

St. Paul's United Church of Christ Amityville

Consistory Minutes for February, 2010

Consistory met on Wednesday, February 3, 2010. Those present were President Barry Kulakowsky, Pastor Steven Simpson, Shelby Laney, Pete Dadey, Bette Mooney, Anita Zuber, Marlene Dadey, Sharon Fizz, Barbara Kulakowsky, Keith Berry, 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.

President Barry Kulakowsky called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM. He began by introducing the newest members of the Consistory: Billy Harrison- deacon, Connie Walter- Fellowship chair, Karen Spotts – co-chair of Stewardship, and Donna Pennypacker, co-chair of Stewardship. Karen and Donna are filling the position made vacant by the resignation of Jack Creswell, former chair of Stewardship.

Devotions were led by Pete Kunsch.

President's Report: President Barry Kulakowsky apologized for any misunderstandings in the giving of committee reports. He said that his main goal was to streamline the meetings but that all committees play a vital role at St. Paul's and that reports are always welcome at the consistory meetings.

President Kulakowsky circulated a list of Consistory members and asked each member to check its accuracy and make any corrections in the data listed. Members will each receive a final copy .

Secretary's Report: Shelby distributed copies of the committee reports submitted to her prior to the meeting and read thank-you notes from Pastor Steven, Kathy Weller, Martha Sitler, Lisa Ricci, and Sue Wunderlich.

The January minutes were approved on a Marianne Reinert/Connie Walter motion.

Treasurer's Report: Pete reported that the January revenue was \$29,422 and the expenses for the month were \$46,995. This leaves a deficit of \$18,790 for the month. Pete went on that January was expensive because of one-time expenses and quarterly expenses. Snow removal itself was \$2000. Pete stated that there is still \$68,429 on hand. He also reported that \$1359 was put into the Capital Fund this month, bringing the Capital Fund total to \$59,285 and that the Endowment Fund holds \$123,000.

Worship: Bette Mooney referred to the written copy of her report already distributed but pointed out a few items for emphasis. White grape juice will be used in the Communion cups. There will be no Lenten studies on March 31. Four men are still needed as readers on Maundy Thursday. Good Friday services on April 1 will be held here at St. Paul's and the prayer vigil will begin at 8 AM. The World Day of Prayer is scheduled for March 5 at St. Paul's Lutheran church with St. Mark's Lutheran of Birdsboro joining us this year.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Steven gave out copies of his January Work report. He commented on some key points. He has spent a lot of time working with committee leaders and the youth. Pastor Steven talked

about his interpretation of the ministry of the church and stated that the lay visitation team is working well. He is looking forward to teaching the Lenten studies. He closed by announcing that on April 24 the PSEC Spring meeting will be held and delegates are needed.

Christian Education: Anita Zuber, chair, commented on the great organization skills of Marlene Dadey, Christian Education director. She announced the developing of a Wish List for committee members. Marlene Dadey gave more details on the project by saying that a tree will put up near the library and will be used for committees to post a request for an item that can be provided by a church member. Marlene went on to thank Tom and Judy Reitz for the painting they donated to the church. Marlene also reported the totals collected for the Haiti earthquake victims. One Great Hour giving amounted to \$1180 and the 30 Hour Famine has amounted to \$1463, bringing the total so far to \$2643. Marlene pointed out that the new tables are here and she thanked Mark Sitler, Billy Harrison, and Randy Van Fleet for their help. In following up on the proposed after school program, Marlene is still looking for volunteers from the church, scoping out advertising possibilities, and contacting Rep. Kessler to clarify any problems with state licensing.

Evangelism: A written report was submitted but chair Barbara Kulakowsky commented on the activities of the new Signage Committee. Committee members are Anne McClain, chair, Barry Kulakowsky, Barbara Kulakaowsky, Keith Berry, Randy Van Fleet, and Joe Hayik. Three meetings have been held so far and the members are in the process of exploring and making contacts. Money for the signs will be funded by Memorial gifts and so far \$4000 is available. The outdoor sign will be a lighted sign with changeable letters and will be placed on Weavertown Road. The indoor directional signs will be basic signs. Anyone interested in joining the committee would be more than welcome.

