

**PSEC St. Paul's United Church of Christ, Amityville
Consistory Meeting Minutes
May 8, 2024**

Present – Curt Clifford, Marlene Dadey, Peter Dadey, Debbie Davis, Lori Falstich, Brenda Haas, Jackie Hertzog, John Johnson, Judy Leister, Susan Lincoln, Kay Nyman, Linda Okuniewski, Heidi Pennypacker, Marsha Pingitore, Doug Reinert, Marianne Reinert, Judy Reitz, Michele Ross, Martha Sitler, Kathy Weller, Rich Zuber, Pastor Steven
Kathy Weller gave devotions.

President Curt Clifford called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Quorum established.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Approve meeting minutes of April 3, 2024, as presented.

MOTION BY: Debbie Davis **SECOND:** Michele Ross **VOTE:** All in favor

Pastor's Report

Pastor Steven Simpson

- Report was emailed.
- Pastor Steven reported two upcoming memorial services – one for Millie Bani and one for an Amity firefighter, Derek Nester.

Secretary's Report/ Correspondence

Martha Sitler, Secretary

- Martha reminded Consistory members to please list any requests for payments over \$500 AND for all unbudgeted expenses using the approval form being circulated. These expenses will be approved near the end of the meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Peter Dadey, Treasurer

| | 2024 | Full Year 2024 |
|--------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Income | \$ 63,175 | 185,758 |
| Expenses | 46,629 | 178,428 |
| Surplus/(Deficit) | 16,546 | 7,330 |

President's Report

Curt Clifford, President

- Curt announced the resignation of Carol Sterner as Mission Committee Chair and asked the committee to recommend a nominee to fill the remainder of Carol's term.

High Priority Business

- Ken Biles, chairperson of the Security Committee, presented recommendations of the committee on emergency evacuation procedures. These procedures will be explained to the congregation through newsletter articles and in person during an upcoming worship service and will be reiterated and practiced twice each year.
- Curt reported that he had recently attended the spring meeting of the PSEC Covenant Association and asked Pastor Steven to review a document that he (Pastor) had presented at that meeting listing 15 "Covenantal Expectations" of congregations from the Association. These guidelines will be posted on the bulletin board near the office for all to review at their leisure.
- Curt will also be attending the meeting of the four Pennsylvania UCC Conferences to be held in State College in June to discuss merging the four into one statewide conference.

Committee Reports

Budget, Finance & Stewardship

Alan Ross, Committee Chair

- No report
- Marlene reported that we are being billed a \$200 per month “merchant fee” for the use of our credit card machine. She suggested that expense should probably be transferred to the SPLASH budget which uses it the most. She will ask Alan to check on the validity of the fee.
- She also reported that St. Paul’s receives four separate electric bills, one of which is for the cemetery shed near the parsonage. This building uses almost no electricity, but we are billed for a \$25/ month service fee. After consulting with Randy VanFleet, Marlene is recommending that the electric service to that shed be terminated after the cemetery clean-up on May 18. Doug Reinert said he would contact the electric company.

Capital Campaign

Richard Zuber, Committee Chair

- Rich announced that the campaign is nearing its three-month goal to complete the work on the first two parts of the five-part project. The next phase to be done is replacing the worn and corroded air handling unit for the FLMC gym. A number of congregation members have been asking about air conditioning the sanctuary. When cost projections are complete, this phase must be presented to the congregation for approval and funding.

Christian Education

Judy Reitz, Committee Chair

- Report emailed.
- Judy Reitz stated that the committee met on May 7.
- Mother’s Day flowers will be available for children in the nursery and SS classes to give to their mothers. The last Sunday School classes before summer recess will be held May 19, which is also Confirmation.
- Several volunteers are still needed to assist with VBS.

Church and Ministry

Richard Zuber, Committee Chair

- No report

Evangelism

Linda Okuniewski, Heidi Pennypacker Committee Co-Chairs

- No report. Committee will meet tomorrow.

Facilities

Brian Casner, Committee Chair

- Doug Reinert reported in Brian’s absence.
- Wayne Elser installed a new light outside the Chapel for Fostering Hope. Paint has also been purchased and they have agreed to paint the bathroom.
- We are still waiting for bids to replace the two awnings and we are waiting for Conrad to run the electric line to the new sign on 662.
- Kathy Weller stated that the new Maintenance Request forms are helping to prioritize and schedule work to be done. Please use a form if you know of a maintenance issue.

