

St. Paul's United Church of Christ, Amityville
Consistory Meeting Minutes
June 12, 2024

Present – Curt Clifford, Marlene Dadey, Peter Dadey, Lori Falstich, Brenda Haas, Jackie Hertzog, Judy Leister, Kay Nyman, Linda Okuniewski, Heidi Pennypacker, Marsha Pingitore, Doug Reinert, Alan Ross, Michele Ross, Martha Sitler, Kathy Weller, Rich Zuber.

Devotions were given by Jackie Hertzog.

President Curt Clifford called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. There being only fourteen voting members present, a quorum was not established. President Clifford stated that the meeting would continue, but all actions requiring a vote must be ratified at the next meeting.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Approve meeting minutes of May 8, 2024, as presented.

MOTION BY: Judy Leister

SECOND: Jackie Hertzog

VOTE: All in favor

Pastor's Report

Pastor Steven Simpson

- Report was emailed.

Secretary's Report/ Correspondence

Martha Sitler. Secretary

- No report
- Correspondence included notes of thanks from Lifewater for our Missions donation, Millie Bani's daughter, Martha Sitler, and Pennsylvania Southeast Conference for our church's 5 for 5 contributions. A certificate of recognition of that was included and will be hung on the bulletin board.

Treasurer's Report

Peter Dadey, Treasurer

	<u>May 2024</u>	<u>Full Year 2024</u>
Income	\$ 32,862	218,620
Expenses	35,847	214,275
Surplus/(Deficit)	(2,985)	4,345

President's Report

Curt Clifford, President

- President Clifford reported that he attended the meeting of the four Pennsylvania UCC Conferences in State College last week. He had sent to Consistory members in advance a summary of the background and rationale for merging the four into one statewide Conference that was contained in the "Delegate Book" at the Conference meeting. The summary explained that each of the four Conferences will vote on the proposed merger next fall. Our Consistory will direct the vote of St. Paul's delegates to that PSED Fall meeting.

High Priority Business

- Troop 597 Scoutmaster Rick Henry, Walt Sheehan and Scoutmaster of the girls' troop, John Schiel, reported that the national Boy Scout organization has officially changed its name to Scouting America. They had previously voted to allow separate all-female troops to join the scouting program but have now voted to allow male and female troops to merge. Troop 597 is in a trial period during which five girls have been participating in all the normal troop activities. All three leaders assured us that all safety protocols - including always requiring both male and female leaders, maintaining separate camping areas and ensuring two or more males or females in any group activity – are required and are being implemented with no issues arising during the trial period. Each of the three also stated that the current scouts - both boys and girls, their parents, and all the current leaders are in favor of making the co-ed set-up permanent. Rick answered questions from the group. President Clifford asked the leaders if they were seeking approval from Consistory to go forward into a permanently merged troop and all three replied in the affirmative.

MOTION: To approve the merger of the male and female troops as Troop #597.

MOTION BY: Lori Falstich

SECOND: Linda Okuniewski

VOTE: All in favor

Committee Reports

Budget, Finance & Stewardship

Alan Ross, Committee Chair

- No report

Christian Education

Judy Reitz, Committee Chair

- No report

Church and Ministry

Richard Zuber, Committee Chair

- No report

Evangelism

Linda Okuniewski, Heidi Pennypacker Committee Co-Chairs

- Report emailed.
- Linda reported that the committee met May 9. They will continue preparing Welcome kits and mailing birthday cards.
- In addition, they will have a booth at Peach Festival and will be soliciting community support to buy Christmas gifts for the Wish Tree students.
- They are also planning a "Palentine's" Night event on Valentine's Day – but open to ALL.
- The next meeting will be July 11.

Facilities

Brian Casner, Committee Chair

- In Brian's absence, Doug reported that both electronic signs are now functioning, and Kay has learned to program them. The committee will now seek bids on blacktopping the driveway leading to Route 662.
- The roof over the lower door from the old SS/ office wing will be replaced using money from the Endowment Fund.
- We have received a quote of \$46,000 from Diirnier Roofing to make needed repairs to our roof and steeple.
- Kathy Weller added that the tile floors need to be stripped and waxed, work that should be done this summer. She got a quote of \$4800 from Parcon to strip and wax all non-carpeted floors. The cost can be split between Facilities, SPLASH, and Facility Rentals.

MOTION: To accept the bid and complete the work as specified.

MOTION BY: Kathy Weller

SECOND: Alan Ross

VOTE: All in favor

Fellowship

Judy Leister, Committee Chair

- Report emailed.
- The Fellowship Committee hosted a party on May 26 to wish Pastor Steven farewell as he leaves on Sabbatical.
- The following week, they hosted a luncheon to celebrate Martha Sittler's 40-year anniversary as Minister of Music.

