

THE UNITED EVANGELICAL CHURCH OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND
Congregational Meeting
Sunday, November 18, 2012

President Cissy Funk called the meeting to order at 12:23p.m.

The opening prayer was offered by Rev. Cathy.

Minutes: Cissy Funk gave everyone time to review the minutes from the last congregational meeting on September 23, 2012. A motion was made by Calvin Gundlach and was seconded by Carol Rowell to accept the minutes. All voted in favor.

Financial Report: Harvey Jacob gave the financial report. He started with the great job the fund raising committee is doing.

- The Oktoberfest was a success but didn't make as much this year as last year due to weather. Despite all obstacles, we still cleared almost \$1600. Stephen Jackson donated his 1st place winnings back to the church.
- The roof was a high expense this year.
- Closets were built in the gym for more storage room which was greatly needed.
- The school building had window damage from a wind storm and the hot water heater needed to be replaced on the second floor.
- The computer in the office needed to be replaced.
- The hot water heater in the parsonage needed to be replaced.
- Memorials and love gifts are down because they are being designated to the AC fund. This brings the income to less.
- By the end of the year we could come to a \$30,000 deficit.

Questions:

1. Is it a cash flow issue? **No, it's that expense over income is steadily rising.**
2. Why is the amount owed for the AC loan more than the amount collected? **We are a little behind sending in the money.**
3. How much do we get for the Sprint tower? **We get \$1,587 a month and \$250 towards BG&E. This amount will be increased 15% in 2 years.**
4. Is there a chance of getting more towers from other company's? **We don't think that we can and we also don't think there is enough room on the roof for any more equipment.**

A motion was made by Calvin Gundlach to except the Financial Report and was seconded by Marge Hurd. All voted in favor.

2013 Budget: Harvey Jacob explained that when planning the budget for the upcoming year there are 4 people who help and it is amazing how all four are so close each year. The proposed alternate budgets for the year 2013 are as follows: Option 1 has a deficit of almost \$30,000 with a full time pastor and option 2 has a deficit of almost \$10,000 with a part time pastor. We will not be voting to approve a budget because everyone is encouraged to look at the proposal and see if they can come up with alternative ways to bring the deficit lower. We also want to remind everyone that the Childcare center looks promising and we will have more information regarding this endeavor in the January meeting.

Questions and Comments:

1. Bill: Why isn't there a drop in housing and pension? **Pastor can't go without her pension and insurance this needs to stay the same but we can cut her salary. Even though she will work 3 days at the office she will also be working from home and doing visitations.**
2. Harvey: When Ursula had her throat surgery, Pastor was there and was a great comfort.
3. Diane P: My initial reaction is this can't be good for the church.
4. Marge: This will be done as a trial for a year but be re-evaluated after 6 months. At the council meeting we all felt that we could not even think about doing this. Rev. Cathy volunteered to do this because she loves this church and all who are here and she honestly feels this is our best option. Hopefully the day care center will start bring in revenue and we will not have a deficit anymore.

5. Jim: We all need to sacrifice and put more in our envelopes so this does not have to happen.
6. Diane P: At work, we all took a pay cut to stay afloat. If Pastor goes part-time then we will lose her.
7. Rev. Cathy spoke and reassured everyone that she is the one who proposed this and she is not going anywhere.
8. Bill: Pastor, can you afford this? **Yes, I can. We are a strong church and a vital ministry. I am confident this would only be for a year or two. People are ready for a spiritual life.**
9. Carolyn: We have fewer members and an aging building and we have been paying off all our big expenses.
10. Rev. Brian: Just want to let everyone know that the shepherd doesn't beget sheep, sheep beget sheep. We are about an average size church, so we need to step up and meet the challenge!
11. Bill: Can the conference or other congregations offer us help with growing? **We are looking into letting other churches that are closing know about us.**

Cissy Funk stated that we are very much alive and vital. Calvin Gundlach made a motion to postpone the vote till the January Meeting with Bill Single seconding. All voted in favor.

Election of Council Members: Cissy Funk stated that our Council is very diverse and work well together. Six members of our council are up for re-election.

1. Calvin Gundlach
2. Carl Price
3. Glenn Koch
4. Karrie Hogan
5. Pat Jenkins
6. Diane Borkman

Clarence Rowell made a motion to approve all the above members back to council and Darlene Koch seconded. All voted in favor.

Old Business: There is none to report.

New Business:

1. Thank you Cissy for all she does for this church.
2. Thank you Carl for your hard work and the wonderful closets!
3. Thank you Ric Nyborg for the great job you do with the website.
4. Thank you Pam Sartori and Art Jones for all the work you do organizing the kitchen and keeping everything there running smoothly.

Questions/Comments from Membership: Marge Hurd suggested we all go home and see what we can sacrifice. All approved!

Adjournment/Closing Prayer: Carl Price made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Clarence Rowell. All voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 1:47p.m. after the recital of the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane L. Borkman
(Recording Secretary)