Facilities: Keith Berry, chair, said that they are getting quotes on repairs to the brick ceiling that has water damage. He added that floor repairs in the back of the sanctuary by the handicapped rest room have been made. A new sub floor was put down and new carpeting installed. Keith said the soda machine will be moved to the opposite end of the hallway.

Church and Ministry: No report other than the one distributed.

Fellowship: Connie Walter, chair, reported that all is well.

Missions: Tom Reitz, chair, highlighted areas of his written report. Items being collected for Missions include things for Shelley Hickey's trip to El Salvador, cancelled stamps, cell phones, and gently used shoes for Haiti. Tom pointed out that a Boy Scout donated a personal check to the food pantry.

Stewardship: Donna Pennypacker and Karen Spotts are taking over as co-chairs. Karen said that they are working on a theme for the stewardship campaign. Tom Reitz mentioned that electronic giving has blossomed in other churches and Marianne Reinert agreed that it might be a good idea to pursue.

Youth: Chair Priscilla Knerr said that the Brown Bag Bingo went well. A Beach party is scheduled for February 6. Money collected by the youth on Super Bowl Sunday will be donated to the food pantry. February 13 is a fundraising project of babysitting. Priscilla said the youth are working hard on the

upcoming 30 Hour Famine and that all money will go to Haiti. In March the youth will be selling Reppert's candies.

Budget and Finance: Kelly Yanos, chair, wanted to thank Bob Jones for filling in on the counting committee for several Sundays.

Property Use Policy: Sue Wunderlich reported that the facilities have been very busy.

Deacons: Judy Reitz said that the devotion schedule has been established.

Elders: President Barry Kulakowky wants to schedule a committee meeting with Tom Reitz, Kathy Eschbach, Joe Hayik, Spike and Barbara Thompson, and Jim Mease.

Pastoral Relations: Marianne Reinert said she is pleased with the committee and encouraged Consistory members to get the word out that the committee is there.

Old Business: The topic of electronic giving was raised. President Kulakowsky is going to include a form in the next newsletter that will give members a chance to indicate an interest in electronic giving. This form will also appear in each church bulletin during the month of March. This will be an informational tool. A question was raised about what part giving plays in worship.

New Business:

Keith Berry said that Mark Sitler pointed out to him that people were carrying out lit candles after the Christmas Eve service. The practice will be examined.

Pastor Steven announced that Allison Fake is studying at Lancaster Seminary and is required to participate in a psychological testing program that costs \$1500. It is "standard policy" that the cost be split three ways – Allison, the conference, and St. Paul's. Jerry Fizz emphasized this from his past experience. A motion was made by Jerry Fizz and seconded by Judy Reitz that we pay 1/3 of the cost. A question was then raised as to where this would fall in the budget. Marianne Reinert suggested that the specials funds aspect of the Gulden Trust should cover the cost. Jerry withdrew his motion. Allison Fake will be told to apply to the Gulden Trust for the funds.

Pastor Steven asked for 2 adult delegates and one youth delegate to attend the April 24th meeting of the PSEC at Lansdale Lutheran.

On April 10 Stewardship workshops will be held here at St. Paul's. The registration fee is \$175 per church, but an early sign-up by March 1 lowers the cost to \$135. The topic is "Turning Tippers into Tithers". Kelly Yanos made a motion to send members to the Stewardship workshops, using the Stewardship account to fund the early registration fee. Jerry Fizz seconded the motion and it passed.

President Kulakowsky said that the utilities expenses should be posted in the bulletin to heighten awareness of the church's expenses.

Pastor Steven said the computer systems here at the church are in need of updating and he is currently meeting with several consultants to get ideas.

President Kulakowsky reported that there have been 12 recipients of the Gulden Trust. Two have been for Mensch Mills. The Gulden Trust committee will meet soon to amend and update guidelines.

The next Consistory meeting will be Tuesday, March 2 and will be led by Vice-President Jerry Fizz.

Pastor Steven offered closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM on a Tom Reitz/Priscilla Knerr motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelby J. Laney