

## Zion UCC Consistory Meeting Minutes 02.13.2023

Consistory Call to Order at 7:04 pm by Barbara Miller

Members present: Pastor Elizabeth, Barbara Miller, Mark Burr, Jeff Quinton, W. George Darrall, Debby Williams, Robin Fowler, Rev. Pierre Albrecht-Carrie, Kalee Mielke and Trustee, Ted Camp.

Absent: Troy Hengst, Elena Camp, Edie Bauer, Sarah Handley-Cousins and Peter Korte.

Devotion and Lord's Prayer: Pastor Elizabeth led us in the devotion and the Lord's Prayer.

Kalee's Member in Discernment (MID) update- Kalee spoke about her class she is in now and they need to work on a project using their gifts and talents. Her projects are creating a nursing home ministry where she would teach interested church members on how they can use their gifts to help the nursing home residents. She would also like to teach on LBGQ topics so church members can become more educated on this as we are an open & affirming congregation. Pastor suggested that she brings other area churches into the trainings and nursing home ministry.

Approval Of Consistory Meeting Minutes - motioned for approval by Mark B. and seconded by Jeff Q. All attending members approved.

### Treasurer's Report (Ron Janiszewski)

- As of 02/02/2023 there is a balance of \$55,855.61 in the operating account and \$17,592.02 in the restricted funds account. The payroll for 2/10/23 is already accounted for in this balance.
- The revenue for December was \$20,883.62 and the net income was 4461.05. In comparison: The revenue for January 2022 was \$14,204.02. The net income was \$1705.14.
- Notable P&L events in January: Expense of \$454.08 for Offering Envelopes. There was an expense of \$368.19 for Sewer Taxes. \$2035.48 for gas utilities which includes, \$940.79 for January and 1094.69 for February. Also, \$232 for heating system repairs.

The report was motioned for approval by Debby W. and seconded by Jeff Q. All attending members approved.

### Trustee's Report: Ted Camp

1. Security system- looking into some sort of power back up due to some concerns in case of power outage in area
2. The parking lot project is being finalized (contract, etc.). Reminder: They are not doing the extension currently
3. A lawn mower has been purchased and delivered for Spring and Summer mowing.
4. The requested vertical blinds in the classrooms have been purchased and put up.

5. They are looking into our church becoming a warming center in the future. They are looking into Town and general requirements.
6. Will be looking in the future for a possible purchase of a generator for power back up

### Budget

1. Budget was looked at line by line and discussed. Some changes were made. Budget was motioned for approval by Mark B. and seconded by Jeff Q. All attending members approved.

### Pastor's Report - Pastor Duffy

1. Lent is coming:
  - a. Ash Wednesday (starts the Season of Lent): February 22, 7pm
  - b. Tuesday Lenten Studies on the Via Dolorosa (Stations of the Cross), 6pm during Lent in the Sanctuary.
  - c. Maundy Thursday, April 6, 7pm
  - d. Good Friday, April 7th, church open for Stations of the Cross.
  - e. Good Friday, Kenton Youth Vigil at Zion, 7-10pm.
  - f. Holy Saturday, April 8th: Youth will host fundraiser (Breakfast with the Easter Bunny and Egg Hunt)
  - g. Easter Sunday: April 9<sup>th</sup>
2. Pastor has her final event with the Next Generation Leadership Initiative in Arizona on March 21-24. This finishes up her 11 years of continued training with NGLI. She will be back in time for Sunday.
3. Pastor will be away the Sunday after Easter - Kalee will be preaching on Isaiah (text she is currently studying in school).
4. The Youth Group is heading north to Massena, NY for the mission trip this July.

