

**United Evangelical Church, UCC**  
**Church Council Meeting**  
**July 11, 2007**

Meeting began 7:10 pm

**Devotion:** Nancy Gray

**Attendance:** Nancy Gray, Dale Sanders, Ursula & Harvey Jacob, Barbara Matthew, Laraine Jones & Rev. Cathy

Minutes from the June 13<sup>th</sup> meeting were read. The minutes were accepted with a change made to the cost of windows to read \$23,000 and the meeting with Roxanne Hansen had taken place in May. Ursula made the motion, Dale seconded, all in favor.

**Correspondence:** United Ministries – It was suggested for our benevolence this year 2007, we donate \$500 to Earl's Place. Barb motioned to accept this, Dale seconded, all in favor.

Chesapeake Association – The association is having an open house to meet the new interim association conference minister Patricia Barth, who replaced Jim Bell. The Rev. Craig Sparks sent out a letter on behalf of Habitat for Humanity seeking to get churches involved in contributing to this organization.

**Financial Report:** The total revenue for June was \$13,023.75. Our total expenses for the month were \$20,895.11. Our CD's were renewed for 1 year and the \$100,000 Memorial Fund remains the same.

**Discussion:** The offer to retain Rev. Bell's service for 3 months was accepted. Rev. Bell offered to stay till the end of the year so he can follow through with his work at no additional charge. His \$1000 salary will be divided into increments of \$500 a month until the end of the year.

Stained Glass Windows – Three people have agreed to sponsor a window @ \$4400. In June and July we received \$50 each month towards the window fund. Harvey will retain the information of who is sponsoring windows. Work on the windows will begin the week of July 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Cathy Fifield's Clean-up proposal – Cathy has outlined a proposal to clean up the buildings and area around church. The council believes this is a great idea and wholly supports this project. It was also suggested to give Cathy \$100 for fuel for her trip to New York. Dale motioned to accept her proposal Nancy seconded, all in favor.

To Do List – Need to get people to step up and get involved in projects. Harvey is adding names to the e-mail list so more members will be aware of areas where help is needed.

**Property:** Need to prioritize work to be done on the clock and bells. Need to have someone look into information for sign and someone is also needed to check building for

general maintenance. Nancy is looking into getting planters for the front of the church to help improve the appearance of the area.

**Membership:** Nancy has contacted Connect 1<sup>st</sup> to make sure we are getting the lowest rate on mailings. We will stop advertising in the Baltimore Sun at the end of our contract and we will get back to advertising locally through The Guide. We are pursuing getting post cards with a picture of our church on the front so we can keep in touch with our neighbors and community. Frank Lemaster will be taking the photograph, so we can pursue this project. There have been discussions with John and Andrew, two neighbors who have visited our church, about getting younger people to come to church and what they are looking for in a church.

**Altar:** Some members of the congregation have approached Bob Osburne about railings at the altar. The council will be looking into this matter. Church service times were also discussed.

**Christian Education:** Vacation Bible School was held the week of June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Approximately 30 children attended all from places other than our church.

PACT and the Sunday school sharing space was discussed.

**Calendar:** The Canton Garden Tour will be held Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> between the hours of 11 a.m. to 4p.m. Advertisement is needed for the Tour booklet. A motion was made to buy a half page ad for this event. Dale made the motion, Nancy seconded, all in favor.

**Music:** Suggestions of having Praise music before service was made, and asking anyone who is musically talented to participate.

**Spiritual:** It was suggested that printed copies of the sermon be sent to shut-ins in the congregation.

**Pastor's Report:** Non-Profit - Rev. Cathy met with SECO about leasing space in the school building. Other non-profit uses could be for the Performing Arts.

The Seminarian Intern, George Swift, will be starting on Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>. He will be working on a presentation with the Sunday school. He also wants to get more men involved in the church and will also be working with teaching the youth class. He will be here three Sundays a month.

The confirmation class will be starting Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>. It will be a combination class with Christ UCC Church in Locust Point. Pastor will also be talking with Andrew and John from the community about church growth. Pastor will be away on vacation and sabbatical, August 3-20<sup>th</sup>.

**Old Business:** The fees for the use of the church need to be updated.

**New Business:** Benevolence – It was agreed to hold back OCWM money from Central Atlantic Conference. In place we would give \$500 to Chesapeake Habitat for Humanity, their interfaith building project and \$300 to be sent to the National UCC office in Cleveland. We would continue to support Hoffman Home and Homewood Home.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m., ending with the Lord's Prayer. Nancy made the motion to adjourn, Ursula seconded, all in favor.