

Church Council Meeting January 15, 2013

In attendance: Pastor Robert Sorozan, Jill Wilson, Beth Provost, Chris Wilson, Jeanette Baker, Carla Heister, Heidi Flower, John Rioux, Joyce Rioux, Matti Verzino, Bill Thibodeau, Christa Zaldivar, Jackie Palance, Carol Rivard, Tim Krauss

Excused: Sue Powers, Carolyn Koboski

Devotions led by Jeanette Baker

October 2012 minutes approved as reported

Charge Conference November, 2012 minutes approved as reported.

Signup sheet for Devotions at the meetings was passed around.

Reports (in addition to written submissions):

1. **Faith in Action:** Bible Study on Hunger will be starting at end of January. Classes led by Pastor Bob Rhodes, Joyce Rioux, and Jeanette Baker
2. **Music:** Caroling was very well received by the recipients, who were all tearful by the visit. Everyone on the Shut-In list were visited, which included 9 stops. Will endeavor to carol earlier in December 2013, in an attempt to get more carolers. Praise God Choir (children) switched rehearsals to Sundays after worship, which has increased attendance to 10 this past Sunday.
3. **Middle Age Group:** Discussion about who this group reports to, and their finances. They have their own fund for separate tracking and report to Church Council. Joyce Rioux will draft a PUMC organizational chart to assist with consistency and understanding of the relationships between groups and work areas within the church.
4. **New Year's Eve Party:** Very successful, with 60 people attending, including children. Requests to repeat next year. Thank you Christa Zaldivar for coordinating.
5. **Finance:** Total pledges received in 2012 campaign – 93 units.
 - a. Discussion ensued regarding educating the congregation about our huge budget deficit of \$50,000 for 2013 and
 - b. How designated giving for funds, detracts from giving to the operating budget and
 - c. Fundraising for specifics, also pull money away from the operating budget and
 - d. Can we afford this given the deficit we face?

Finance will look into the possibility of taking the interest of all “funds” to turn them over to the operating budget. Report expected in Feb Council meeting

Electronic giving – general consensus is to pursue this option for future auto-payments

6. **Trustees:** Election of officers has occurred, Chris Wilson President, Carol Rivard, Vice President and Jackie Palance, Secretary. Education wing roof has been repaired again.

Pastor Bob's report

- Stephen Ministry – Diane Ashworth in training this week. Will need space to store materials, and resources for volunteers.
- Confirmation Class – Diane Ashworth will run it with Pastor's input. To start early Feb for students in 7th grade or above; and run for 12 weeks.
- District Resource Days Feb 2, in West Hartford, or Feb 10 in Stratford. Attendance encouraged.
- Membership update: Corinne Bushy moved to Apple Nursing home, Norma Jean Osborne died this week, and two new members joining Feb. 3.
- Personal days away:
 - 1/26 and 1/27, Rev. Dr. Wayne Smith filling in

- 4/9-4/14, Pastor Bill Barnes filling in
- 4/26-4/29 away
- 8/31 away
- Dates to remember:
 - 2/12 Shrove Tuesday
 - 2/13 Ash Wednesday 7pm service
 - 2/23 ERT training in Clinton
 - 3/24 Palm Sunday
 - 3/28 Maundy Thursday 7pm service
 - 3/29 Good Friday 12pm Chapel service
 - 3/31 Sunrise service and regular 10am service
- Reception of New member/interested in joining – 3 fold plan starting Feb 10, 2013:
 - “Gather-In” to be held 2d Sunday of even months throughout the year for informal information time and to introduce them to church leadership. Pastor would ask chair people to introduce themselves and talk about their area of interest.
 - New member will be assigned a sponsor
 - After joining, they would attend an educational moment/workshop to assist them in learning about PUMC and Methodism

Other New business:

Bulletin Board – Carol Rivard will be responsible for getting one installed on the wall in lower level South door entrance. To be used for notices, instead of hanging papers all around church.

Pot Luck Sundays – not “owned” by any group. Jeanette Baker willing to continue to arrive early for set up. Consensus is to continue these Sundays for fellowship time.

Floor Plan – requested, so groups that use common space know where to return tables and chairs. i.e. Sessions Hall and Sanctuary. Trustees will prepare the floor plan for distribution.

Coffee Hour – No frills coffee hour planned for Lent

Committee/Finance room – Cleaning out continues – Membership, Trustees, Finance, and Technology are among those who should work on their stuff.

The next Church Council meeting will be **February 19, 2013**

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Wilson