### Old Business:

1. (Pastor will add this to the agenda for the annual meeting) Constitution/Bylaw changes. (Same from last report, will go in Annual Meeting agenda)
  - a. Make this change be to "Article V. The Pastor" of our bylaws.
    - i. Under Article V. The Pastor, C. Termination of Service
      1. first, change that to read: "C. Suspension or Termination of Service"
      2. The following can be added after the existing paragraph in section C.
        - a. "If a minister is suspended by the Church and Ministry Committee (Committee on Ministry), they are immediately suspended without pay from the church. If a minister's ordination standing is terminated by the Church and Ministry Committee (Committee on Ministry), the pastor is immediately terminated by the church."
  - b. Amend "Article XI. Functions" of our Bylaws.
    - i. It currently reads: "Alcohol or any illegal behaviors are not permitted on church property. Smoking is not permitted within twenty-five (25) feet of any church entrance."

- ii. We can change this to: “Alcohol, marijuana, or any illegal behaviors are not permitted on church property. Smoking is not permitted within twenty-five (25) feet of any church entrance.”
- c. These changes can go to the Congregation for the March Congregational meeting for approval.
2. Plan another Committee Night for Spring- Tuesday May 9 at 7 pm
3. Continue to look at pictures for the Overflow Room. – George assisting
4. NRC Appreciation Dinner: Choose Nominees- discussion began. Nominees for this year will be Jeff Quinton and John Pauling and Dave Dubbert and Lori Juliano. Two teens nominated were Jacob Korte and Maria Colosimo. Dinner is on June 1. We also decided that next year we would nominate Barb and Ed Miller.

#### New Business:

1. NRC (Network of Religious Communities) Annual meeting is this Thursday. Would anyone like to attend along with Rev. Pierre Albrecht-Carrié? It’s located at the Islamic Center in Getzville on Thursday at 5:45pm. \$25 entrance fee, reservations required. Pierre will discuss more about the group during church announcements. George expressed an interest.
2. Dunkirk Registration is open, and the Early Bird registration is available until mid-April. There is also a discount for first-time campers (\$100) and multi-camp discounts as well as sibling discounts. How would we like to handle possible scholarships available from the church for our campers? We decided to amend the approved budget by increasing the Dunkirk scholarship fund by \$500.00 to give as many youths as possible in our congregation the opportunity to experience the camp.
3. There is still one position opened in Consistory as Kalee and Pierre have accepted positions.
4. Joyce D. is stepping down from Trustees so there is one position open as well.
5. Pastor mentioned possibly nominating a teenager who would like to be a team member for a year.

#### Committee Reports:

- Administration- Ted mentioned that this committee met and made recommendations for the budget which the Consistory went over.
- PPRC (George) -no report
- Christian Education & Missions- no report
- Coffee hour & Community Dinners- no report but coffee hour and community dinners are doing well
- Memorials-(Mark) - has \$1,608.40 presently in their budget.
- Community Assistance Ministry- (Jeff)- Jeff reached out to Plymouth Crossroads after they went online asking for help with getting a new washer and dryer. They are currently searching for what they need, and we will assist them.
- Health Ministry- (Debby)- Hospice Buffalo and Palliative Care representative will be coming Saturday March 25 to talk about their many programs. It will continue to be announced in church. Hoping for more interest. The Babysitting course by Epic Trainings will be offered to kids 11 years and older on April 29th from 10-3. Sally Budik is contacting the Alzheimer Association for a representative to come and speak on the subject and what services they provide.
- Environmental Ministry (Barb)- no report, planning a meeting for group soon

- Pastoral Care Ministry Team- Note: Kailee's plans for the nursing home ministry- in development stage
- Food Pantry- (Jeff and Mark)- doing great; they have about 8-14 regulars coming every week attending approved.
- Altar Guild- (Robin) –spoke about needing the Sacristy to be organized so it can be utilized better; John will be addressing the Trustees of what is needed in the room to help keep things stored properly.
- New Member- (Pastor)- we are at 452 members (last year we had 451). Lots of new faces have been seen at the services lately.

Closing: At 8:51 pm, the meeting was called to adjourn by Debby W and seconded by Robin F. The rest of the group approved.

Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday March 14<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debby Williams  
Consistory Secretary