

**St. Paul's United Church of Christ, Amityville  
Consistory Meeting Minutes  
August 7, 2024**

**Present** – Curt Clifford, Marlene Dadey, Peter Dadey, Brenda Haas, Autumn Herbst, Jackie Hertzog, John Johnson, Judy Leister, Kay Nyman, Linda Okuniewski, Marsha Pingitore, Doug Reinert, Marianne Reinert, Judy Reitz, Alan Ross, Michele Ross, Martha Sitler. Marlon Spotts was a guest.  
Devotions were given by Martha Sitler.

President Curt Clifford called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. following our summer picnic meal held in Fellowship Hall. Quorum established.

**Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION:** Approve meeting minutes of July 10, 2024, as presented.

**MOTION BY:** Jackie Hertzog      **SECOND:** Judy leister      **VOTE:** All in favor

**Secretary's Report/ Correspondence**

**Martha Sitler. Secretary**

- No report or correspondence

**Treasurer's Report**

**Peter Dadey, Treasurer**

	<u>July 2024</u>	<u>Full Year 2024</u>
<b>Income</b>	\$ 51,168	311,034
<b>Expenses</b>	57,164	310,436
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	(5,995)	598

- Peter pointed out that the amount currently in our checking account is somewhat lower than it should be to meet any unanticipated financial needs.

**President's Report**

**Curt Clifford, President**

President Curt introduced our guest, Marlin Spotts, representing the Endowment Fund Committee.

**High Priority Business**

- Marlin distributed copies of the 2024 Endowment Committee Report. He reported that the Committee met on August 5 to review the Fund's performance and determined that our funds should remain invested in the Moderate Balance Fund through United Church Funds. The 2024 Endowment Fund income was \$4,936.33.
- As stipulated in Committee bylaws, the annual income from these investments is to be distributed evenly – half for capital improvements, debt reduction or building programs and half to enhance St. Paul's mission outreach. Proposals for the intended use of the funds must be submitted to Consistory for approval.

**MOTION: To accept the 2024 Endowment Fund income proceeds in the amount of \$4,936.33 and to request proposals for expenditures as follows:**

**\$2,468.16 for capital improvements, debt reduction, and/or building programs, and**

**\$2,468.17 for mission outreach**

**MOTION BY:** Autumn Herbst      **SECOND:** Linda Okuniewski      **VOTE:** All in favor

- Marlin further explained that a request was made to borrow from the Endowment Fund to proceed with Phase 3 of the HVAC project in a timely manner. The by-laws of the fund do not prohibit internal loans, and in fact, there is a precedent for this type of arrangement when a similar loan was provided to pay off the FLMC mortgage.

- Marlin reported that the Endowment Committee is willing to loan \$65,000 to St. Paul's UCC to be used to complete Phase 3 with the stipulation that the entire amount be paid back (interest-free) before commencing any further phases of the HVAC work. Marlin also offered to work with the facility project team in using the loan.

**MOTION: To accept the Endowment Committee's loan of \$65,000 to complete Phase 3 of the HVAC Project, placing future phases on hold until the loan is repaid.**

**MOTION BY:** Marianne Reinert    **SECOND:** Alan Ross    **VOTE:** All in favor

## Committee Reports

### Budget, Finance & Stewardship

**Alan Ross, Committee Chair**

- Report emailed.
- Alan stated that the committee met on July 30. They reviewed the financial reports of the Church through June 30 which show a slight reduction in revenue, but also a reduction in expenses for the first six months. The cash position of the church, however, has been reduced, primarily because the church has funded about \$65,000 of the HVAC project to date. Some of this will be returned to the general fund as pledges are paid. Options for funding Phase 3 of the HVAC work were discussed. The Committee also discussed plans for the financial audit of the church records. They will meet in September to work on the Annual Budget.

### Capital Campaign

**Rich Zuber, Committee Chair**

- No report

### Christian Education

**Judy Reitz, Committee Chair**

- No report.
- Marlene's Christian Education and SPLASH report were emailed.

### Church and Ministry

**Richard Zuber, Committee Chair**

- Our custodian was injured in an accident at his other job, thought he had been cleared to return to work this week, but now needs to see an orthopedic surgeon. Volunteers are helping to clean the facility for now.
- Johnny Berry has been hired as the night lock-up person.

### Evangelism

**Linda Okuniewski, Heidi Pennypacker Committee Co-Chairs**

- Linda reported that the committee met in July to discuss plans for the Peach Festival. Kerry will welcome guests and offer prayer before each of the bands starts. He will also be available in the Chapel to meet with anyone needing prayer.
- The committee purchased a Blackstone Grill for the church.
- Will meet in September to finalize plans for the Fall Festival.

