also to discuss the insurance liability situation with the NA Noon Group. Bruce Honkoski and Debbie Barr were in attendance to represent the NA Noon Group. The NA Noon Group was advised they should be looking into getting insurance to cover them while they are meeting at the church. Harvey gave Bruce and Debbie the name of an insurance agent. Bruce and Debbie stated they will need some time but they will research the insurance situation and get back to the Council. They also thanked the Council for the use of the premises. They stated about 150 to 200 people meet at the church Monday through Friday and stressed to the Council how important the meetings are to the group and how they have gotten volunteers to keep the area clean. The volunteers have been sweeping up the sidewalks after the meetings, cleaning the bathrooms and making a real conscious effort to keep the area neat and clean. Rev. Cathy thanked Bruce and Debbie for making the effort and told them we have noticed a difference in the way the premises have been left after the meetings and have not received any complaints from the neighbors recently.

Financial Report: Harvey advised our financial situation is not good. So far for the month of September we spent \$5,500 more than we have taken in. We have a \$33,000 deficit as of September 30, 2004. Harvey stated income usually goes up in the fall and he expects the Sour Beef Dinner event to raise approximately \$6,000 - \$7,000. The deficit is partly because our insurance premium is now being paid on a fiscal year basis (September 30 through October 1) rather than a calendar year basis (January through December). Harvey stated financially, next year will be a very critical year for the church. The budget committee will be meeting on November 14, 2004 and then will present the proposed budget for 2005 to the congregation at the congregational meeting to be held on November 28, 2004.

Committee Reports:

Property: It was discussed that we have to be pursuing a new property manager as Bill Meyers is unable to perform this function due to his health. A suggestion was made to advertise in the Sunday Bulletin for a volunteer. If no volunteer comes forward, we may need to hire someone.

Membership: Cass advised we will not be able to bring the shut-ins to the church for the Olde Time Christmas get together as most of the shut-ins are incapacitated and unable to attend. It was decided that we would have a special service to honor the shut-ins on December 19 at the 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. service. Cass will be getting together some special items and they will be mailed to the shut-ins.

Altar: Ursula stated the altar committee would like to decorate the altar with the Thanksgiving items, i.e., corn stalks, gourds, pumpkins, etc., starting the beginning of November and keep the decorations up until we start decorating for Christmas. The Council agreed.

Fellowship: Nothing to report.

Spiritual: Rev. Cathy handed out the results of the Worship Survey. The results of the survey were discussed by Council and according to the survey, it was decided the Thanksgiving Service will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 24, 2004. Rev. Cathy will contact some of the other churches in the area and ask if they would like to attend. It was also decided there will be only one Christmas Eve Service and that will be at 7:30 p.m.

Music: Nothing to report.

Calendar: Several additions and corrections were made to the calendar. The Old Time Christmas for the Shut-ins that was to be held at 2:00 p.m. on December 5 was changed to a service to honor the shut-ins that will now be held on December 19, 2004 at the both the 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. service. The Christian Education Meeting to be held on October 19, 2004 at 6:30 p.m. will have to be re-scheduled. Totenfest Sunday will be added to the calendar on November 21, 2004. The Thanksgiving service will be held on Wednesday, November 24, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. and the Christmas Eve Service will be at 7:30 p.m.

Ushering: Julie stated things are going well with the ushering duties. However, sometimes someone may not be able to attend the service and she has been able to recruit a volunteer from the congregation. Rev. Cathy suggested Julie arrange a rotating schedule for one month at a time so the burden is not so great on one person. Cass will be preparing a checklist that will spell out the directions to follow for opening/closing the church, turning the lights on/off, etc.

Christian Education: Nothing to report.

Rev. Cathy's Report: Rev. Cathy passed out handouts. Rev. Cathy stated she needs another person to attend the Still Speaking training on October 19, 2004. Darlene expressed some interest, however, she will be working with the preparation of the sour beef dinner, Kris stated he will ask Rebecca if she might be interested in attending with Rev. Cathy and Nancy. Rev. Cathy advised there are 3 young men attending

confirmation. They had their retreat last weekend and that went very well. One of the confirmands needs a new acolyte robe. The cost of the robe will be \$70.00. Council agreed to purchase the robe. As discussed previously, the results of the Worship Survey, were presented by Rev. Cathy and after discussion the dates for the Thanksgiving Service and Christmas Eve Service were decided upon. Regarding SECO renting space, SECO decided they could not afford the rent. Rev. Cathy is still coordinating with the representative from Long and Foster. As suggested at the last Council meeting, a proposal with our wants and not wants could be prepared and advertised in order to find a tenant. On the Sundays Rev. Cathy is away, Cass volunteered to prepare and present the announcements at the 10:30 a.m. worship services and Ursula volunteered to present the announcements at the 8:00 a.m. November 7 and October 31 worship services and Nancy will present the announcements at the 8:00 a.m. October 24 worship service. The discussion for the Property Chairperson was discussed previously in the minutes.

Rev. Cathy stated Millie Slechta passed away on Sunday. A Memorial Service will be held at the church, however, no date and time has been set.

Kathleen Young will become a member of the church on November 28, 2004 at the 10:30 a.m. service. The date for the budget preparation meeting will be November 14, 2004 at Harvey and Ursula's house.

Pastoral Care for Rev. Cathy - 7 visits, 2 phone calls, 0 funerals.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m. with the Lord's prayer.