Fellowship

Judy Leister, Committee Chair

- Report emailed.
- Judy stated that the committee is planning the send-off gathering following worship on May 26 for Pastor Steven as he begins his sabbatical.

HVAC

- Report emailed and highlighted by Judy Leister.
- Installation of the mini split units is complete. Conrad Electric also recommends that we replace the old baseboard heaters with new 8-foot electric baseboard heaters as a back-up heat source to be used only in very cold temperatures when the heat pumps may not be able to keep up with demand.

- The FLMC dining room unit has also been installed, but it was discovered that the new unit requires 120-amp “breaker” instead of the 115-amp that we have, so this will have to be changed.
- Both new systems must be checked and serviced exclusively by Leibold to maintain the long-term warranties. A Preventative Maintenance Contract for the 1963 office wing is \$3,300 for one year, payable in two installments, and the Maintenance plan for the unit in the FLMC dining room is \$2,200 for one year.

MOTION: To approve the two Preventative Maintenance Contracts with Leibold, Inc.

MOTION BY: Marianne Reinert **SECOND:** Linda Okuniewski **VOTE:** All in favor

Missions

- Report emailed.
- Marsha Pingitore highlighted the discussions of their meeting on April 25.
- Recapped Pastor Bryan’s visit and discussed “next steps” to build on his suggestions for Spiritual Growth.
- Volunteer opportunities to help with disaster relief work in the Antietam area will begin in mid-May.
- Supplies provided to the Caring Closet are now available at every school in the Daniel Boone Area.
- We are exploring ideas to supplement the funding for the Wish Tree gifts.
- Next meeting is May 23.

Sabbatical

Judy Leister, Committee Chair

- Report emailed.
- Judy reported that the committee met on April 22
- All the lay preachers have selected their scriptures and sermon titles and all 14 Sundays are now covered.
- Pastor Debbie Derby will join us in worship and will be introduced to the congregation and will assist with serving communion on May 19.
- No further meetings have been scheduled until after Pastor Steven’s return.

SPLASH

Marianne Reinert, Committee Chair

- Marianne reported that the students and staff are preparing for an end-of-year celebration and graduation.

Technology Committee

Kay Nyman, Committee Chair

- Report emailed.
- Kay reported that the tech committee met on April 15 and continues to evaluate our audio or visual components and sound systems.
- Pastor Steven’s laptop is set up.
- All the new LG mini split units have been connected to the church Wi-Fi and can be controlled remotely.
- Next meeting is May 13.

Worship and Music

Michele Ross, Committee Chair

- No report. Committee meets May 13.

Youth Committee

Lori Falstich, Committee Chair

- Report emailed.
- Lori highlighted the youth picnic scheduled for May 22. They will also plant the garden plot and honor seniors in the group.
- St. Paul’s night at the Reading Phillies has been scheduled for Sunday, August 4 at 4:15. More info to come.

Deacons

- No report

Elders/ Spiritual Council

- No Report

Other Committee Reports

- Kathy Weller announced that the Cub Scouts' Yard Sale will be held in the church parking lot on Sat. May 11.
- Circle of Friends will meet at noon on Tuesday, May 14 for soup and desserts and a slide program on Iceland.

Old Business

None

New Business

- Because it is difficult for our Financial Secretary to close the books and prepare the monthly financial reports in time for meetings scheduled very early in the month, it was suggested that Consistory change our regular meeting date to the SECOND Wednesday of the month rather than the first week.

MOTION: To change the regular meeting date for Consistory meetings to the second Wednesday of each month.

MOTION BY: Jackie Hertzog **SECOND:** Debbie Davis **VOTE:** All in favor

- **The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 12 at 7:00 pm.**
- **Devotions** – for that meeting will be given by Jackie Hertzog.

Expenditure Motions – (Unbudgeted or >\$500)

MOTION: To approve the following unbudgeted items or payments in excess of \$500.

\$1110 to Reading Phillies – for deposit on tickets for August 4 game / picnic area – Youth Committee

\$368.92 to Emily Dreas for Senior gifts – Youth Committee

MOTION BY: Rich Zuber **SECOND:** John Johnson **VOTE:** All in favor

Adjournment:

- At 9:03 pm.

MOTION BY: John Johnson **SECOND:** Kay Nyman **VOTE:** All in favor

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Sitler
Secretary