

United Evangelical United Church of Christ  
Congregational Meeting Minutes  
November 26, 2006

Meeting began at 12:10pm.

Millie Wirsing motioned to accept minutes from January 29, 2006 meeting; seconded by Clarence Rowell; all in favor.

Financial Report – We are spending more than is being taken in. Expenses are approximately \$10,437 over income. Received \$16,200 from Sprint for electric usage since inception. For 2007, United will receive \$250/month for electric usage from Sprint. Meter readings to be done beginning and end of 2007 with adjustment at year end as needed. October was the first month in 2006 where income exceeded expenses – this is due to monies received from Sprint, significant offerings and building fund raffle. Insurance continues to increase along with utility costs which are eroding our funds. United is living off of real estate proceeds because expenses have consistently exceeded income. Copy machine in office is becoming obsolete and may require replacement soon.

Budget for 2007 – adjustments made each year upward or downward as needed throughout the year. Budget was developed assuming parsonage would be rented throughout 2007, however, word was received that tenants may be moving out in February 2007. Rental market is competitive and we may have difficulty finding tenants.

Secretary's salary may have to be adjusted as Peggy is leaving end of 2006. 14 resumes received thus far. Janitorial salary will remain same as 2006 salary. Benevolences were adjusted downward based on estimation of funds being received in 2007.

Repair monies needed for:

- Structural deterioration occurring due to ongoing water damage in sanctuary above stained glass windows.
- Slate missing from roof
- Bird problem – roosting on building between church school building & sanctuary.

Projected deficit into 2007. Church has been operating with a deficit in past years. Discussion occurred to question if we should look at salaries and consider part-time ministry vs. full-time pastor. Advertisement of church service times placed in Dundalk Eagle and Baltimore Sun. Discussions with Baltimore Guide taking place.

Clarence Rowell motioned to accept 2007 budget as submitted; seconded by Calvin Gundlach; motion passed.

Christian Education Building – Contract with JBL was ultimately withdrawn. Nancy Gray and Harvey Jacob met with Baltimore City Planning Board. No curb cut for underground parking would be approved. United has entered into agreement with Jubilee Baltimore for study to take place to determine uses for the church school building.

Jubilee will provide recommendations regarding development. Thus far – 4 architects have looked at building and proposals from same are due in mid-January 2007. Jubilee is familiar with acceptable changes to allow church to retain tax credits, etc.

**New Business:**

Visioning study group is discussing difficult decisions needed in our church. Congregation-wide activities to be offered early 2007. Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) – Rev. Cathy spoke on OCWM. Rev. Jim Bell has been terminated as Association Minister. Conference leadership believes focus is needed on only the larger churches with smaller churches being sold and monies coming into the Conference. Rev. Bell did not buy into this belief and was terminated. Churches are withholding monies from the Association and placing monies into escrow until faithful dialogue takes place. Council is bringing recommendation to Congregation that OCWM funds be placed in escrow and withheld from Conference at this time. Clarence Rowell motioned to place funds into escrow; seconded by Ursula Jacob; all in favor.

Discussion took place regarding changing November meeting time. Carol Rowell motioned to change bylaws to have November meeting on third Sunday of November vs. fourth Sunday; seconded by Joan Stinchcomb; all in favor.

2007 Council members were introduced. Isabel Parker motioned to accept new Council members; seconded by Jim Tallagsen; all in favor.

Nancy Parker-Gray  
Clarence Rowell  
Dale Sanders  
Laraine Jones  
Barbara Matthew  
Harvey Jacob  
Ursula Jacob  
Olga DeBloom  
Bob Osburne  
Howard Carter  
Ellen Carter

Kathy Young suggested inviting Casa to one of our Christmas Eve services. Rev. Cathy to approach Casa.

John Price motioned to adjourn at 1:10pm; seconded by Ed Willis; all in favor.