

**THE UNITED EVANGELICAL CHURCH OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND**  
**Congregational Meeting**  
**February 21, 2016**

President Cissy Funk called the meeting to order at 11:24 a.m.

Rev. Cathy offered the opening prayer.

**Minutes:** The minutes from the November 2015 meeting were read. A motion was made to accept the minutes by Carol Borkman, and seconded by Calvin Gundlach. All voted in favor.

**Financial Report:** We have received gifts of \$15,000 from the Meyers family, \$5,000 from Margret Wills, and the last installment of \$41,000 from Bill Voelker's estate. We would like to keep the \$41,000 from Bill and place it into a CD so we have easy access if the needs of the church become great. The church is financially disadvantaged and we are out of time. We need \$3,638 to run the church per week we only receive \$2,742 per week. Do we want to close our doors? We also have the option of selling the parsonage for a temporary infusion of cash. We will have a meeting on April 10<sup>th</sup> to take a hard look at our situation.

**Question:** How is the money to be used?

**Reply:** It will be put into a CD so it is more readily available for needs of the budget.

**Question:** Why put both the \$41,000 and the \$50,000 both into something more liquid.

**Reply:** We're not. We are placing them in a CD with Cornerstone Fund who is offering a better percent for CD's.

**Question:** Is it wise to keep that much money in the checking account?

**Reply:** It is an interest bearing account.

Rev. Cathy explained that we need to find ways to grow the church. Think about why this church is important to you? Should we continue? Can we continue? At the November meeting we will discuss what we intend to do. Stay open? Sell the Parsonage?

A vote was taken to propose withholding the final installment of Bill Voelker's estate from the Endowment Fund and was unanimous in favor.

**Property:** Carl Price spoke and said his goal is to make the Hall a nice place for meetings and functions. If the building is utilized it gives the church room to grow and stay alive.

- We are looking into a new signboard that will be at a 30% angle so it is more visible.
- Carl will be changing out the light fixtures for energy efficient fixtures and bulbs.
- We will cover the windows in plastic as a short term fix to keep cold air out.
- The Price family as donated 2 light fixtures already. The addition money to replace the others (\$750) will be requested from the Endowment Fund.
- The Bell Tower instructions and parts are [HERE!](#)

**Council President Report:** Cissy Funk has been on the council and been President for years now and she needs a break. Please consider stepping up and being on the church council next year.

**Committee and Organizational Reports:** See attached report.

**Pastor's Report:** Rev. Cathy just wants to thank everyone in the church for being such a strong congregation.

- We are sending out a Schedule of Events with a letter asking for help to those who do not come to church on a regular bases but consider the church there home.
- We have updated our by-laws to be more flexible. We need to invest in people so they feel at peace here and can invest in our ministries.
- Rev. Cathy informed everyone that though she have been  $\frac{3}{4}$  times for 3 years now, that is the norm for most churches. That and combining church congregations.

**New Business:**

- The parking lot will still be available to us as of right now.
- AT&T is not interested in new set ups at this time.
- Canton Food Bank thanks us for our continued support.

**Adjournment/ Closing Prayer:** Cissy made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Pam G. All voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 12:57 pm with the recital of the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Diane L. Borkman  
(Recording Secretary)