### Facilities

**Brian Casner, Committee Chair**

- In Brian's absence, Doug Reinert reported that the cement steps and railing at the Narthex entrance will be repaired in the next few weeks. The awning over the lower exit from the Sunday School wing will also be replaced soon. The roof over the ramp door can be repaired.
- Two quotes to replace the water conditioner have been received and we are awaiting a third.

### Fellowship

**Judy Leister, Committee Chair**

- Cake and beverages will be served following worship on Sunday, September 8 to welcome Pastor Steven back from Sabbatical.

### **HVAC**

**Kay Nyman and Judy Leister, Committee Co-Chairs**

- Report emailed.
- The cost to complete Phase 3 of the HVAC repair is approximately \$85,000. It was discovered during work on Phase 2 that the heating and cooling system serving the gym in the FLMC is in much worse condition than previously thought and could cause severe damage if it fails. We will have over \$20,000 left over from the work on Phase 1 and 2, but because the pledge payments can be spread out over two years, we do not have the money on hand to proceed with this work. To get the system replaced before winter, a contract must be signed in the next week and an initial payment of \$16,000 will be due by October 4. The balance will be due upon completion (November 4). This information and the offer by the Endowment Committee to provide a “bridge” loan will be presented to the congregation on Sunday, August 11.

### **Missions**

**Brenda Haas and Marsha Pingitore Committee Co-Chairs**

- Report emailed
- Disaster relief work continues on homes damaged in last July’s flooding. Volunteers needed.
- Several committee members met with Daniel Boone Guidance Counselors to improve the way we distribute Wish Tree gifts. Donations for Wish Tree will be accepted at the Peach Festival.
- Discussed plans for setting up Blessing Boxes with food items, toiletries, baby supplies, etc. somewhere in the community.
- We are currently doing a Meal Train for Ginny Althouse who is recovering from a broken hip.
- CROP Walk is scheduled for Sunday, October 13.

### **Sabbatical**

**Judy Leister, Committee Chair**

- Pastor Steven will return from his Sabbatical on September 8.
- The Committee will meet with him on September 23.

### **SPLASH**

**Marianne Reinert, Committee Chair**

- Marianne reported that Summer SPLASH is going very well, and all are looking forward to the Fall program.

### **Technology Committee**

**Kay Nyman, Committee Chair**

- Report emailed.
- A new microphone was purchased for the FLMC. The new one is not noise-cancelling, so will provide better sound for the piano and better quality for the live stream. It must be positioned close to the mouth of the speaker or singer or will fade out.
- Joe is also looking to replace plastic tension washers in the microphone stands so they do not slip out of position when adjusted.
- The next meeting will be Monday, August 26.

### **Worship and Music**

**Michele Ross, Committee Chair**

- No report

### **Youth Committee**

**Lori Falstich, Committee Chair**

- No report

**Deacons**

- No report.

**Elders/ Spiritual Council**

- Elders have been completing home communion with shut-in members.

**Other Committee Reports**

**Peach Festival Committee**

The Annual Peach Festival is scheduled for Saturday, August 17. Help is needed Tuesday through Saturday.

**Craft Vendor Sale**

Scheduled for Saturday, October 12. We now have 44 vendors signed up. Proceeds benefit the Wish Tree.

**Nominating Committee**

- Curt reminded everyone that a slate of nominees for church leadership positions must be presented at the Annual meeting on November 17. Our bylaws state that the Nominating Committee is chaired by the Vice President and must include at least 1 deacon, 1 elder and 1 committee chair. Jackie will be recruiting volunteers to serve on the Nominating Committee.

**Old Business**

- Last month, Wendy Elser discussed several minor changes the Guldin Trust Committee would like to see made on the application to limit grants in cases where a student is reimbursed by an employer or receives free or reduced tuition through their college or university. The Guldin Trust Committee made the changes and submitted them for Consistory approval.

**MOTION: To approve the changes made to the Guldin Trust document and application.**

**MOTION BY:** Martha Sitler      **SECOND:** Judy Leister      **VOTE:** All in favor

**New Business**

- **The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 11 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 8.**
- **Devotions** – for that meeting will be given by Marianne Reinert

**Expenditure Motions – (Unbudgeted or >\$500)**

- None

**Adjournment:**

- At 8:45 pm.

**MOTION BY:** John Johnson      **SECOND:** Judy Reitz      **VOTE:** All in favor

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Sitler  
Secretary