

United Evangelical Church of Christ  
Council Meeting Minutes  
January 10, 2007

Meeting began 7:10 pm

Time of devotion – Ursula Jacob

In attendance: Harvey Jacob, Ursula Jacob, Clarence Rowell, Barbara Matthews, Karrie Hogan, Nancy Gray, Olga DeBloom, Bob Osburne, Rev. Cathy, Laraine Jones

Minutes from December 12<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved.

Financial Report – We ended December on a positive note, with a plus of \$8117 in revenue over expenses. The down side, we spent more than we took in for the year. The Sprint monthly electrical allowance will be increased to \$250 this year. We also had a stock gain of \$3000. Our CD is maturing on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of January. Harvey will temporarily put funds in a savings account, until we can investigate mutual funds.

Property – Repairs needed for:

- Smoke alarms
- Problems concerning pigeons
- Copy machines need to be replaced
- Ice machine
- Church bells, tower, clock & lights

Clarence made a motion to fix the bell, tower, clock & lights, Laraine seconded, all in favor. Discussion was held about ringing church bells before and after each service. Ushers will be asked to ring bells.

Old Business:

Nancy is looking into finding a teacher for the dance classes at the church. She also has followed up on “Connect First” to send post cards to welcome new residents to the community. Hopefully, this will attract new members to our church.

New Business:

Nancy, also is sending a letter to The Baltimore Guide, suggesting they publish worship service times for area Churches at a reasonable rate, like The Dundalk Eagle and The Baltimore Sun. Council agreed we should investigate this further. A meeting will be held about contacting members that are not attending regularly.

Issues of concern:

- Altar - Ursula will be calling a meeting about this issue.
- Calendar - Need councilperson to head this.
- Ushers - Name tags.

- Education - Discussion about Sunday school being called Christian Education.
- Music - Having at least one familiar hymn every week and more contemporary songs introduced. We also discussed having a Contemporary Service every two months.
- Pastor Review - Rev. Cathy will be here 5 years in April and therefore the church needs to have a discussion regarding a sabbatical leave. Pastor Review committee to schedule meeting with Pastor.
- Committee reviews - changes need to be made in wording of these committees.
- Custodial service - Been unhappy with work Paul's been doing. Received a quote of \$577.50 from a cleaning service to do floors and bathrooms.

Visionary committee meeting is to be held on Saturday, January 16, 2007. Rev. Bell is leading the study.

A motion was made to retain Jim Bell for a period of 6 months as a Ministry Consultant on Evangelism and church mission. This service will be, 40 hours a month, at a rate of \$1,000 a month. Trinity UCC Bequest Funds would be used for this purpose. Olga seconded the motion and all in favor. Rev. Bell's association with our church will be introduced at the congregational meeting on January 28<sup>th</sup>.

Barbara Matthew made a motion to have a string quartet at the 10:30 Easter Service. Clarence seconded this motion and all, in favor. We will be advertising the Easter Service and the Lenten Service in the Baltimore Guide.

Bob Osburne requested to stop pre-printing names on altar flowers list, he feels it shows favoritism. Harvey suggested updating sign in front of church building.

Correspondence:

We received a thank you note from Peggy for her retirement party & gift. We also received a thank you card from Casa Restauracion and the Hammerbacher family. Clarence reported his trip to Hoffman House was very rewarding. Everyone was very hospitable and grateful.

We also sent a letter to the Treasurer of the Central Atlantic Conference, saying, we did not believe the board acted in good faith in dismissing Rev. Jim Bell, therefore we withheld 65% of normal giving.

Council members present, each selected a month to give devotion at the council meeting.

Council members will be installed at the 10:30 service on Sunday, Jan. 21, 2007.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:30pm, ending with the Lord's Prayer.