

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

Present – Curt Clifford, Marlene Dadey, Peter Dadey, Debbie Davis, Jackie Hertzog, Judy Leister, Kay Nyman, Heidi Pennypacker, Judy Reitz, Alan Ross, Michele Ross, Martha Sitler, Carol Sterner, Kathy Weller, Rich Zuber, Pastor Steven Devotions were given by Curt Clifford.

President Curt Clifford called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The secretary stated that we did not have a quorum of voting members present. Business may be discussed, but no actions requiring a vote can occur. In John Johnson's absence, Curt read the lyrics of Bob Dylan's "Blow'n in the Wind" which Dylan wrote and first performed in 1963.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the February meeting will be proposed for approval at the next meeting.

Pastor's Report

Pastor Steven Simpson

- Report was emailed.

Secretary's Report/ Correspondence

Martha Sitler. Secretary

- No correspondence

Treasurer's Report

Peter Dadey, Treasurer

	<u>February 2024</u>	<u>Full Year 2024</u>
Income	\$ 37,895	77,340
Expenses	<u>47,566</u>	<u>92,093</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	(9,671)	(14,753)

Peter explained that under the new direct deposit payroll system, money is transferred on Thursdays, resulting in having three staff pay periods in February. The deficits shown in the February report are temporary and the budget should be back to normal next month.

President's Report

Curt Clifford, President

- No report

High Priority Business

- Curt thanked all involved in the Special Congregational Meeting on February 25. The Capital Campaign was approved by unanimous vote and work began on the Sunday School/ Office wing on February 26. Minutes from the Special Meeting will be included for approval at our Annual Meeting in November.

Committee Reports

Capital Campaign Committee

Rich Zuber, Committee Chair

- Rich reported that pledges toward the first two HVAC projects are now being solicited. Consistory members are asked to make their commitments to the campaign. Letters with pledge cards will be mailed to all members later this week and businesses the church deals with will also be asked to support the upgrades.
- Peter Dadey reported that we received \$18,700 toward the campaign this week, so we are nearing the halfway point toward our \$200,000 goal.

Budget, Finance & Stewardship

Alan Ross, Committee Chair

- No report

Christian Education

Judy Reitz, Committee Chair

- Report emailed.
- Judy Reitz stated that the committee met on March 5.
- There will be no children's Sunday School on Easter Sunday.
- Plans for VBS in June are coming together nicely.
- First and Second year confirmands will be involved in the confirmand-led worship on May 5.
- The 3 older confirmands will be confirmed and receive communion on Pentecost, May 19.
- Pre-confirmation classes will run through April 28 and Children's Sunday School will end for the summer on May 19.
- Flowers will be ordered for the children in Sunday School to give to their mothers on Mother's Day.
- The Report of the Director of Christian Education and the SPLASH Program was emailed.

Church and Ministry

Richard Zuber, Committee Chair

- Rich reported that the committee met with Pastor Steven and completed his staff review.

Evangelism

Linda Okuniewski, Heidi Pennypacker Committee Co-Chairs

- Report emailed.
- The Committee met February 15.
- Heidi discussed two upcoming Committee events:
 - Ladies Night Out will take place on Friday, March 8 with a meal, fellowship, and a video featuring a Christian comedian. There are over 50 women registered.
 - This year's Easter Egg Hunt on March 30 will probably be bigger than ever because the Optimists are not conducting one this year.

Facilities

Brian Casner, Committee Chair

- No report.

Fellowship

Judy Leister, Committee Chair

- Report emailed.
- Judy thanked all who prepared soup and desserts for the Lenten services.

Missions

Carol Sterner Committee Chair

- Report emailed.
- Carol stated that Sharon Scgriccia with the UCC Disaster Relief Committee will present a Mission Moment on March 17.
- Pastor Bryan Koch is scheduled to preach, and a brunch will be served on April 21.
- Items including sweatshirts, sweatpants, shampoo, body wash, deodorant, and laundry soap are needed for the Caring Closet.
- Donations toward Easter Gift Cards are still being accepted.
- Next meeting March 19.

