

United Evangelical Church
Congregational Meeting Minutes
February 13, 2005

Call to Order - The Meeting was called to order at 12:10 p.m. by Lori Betch, Council President.

Opening Prayer - The Prayer was given by Rev. Cathy.

A quorum was present.

Reading of the Minutes - The minutes from the February 1, 2004 and November 28, 2004 meeting were distributed along with the Annual Report 2004 and the Agenda. A motion was made, seconded and approved by the congregation to approve the minutes from the February 1, 2004 and November 28, 2004 Congregational Meetings.

Financial Report - The financial report was given by Harvey Jacob. Harvey stated the income fell short of expenses last year in the amount of \$23,250, which is the largest shortage we have ever had. Revenue is dropping off year after year. Harvey thought it might be a good idea to look at stewardship and pledges to increase income. The financial report for the Sunday School is missing from the handout, it will be made available upon request.

Organization Reports - Ursula Jacob invited anyone who was interested to join the Ladies Organization. The Ladies Organization meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 12:00 noon in the Friendship Hall and all are welcome.

Old Business - Elaine Kimos reported on the Sunday School development issues. Elaine stated the number of students is increasingly small and the Sunday School building needs quite a bit of maintenance and upkeep. An estimate of \$250,000 has been received to repair the Sunday School building. The heating costs are at an all time high of \$2,800 and 1/3 of that is to heat the Sunday School building. Someone from the congregation has consented to look at the heating/air conditioning systems and advise what can be done. Because of the concerns for the Sunday School building, we need to find a use that will be kind on the church budget and also function as a mission of the

church. The Baltimore City Department of Planning, HUD, the Southeast Community Association among others have been contacted and we are gathering names and contacts to share all the possibilities for the Sunday School use. Elaine welcomed any comments, concerns or suggestions.

Bob Osburne made a motion to name the scholarship fund the "*George Nassner Scholarship Fund*", however, Rev. Cathy stated there are no funds in the Scholarship Fund.

New Business - Lori stated the Council thought it would be a good idea to re-name the Friendship Hall to the Fellowship Hall and erect a plaque for "In Honor Of..." persons living or dead. Rev. Cathy stated the plaque would be for those who contributed to the Fellowship of the Church. There is a Memorial Board in the narthex of the church and the cost of the plates is \$150.00. This board is in memory of deceased persons. A motion was made, seconded and approved by the congregation to re-name the Friendship Hall the Fellowship Hall and erect the plaque. Also, the pictures that are in the cases will be framed and hung on the walls in order to preserve them.

Pastor's Comments - Rev. Cathy introduced the 3 confirmands, Adam Pate, Gregory Pate, and Josh Jackson. Rev. Cathy asked everyone to please read her annual report as communication is very important.

Rev. Cathy stated there is concern and excitement over what the church is called upon to do. Two of the concerns are Casa and the *Still Speaking Initiative*. Rev. Cathy asked that the congregation not talk about each other but to talk with each other or to talk to her or someone on the Church Council. There is also a Pastoral Relations Committee. The role of this committee is to share the ideas, dreams, hopes and expectations with the Pastor. The members of that committee are Bill Single, Bill Raddatz, Kris Orendorff and Sharon Danilowski.

Rev. Cathy also discussed the act of giving. Giving to the church is an act of faith in response to the love shown by Jesus Christ. Giving to the

Church is understanding how great you are loved by God and then saying Thank You. Giving is about priorities.

Comments from the Membership - There were no comments from the congregation.

Closing Prayer - The Lord's Prayer

Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.