

**United Evangelical Church**  
**Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Of Meeting Held March 8, 2005**

**Attendance:** Rev. Cathy, Ursula Jacob, Harvey Jacob, Pat Meyers, Bill Meyers, Elaine Kimos, Calvin Gundlach, Lori Betch, Rebecca Orendorff and Nancy Spirko

The time of devotion was presented by Bill Meyers.

There were no guests at the meeting. However, Lori was asked by Ken Pate to suggest perhaps a bingo could be held at the church in order to raise funds. At the bingo pit beef could be sold. Also suggested by Ken was moving the sour beef event to a weekend, which would make more people available to volunteer. Another idea is to sell Joe Corbi pizza's as a fundraiser. In discussion was the issue "is bingo gambling"? Lori will research the gambling aspect.

The minutes of the February 8, 2005 Church Council meeting were read and accepted.

**Financial Report:** Calvin advised there is a deficit of \$10,000 so far this year. Calvin stated perhaps we will be able to make up the deficit during the Easter season. Calvin mentioned the gas bill was quite expensive. Bill Meyers mentioned he reprogrammed all of the thermostats throughout the buildings and that should help conserve some energy costs. Harvey stated there were no unusual expenses and all of the large bills are paid through June, i.e., the church insurance, Pastor's pension and health insurance.

**Correspondence:** Lori received a letter from St. Casimirs/Father Kohlbe asking for a donation for their festival to be held in June. After a discussion it was decided the church is not in a position financially to donate any money.

**Committee Reports:**

**Property:** Bill reiterated that he adjusted the thermostats and that should conserve energy and help with the high cost of the utility bill.

**Membership:** Elaine stated the survey was mailed to the shut-in's and one person responded that he would like a video tape of the service. The tape was mailed to him. Elaine will also be placing a church advertisement in a booklet published by the *Chorus of the Chesapeake*. Mary Willis will be taking care of the 50 year confirmation celebration to be held on May 15, 2005 for the Confirmation Class of 1955.

**Altar:** Ursula stated she ordered the lily's for the Easter service. She also discussed with the florist the need to rent the palms for the Palm Sunday service. The florist will do his best to get the palms. Rev. Cathy will ask Peggy to put the information in the Sunday bulletins explaining procedure for the purchase of the lily's as there may be some new people in the congregation that do not know what the procedure is.

**Fellowship:** Pat stated the coffee hour that is held on Sunday has been a success. Approximately 20-25 people have been attending. However, there is a need for people to volunteer to host the coffee hours. Pat volunteered to host the Easter Sunday coffee hour. We will also be having a Pot Luck dinner along with Casa. This will be held on a Sunday evening at 6:30 p.m. Rev. Cathy will discuss with Casa in order to arrange a date. Pat is also thinking of having a Pancake Breakfast that will be held on a Saturday morning. The menu will be pancakes, sausage, juice, tea and coffee. No date has been set, more to come. Pat also suggested selling flowers on a Saturday morning in order to raise funds. No date has been set for the flower sale, however, it will be before Mother's Day. Some checking will be done with local florists as to the cost of the flowers.

**Spiritual:** Calvin stated he went to hear Pat Kelly speak and he will be meeting with Mr. Kelly and his assistant in order to arrange a date in 2006 for Mr. Kelly to speak. Harvey asked Rev. Cathy to explain the Bible Study classes. Rev. Cathy stated she will place an article in the *Newsletter* as to what is discussed at the Bible Study classes. There was a discussion as to whether the Bible Study classes should be part Christian Education.

**Music:** Nothing to report as Lynn was not present, Rev. Cathy stated she was supposed to meet with Lynn and Robert on Sunday to discuss music, however, she will have to cancel and arrange another date/time.

**Ushering:** Nothing to report as Julie was not present. However, Lori stated there is still a need for ushers. She has some volunteers, however, they are not willing to volunteer on a regular basis.

**Christian Education:** Rebecca attended the Christian Education meeting. The Sunday School is running low on the pins handed out for attendance, that will be looked into. The Easter service living cross was discussed and the children will be handing out necklaces to the congregation and making cards for the shut-ins. The Junior and Senior High curriculum has been established, however, no youths have attended yet. There was a discussion as to whether the junior high and senior high classes should be part of the Sunday School. Council discussed the need for the redefining the Christian Education role. Rebecca as the liaison, will ask the Christian Education committee to present council with a plan including the needs of the junior and senior high department and as discussed previously and making the Bible Study a part of Christian Education.

**Rev. Cathy's Report:** Rev. Cathy stated the *Still Speaking* commercials will be starting up again and asked Bill to help her hang the *Still Speaking* banner. Rev. Cathy reported there are 6-7 people interested in either re-affirming their faith or becoming a new member of the church. As a result of that a New Members Pot Luck dinner will be held in the parsonage on Wednesday, April 20, 2005 at 6:30 p.m. Each member of the council will bring a dish and their families are invited. The end of the confirmation classes are fast approaching. This Saturday is their retreat and at the class on Sunday there will be a review of the questions. Bill, Bob Osburne and Rebecca have volunteered to ask the questions of the confirmands. Rev. Cathy advised Peggy would like to purchase Microsoft publisher in order to be compatible with Barbara Matthews software, council agreed. Peggy also discussed perhaps changing her hours with Rev. Cathy. It was

discussed and it was agreed to allow Rev. Cathy decide on the schedule for Peggy as she a great asset to the church family. As stated above, Rev. Cathy will discuss with Casa a date to hold the Pot Luck dinner. Rev. Cathy passed out information on the *Come Follow Me* retreat that would be held in Pennsylvania sometime in September. It was decided to ask the Rev. Dr. David R. Busnell to speak to council regarding the retreat.

Pastoral Care - 4 visits, 11 phone calls, 8 consults, 2 funerals.

Old Business: Elaine called 21 members of the congregation and discussed the use/sale of the Sunday School building. Elaine has made numerous contacts with City agencies, banks, developers, real estate brokers in order to research any and all avenues for the use of the Sunday School building. In each discussion, the question asked is how much is the building worth. It was discussed and decided by council to have the building appraised by a commercial real estate appraiser. We need to establish the market value of the building. Elaine also suggested placing a "Request for Proposals" in the *Sunpaper* in order to see if there is any interest in developing the building. Council approved the "Request for Proposals" be advertised in the *Sunpaper* for five days. Elaine also requested after all of the information is compiled, Council should have a special meeting in May in order to discuss the various scenarios and move forward. Bill will be looking into the purchase of the memorial plaque. There was also discussion as to having the pictures framed in order to save/preserve them and perhaps make a fellowship wall with the pictures.

\* New Business: Elaine asked about playing the bells. Harvey stated he would talk to Robert, as he used to play some songs on the bells.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m. with the Lord's prayer.