Sabbatical

Judy Leister, Committee Chair

- The Committee met with Pastor Steven on February 5.
- Committee members are working on a series of articles for our March – June newsletters to help explain the process to the congregation.

- Pastor Steven will be offering a series of Preaching classes in April.
- The next meeting is scheduled for April 22.

SPLASH

Marianne Reinert, Committee Chair

- No report, but Marlene stated that they are expecting the annual state inspection sometime in March.

Technology Committee

Kay Nyman, Committee Chair

- Report emailed.
- The new sign on Weavertown Road is up and running.. Pastor Steven and Kay attended a Zoom training to learn how to operate the sign and to design and upload images for display.
- A laptop was purchased for Pastor Steven using Memorial funds from Bruce Galambos. The laptop will be using Windows 11. The other office computers will be upgraded to Windows 11 and Google Drive soon.
- The Committee is looking at different Wi-Fi options to provide assistance for the hard-of-hearing in the sanctuary.
- They are also working on the integration of the new LG Mini split units onto the church Wi-Fi network so the system can be checked remotely.

Turkey Supper

- No report, but the Spring Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, April 6.
- It might be advantageous to solicit donations toward the Capital Campaign during the Supper.

Worship and Music

Michele Ross, Committee Chair

- No report, but Michele stated that the Maundy Thursday service will be held around the tables downstairs.
- Pastor Steven will be participating in the Good Friday service at 7:00 pm at St. Gabe's
- The next Committee meeting is scheduled for May 13.

Youth Committee

Lori Falstich, Committee Chair

- Report emailed. The Committee did not meet in February.

Deacons

- No report

Elders/ Spiritual Council

- No Report

Other Committee Reports

Circle of Friends

Carol reported that the Puppies are scheduled to be here on Tuesday, March 12 at 4:00 pm.

Heating and Air Conditioning Committee

- Report emailed.
- Judy Leister reported that Leibold began work on February 26 installing 13 individual Mini split units.
- Those will be connected to 6 compressor units outside. Each unit will be programmed for both heating and cooling but can be adjusted for comfort.
- To maintain an extended warranty plan, ALL work on the system must be done by Leibold, Inc.

- The new HVAC unit for the FLMC has been shipped to Leibold and it is scheduled to be installed in May.
- As per STV's evaluation there is still a lot of work to be done on the 1963 Office wing to provide energy efficiency. All the old window AC units need to be removed and the old windows need to be put back in. The permanent windows, especially on the Old Airport Road side of the building, are in very bad condition and should be replaced. Quotes for this work should be obtained and included in the budget for 2025, but, in the meantime, the old windows should be reglazed and sealed to ensure energy and cost savings which could then be put toward the remainder of the HVAC work to be done.

Guildin Trust

9 students have been awarded grants of \$1,195 each, and one student, who is now working on his fifth year, will receive \$353.

Safety Committee

Michele Ross reported that the Safety Committee is scheduled to meet on March 10. Ken Biles is the Committee Chair.

Old Business

None

New Business

- The FLMC kitchen is in need of deep cleaning – including the hood units, ovens, and stoves. Ladies Aid has agreed to help with the cost, which is estimated at \$750. Since the cost to the church should then be under \$500, it was agreed to schedule the work without requiring a vote for approving the expense.
- Curt suggested that the Budget and Finance Committee consider setting up a Sinking Fund to help pay for recurring major Maintenance. Alan agreed but suggested that we wait until the conclusion of the Capital Campaign.
- To further clarify the decision made at last month's meeting stating that **all** unbudgeted expenses and any budgeted expenses over \$500 must be approved by Consistory, Curt explained that in case of an emergency, committee chairs in consultation with the Consistory President and/or the Executive committee may authorize expenditures beyond those restrictions.
- **The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 3 at 7:00 pm.**
- **Devotions** – for that meeting will be given by John Johnson

Adjournment:

- By consensus at 8:06 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Sitler
Secretary