

Emmanuel U.C.C.
Consistory Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2016

Rev. Cliff Herring	Daniel Heffelfinger - A	Bobbi Pope
Mark Bellesfield	Barbara Kautzman	Bruce Pope
Victoria Butz - A	Claude Kohl	Margaret Rosenberger
Karen Christman	Lenore Kohl	Peggy Saylor
Alan Heckman	June McCracken	Barry Weibel

Visitors: Amy Heckman, Treasurer; Les Bartholomew, Financial Secretary

Alan Heckman called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Pastor Cliff offered a prayer.

Minutes of the January 11, 2015 Consistory meeting were reviewed and approved as submitted.

Financial Secretary's Report: The January 2016 report will be filed for audit.

Treasurer's Report: In response to a concern about encountering a shortfall in Benevolence income at year's end, Pastor Cliff suggested the account should be evaluated at the end of the third quarter. By that time, special offerings will have been taken.

The January 2016 report will be filed for audit.

Pastor's Report: The Consistory retreat will be held at St. John's U.C.C., Fullerton. There is no fee to use the facility. Members will meet from 9 AM to 4 PM and bring notebooks and pens, snacks and beverages. Pizza will be ordered for lunch.

Pastor Cliff has received his FBI clearance and has begun offering home communions.

Pastor Cliff toured the Comic Book Store with Karen Christman, Dee Marshall and Barb Kautzman to investigate its potential as a site for future ministry. As a result of their discussion following that tour, he asked Consistory to approve the formation of a Community Involvement Committee and support three possible events: end-of-the-month community dinners, a summer block party and a safe trick-or-treat night. Food for the dinners would be donated.

Karen Christman will chair the committee. Consistory approved of the new committee by consensus and endorsed the events.

There has been an inquiry about Emmanuel U.C.C.'s view on performing same sex marriages in the sanctuary. Pastor Cliff would like a statement from the Consistory to guide his response.

The issue will be discussed at the Consistory retreat.

Pastor Cliff's monthly report and his 2015 Annual Report are filed.

Committee Reports

Spiritual Council: Pastor Cliff shared a draft of the letter to be sent to inactive members. The Council has prepared a list of names. According to the Bylaws, if a recipient does not respond in six months, his or her name may be removed from the rolls. The motion from the Council *to send the letter to inactive members* passed unanimously.

Centennial Anniversary: Alan Heckman is planning a meeting to finalize business including plans for the time capsule and preparation of the history book.

Christian Education: Kathy Heckman will chair this committee.

Facilities/Classrooms/Storage: June McCracken reported the committee has begun to clear the stage area.

Fellowship: June McCracken announced Egypt Community Park has been reserved for the church picnic to be held on the first Sunday in August. The Chocolate Bingo is the next event.

Fundraising: June McCracken read the committee report that is filed. Consistory members praised the committee's ideas to distribute cards that advertise upcoming events and to collect information from attendees to create mail and e-mail contact lists. They suggested the church website be included on the advertising card.

Finance: Les Bartholomew reported the Special Gifts audit has been completed. The Treasurer's books will be audited this Thursday.

Nominating: No report

Outreach: Margaret Rosenberger said Valentines have been sent to all shut-ins. The committee's next project is distribution of Easter treats. They are accepting donations of wrapped candy.

Property: Alan Heckman reported Jason Heiser has agreed to continue to chair this committee.

Staff Support: Bobbi Pope informed the insurance company the church has instituted a written policy for sexual misconduct. Effective February 5, 2016, insurance coverage returns to the previous levels of \$250,000/\$500,000. That correspondence is filed.

Stewardship: No chair

Worship & Music: June reported the Lenten meals are planned and will be advertised.

Old Business: The insurance policy issue was addressed in the Staff Support Committee report.

The Consistory retreat will be held February 27, 2016. Pastor Cliff and Alan Heckman are preparing the agenda.

Committee chairpersons must submit annual reports to Jennifer Heiser by February 14th.

Karen Christman and Claude Kohl met with Bill Kehm. He has agreed a new plaque in the sanctuary will be appropriate to honor Boy Scout Troop 14. Alan Heckman will ask Special Gifts to pay for it. Bill is keeping the plaques that previously hung in the Social Hall.

New Business: Alan Heckman has asked the Finance Committee to prepare a formal report addressing income vs. expenses in light of his concern over decreasing end-of-year balances. Approximately \$15,000 was carried into 2015; approximately \$6,000 was carried into 2016. He also suggested the disbursement from the Special Gifts Fund this year should be held. Lenore Kohl noted the amount will be \$6,850.

Nine Consistory members submitted names of people to serve on the Search Committee. Pastor Cliff will review them with June McCracken, Lenore Kohl and Barb Kautzman and bring recommendations to the retreat.

June McCracken stated the Facility Rental Policy is not posted. Alan Heckman will check with the Property Committee and Barb Kautzman will search minutes for the information or the status of its revision.

Claude Kohl expressed concern over the way the Lehigh Conference of Churches managed its warming shelter for homeless people during the January snowstorm. Pastor Cliff learned the Conference is working on contingency plans for future events. He noted Emmanuel's previously approved benevolence plan would support the Conference with a special offering in November. Consistory members decided to consider their response to the issue after gathering more information about the homeless in the Lehigh Valley. Speakers from DeSales University and then the Conference will be invited for presentations.

Planning for our Future: Recommendations for Search Committee members were discussed under New Business.

Alan Heckman adjourned the meeting at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Kautzman
Secretary

Next meeting: March 14, 2016