HVAC

- Report emailed.
- Leibold was in and all LG mini-split units are set up and functioning properly. The maintenance service plans from Leibold were revised to clarify Fall 2024 and Spring 2025 visits and were signed and mailed to Leibold.
- The FLMC Fellowship Hall unit is installed and running. The final bill for the balance of the work on that system is \$57,000 due on July 3, 2024.
- The next phase of the HVAC work will be the replacement of the Gymnasium unit. Leibold's estimate to replace it with the same set-up is \$65,000, but we are seeking less expensive alternatives. We are also exploring options for A/C in the Sanctuary, which is estimated to cost about \$98,000.

Capital Campaign

Richard Zuber, Committee Chair

- Rich reported that to date we have received \$207,510 in pledges/ cash and have incurred expenses of approximately \$190,000.
- At some point it will need to be decided if we take out a loan to proceed with the HVAC projects or if we wait and complete projects as we have the money. Rich expressed his confidence that St. Paul's would rise to the challenge to pay off a loan in a timely manner, as we did with the loan for the construction of the FLMC.

Missions

- Report emailed.
- Since Carol Sterner resigned as Committee Chair, Michele Ross reported that the committee met on May 23.
- Several church members plan to volunteer to assist with the first "group" Disaster Relief Workday in the Antietam area next week. There will also be a Block Party for flood survivors in mid-July.
- Curt had requested volunteers to help serve weekly lunches at Amity Manor, and two church members have signed up .
- There will be a Craft Vendor sale along with soups, pies, etc. in October. Proceeds will help to support the Wish Tree.
- Next meeting – June 26.

Sabbatical

Judy Leister, Committee Chair

- Judy reported that Pastor Steven is on Sabbatical and will provide a report when he returns in September.

SPLASH

Marianne Reinert, Committee Chair

- Report was emailed and highlighted by Doug Reinert.
- Summer Slash started this week and will include a full slate of field trips, swimming, and other activities.

Technology Committee

Kay Nyman, Committee Chair

- Report emailed
- The Committee will meet with Gelnett, who installed our sound system, to provide information on their options for hearing assistive technology.
- One of the main internal drives in the network server failed and will need to be replaced soon. We will be moving to Google Drive for all church applications.
- Conrad Electric installed the electric lines for the digital sign on Old Swede Road and both signs are now working in tandem.
- The next meeting will be held on June 24.

Worship and Music

Michele Ross, Committee Chair

- Report emailed.
- Pastor Debbie Derby will be available for Pastoral needs while Pastor Steven is on Sabbatical.
- Martha is looking for volunteers to provide special music during the summer.
- The Nursery is open during the summer months and has been averaging 12 – 13 children per week.
- VBS begins next week with 47 children registered.

Youth Committee

Lori Falstich, Committee Chair

- Report emailed.
- Youth Committee met May 13.
- We had over twenty youth for our picnic/ graduate send-off on May 29.
- Summer youth group events include movie night, mini golf, roller skating, Dorney Park and a college send-off breakfast (late August).
- St. Paul's Night at the R-Phils is Sunday, August 4. Tickets must be purchased by July 1.

- Bob Lenz and the Dignity Revolution is returning to our area in October. Volunteers are needed to help with these events in our local schools.
- Lori is requesting money for non-budgeted expenses for summer activities and Peach Festival supplies.

Deacons

- No report.

Elders/ Spiritual Council

- No Report

Other Committee Reports

- **Peach Festival** – scheduled for August 17.
- **Circle of Friends** – will meet for lunch on Thursday, 6/13 at the Inn on Main in Oley.

Old Business

None

New Business

- Kathy Weller reported that the Ladies Aid had contracted with Beacon Industrial Cleaning to deep clean the FLMC kitchen. Winnie and Michele met with the manager to review our expectations and Kathy Weller met with her again before the workers began the job. At that time, the manager stated that she was unaware that there were ovens to be cleaned so she would have to add an unspecified amount onto the bill. Ladies Aid agreed to pay the additional fee (about \$300), but the work was very poorly done.

MOTION: To send a letter to Beacon Industrial Cleaning expressing our dissatisfaction with the cleaning of the FLMC kitchen and stating that we will pay the bill when they return to finish the job. (Pending ratification)

MOTION BY: Alan Ross

SECOND: Kathy Weller

VOTE: All in favor

- **The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 10, 2024, at 7:00 pm.**
- **Devotions** – for that meeting will be given by Alan Ross.

Expenditure Motions – (Unbudgeted or >\$500)

- Youth Committee requests up to \$1200 for Summer Youth Activities.
- Youth Committee requests up to \$150 for Peach Festival Supplies.
- Facilities Committee requests \$4800 payable to Parcon Flooring for stripping and waxing floors.

MOTION: To pay for these unbudgeted expenses.

MOTION BY: Alan Ross

SECOND: Kay Nyman

VOTE: All in favor

Adjournment:

At 8:48 pm.

MOTION BY: Kathy Weller

SECOND: Jackie Hertzog

VOTE: All in favor

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Sitler, Secretary