

St. Paul's United Church of Christ Amityville

Consistory Minutes for April 7, 2010

Consistory met on Wednesday, April 7, 2010. Those present were President Barry Kulakowsky, Pastor Steven Simpson, Shelby Laney, Pete Dadey, Mahlon Boyer, Bette Mooney, Anita Zuber, Marlene Dadey, Sharon Fizz, Barbara Kulakowsky, Jerry Fizz, Connie Walter, Tom Reitz, Priscilla Knerr, Sue Wunderlich, Kelly Yanos, Judy Reitz, Pete Kunsch, Billy Harrison, Marianne Reinert, Kathy Weller, Donna Pennypacker, and Karen Spotts. Keith Berry was excused.

President Barry Kulakowsky called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Devotions were led by Deacon Mahlon Boyer.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Steven distributed written copies of his work report for the month of March. He made a few comments about how he is looking for ways to bring Christ into situations in his sermons.

President's Report: President Barry Kulakowsky reminded Consistory that we are responsible for the dinner at Opportunity House on May 14. Each member will contribute \$10 for the cost of the meal and Judy Reitz will make arrangements with Boyer's. Volunteers are needed to serve.

The UCC Spring Meeting will be held in Lansdale on April 24. Two delegates, one youth delegate, and the pastoral delegate are needed to attend.

The Spiritual Council will meet April 14. Sue Wunderlich will send out notices to the elders.

Secretary's Report: President Kulakowsky pointed out that the March minutes needed to be amended to show that the letters to inactive members have not yet been sent. The Spiritual Council will review the list of inactive members and letters will be sent with a return postcard so that these members can let the church know of their intentions. Bette Mooney asked if personal visits could be made, but President Kulakowsky said that the numbers were too high for this to be practical. He did say that the Spiritual Council will make the ultimate decision.

A motion was made by Tom Reitz to accept the corrected minutes and seconded by Priscilla Knerr. Motion was carried.

Treasurer's Report: Pete reported that the March revenue was \$43,477 and the expenses for the month were \$41,187. This leaves a surplus of \$2,289 for the month. Pete went on to report that for the first quarter revenue was \$99,490 and expenses were \$120,446, leaving a first quarter deficit of \$20,956. He also reported that the Easter offering exceeded \$10,000.

Worship: Bette Mooney said that at the March 16 meeting of the Worship committee it was voted to recommend to Consistory that the church repeat its 2009 summer worship schedule. This would include holding just one service at 9 AM in the sanctuary beginning June 13 and continuing through September 5. Bette Mooney made the motion to repeat the 2009 summer schedule. Marianne Reinert seconded

the motion. A discussion followed. Marlene Dadey reported that she is planning to held summer Sunday school sessions at 9AM. The motion was tabled until New Business.

Bette announced that Al Kutz and his brother Stauffer, made a new communion table for the sanctuary using trim from the former modesty rail. Shelby will send a thank you letter to Al.

The National Day of Prayer will be hosted by our church at noon on May 6.

The next meeting of the Worship Committee will be June 29 at 7 PM.

Christian Education: Anita Zuber, chair, commented on the upcoming Bible School program, the End-of-the-Year celebration in June, the Lenten activities, and the proposed after-school program.

Marlene Dadey continued the CE report by saying that co-teachers are still needed for Vacation Bible School. She went on to explain progress on the proposed After-School Program for sixth-graders. A committee is now in place and appropriate contacts are being made to set up the program. An informational meeting for parents will be held in May. The cost will be \$15 a day or \$60 a week and the program will run for 38 weeks. Marlene presented a schedule developed by the committee. A question was raised about the non-profit standing and Mahlon Boyer agreed to look into the legality of it.

Evangelism: Barbara Kulakowsky , co-chair, announced that the committee met on March 16. At that time they made the decision to stop advertising in the Reading Eagle and the Berks-Mont newspapers due to our current financial situation.

A class for new members began on March 21 with the second meeting scheduled for April 11. At 9:30 representatives from each committee will make a presentation to the class and on April 18 they will learn about the history of the UCC Church and St. Paul's. On April 25 the class will visit Sunday School classes and then will join the church that day.

The Signage Committee is in the process of communicating our ideas to various sign companies, while the indoor signage is being done through the use of brown vinyl letters.

Sharon Fizz, co-chair, circulated a sign-up sheet for Greeters.

The next meeting will be May 18.

Facilities: Jerry Fizz made the report for the committee. The carpet has been removed from the foyer and will be replaced. The cost was covered by an anonymous donor. A termite problem was detected and corrected . A meeting will be held to discuss problems with the deterioration in the bell tower. A contractor has been contacted.

Missions: Tom Reitz, chair, announced that Shannon Simpson is the new food pantry coordinator. He also said that food pantry volunteers will attend an orientation at the Greater Berks Food Bank on April 21. This training will give everyone a better understanding of the workings of the food bank and pantry.

Stewardship: Karen Spotts announced that 12 people from our church will be attending the workshop on Saturday. She went on to say that she and co-chair Donna Pennypacker chose the theme for stewardship that is also the national theme: "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

A question was raised about what impact advertising has on membership. President Kulakowsky commented that a nice job will do the job of advertising.

At this time President Kulakowsky gave the results of the electronic giving survey. A total of 67 people responded and 30 expressed an interest in using the system. Only 6 people rejected it. A motion was made by Marianne Reinert to look into the option of electronic giving and move forward with it. The motion was seconded by Kelly Yanos. A discussion followed. Connie Walter will check with National Penn Bank to see about the cost. Other banks will also be contacted. The contributions would be made once a month and if started, would be on a trial basis. The motion passed.

Youth: Chair Priscilla Knerr said that the Game Night went well but had low attendance because of conflicting activities. Another Game Night will be scheduled. The Easter egg hunt was a huge success with a lot of kids and beautiful weather. On April 14 the Junior Youth Group will be having a "back to youth group" party and on April 18 the Senior Youth Group will be having a picnic at Hopewell Lake. On May 2 there will be an ice cream social for church members and children will make crafts for Mother's Day. Sixteen youth and three chaperones will be attending Creation. A total of \$258.40 was raised with the Reppert's candy sale to help finance the Creation trip.

Budget and Finance: Kelly Yanos, chair, said that the committee discussed the first quarter deficit at their last meeting. A decision was made to meet with the individual committees to share ideas. The first meeting will be with the Church and Ministry committee.

Church and Ministry: Shelby Laney, chair, reported that the committee will be meeting again before the end of the month.

Fellowship: Connie Walter, chair, said that the Lenten services went very well.

Property Use Policy: Sue Wunderlich reported that the facilities have been very busy. The Amity Soccer Club will be holding a dance in the Fellowship Hall for the 5th-8th graders in the club. The Boy Scout Carnival/Car Show will be creating a lot of activity on April 24.

Sue said that she has been preparing a presentation for the PUP committee meeting on April 19 at 7 PM. The topic will be to discuss 2009 and how to improve in 2010.

Deacons: Judy Reitz said that Billy Harrison will have devotions next month.

Elders: No report.

Old Business: None.

New Business: President Barry Kulakowsky repeated the tabled motion about using the 2009 summer worship of one service at 9 AM in the sanctuary beginning June 13 through September 5. The motion

was unanimously passed. It will be announced in the bulletins to inform members and a sign will be put outside to give the times.

Pastor Steven offered a closing prayer and led the Consistory in the Lord's Prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM. on an Anita Zuber/ Kathy Weller motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelby J. Laney