

Zion UCC Consistory Meeting Minutes 10.02023

Consistory Call to Order at 7:05 pm by Edie Bauer

Members present: Pastor Elizabeth, Dave Dombrowski, Elena Camp (Zoom), Debby Williams, Rev. Pierre Albrecht-Carrie, Edie Bauer and Trustee, Ted Camp (Zoom).

Absent: Robin Fowler, Sarah Handley-Cousins, W. George Darrall, and Kalee Mielke

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

Approval Of Consistory Meeting Minutes - motioned for approval by Dave and seconded by Pierre. All attending members approved.

Treasurer's Report (Ron Janiszewski)

- As of 10/03/2023 there is a balance of \$45,592.51 in the operating account and \$15,420.93 in the restricted funds account. The balance in the operating account also includes the 10/6/2023 payroll.
- The revenue for September was \$10,398.40 (It should be noted that the revenue was actually \$13,698.40 but \$3,300 was advanced to the meat raffle committee to purchase dollar bills for a bank at the event. This will correct itself when the funds are redeposited post the event). The net income was \$-2,508.39. In comparison: The revenue for September 2022 was \$18,620.96. The net income for September 2022 was \$-1,208.33. YTD revenue for 2023 is \$139,547.18. YTD income for 2023 is \$-4,285.36. In comparison the YTD revenue for 2022 was \$127,972.75 and the net income was \$-6,393.05.
- Another area to pay attention to is the Food Pantry account. The balance in the account is currently at \$350.26. We are coming into the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holiday periods which will more than likely create an increased food need in the community. Note: Ron has since got written word that \$500.00 was voted by Consistory in September to be moved to the Food Pantry budget so it will be \$850.26.

The notable P&L events in September were:

Account 54503 - \$989.68 Rally Day Supplies

Account 56003 - \$169.62 Sacristy update supplies

Kalee's Member in Discernment (MID)

1. She is enjoying her two classes for seminary. Also, the retreat was a great experience at the Falls. We are looking forward to more in the future.
2. AnnMarie and her made some video clips for the bread class. She is hoping to finish the video by Friday.
3. She have met with Ron Lordes at his church. She is attending their council meeting next week, to learn more about other churches and their leadership meetings.

4. She is preparing for her sermon on November 19th. Moreover, pastoral care classes have been great so far. She has enjoyed bringing Enzo (my puppy) to visit some of her Hospice patients.

5. She is also mentoring a CPE student through Hospice starting in November.

Trustee's Report: Ted Camp

1. Parking lot bids were received, and the engineering firm reviewed them and recommended Thomann Asphalt Paving Corp. (Laurie M was the lead on this project). Trustees agreed to use Thomann as the contractor. Their bid came in at \$353,336.14. The Trustees are requesting moving \$425,000 (in case of unexpected cost) for the parking lot work. Work will begin in the Spring (weather permitting). Trustees need Consistory to call a special congregational meeting to approve the parking lot bid. The meeting needs 2 weeks written notice, so the earliest it can be is October 29th. James said that the meeting should be quick, so it can hold it in-between services. A short presentation for the congregation on the parking lot plan will be presented and must be approved by the congregation. Debby made a motion to approve the congregational meeting on this topic and Dave seconded. All attending approved. Pastor will send a written notice through e-mail (snail mail for those that do not use e-mail) about the meeting after speaking to Laurie.
2. A Key Bank representative came and reviewed the endowment fund. Trustees discussed short term/long term goals for the church with the representative and they gave them some guidance on how to invest.
3. Tabled till next month was the document that explains what the Trustees are responsible for and what the Consistory is responsible for.
4. Tabled till next month was the Zion scholarship. They will be approaching some adult members to see if they would be interested in reviewing the Zion member candidates. There will be one scholarship per year. The money will be moved to a separate scholarship account in endowment.

Pastor's Report (Pastor Duffy)

1. Last week was a busy week for funerals. She officiated 3 funerals from Tuesday to Friday, 2 for church members, 1 for a family in need of a Protestant Minister.
2. We have had a lot of baptisms lately, and we have one more coming up on October 22nd.
3. 2nd *Annual* Trunk or Treat is on October 28th. Sign up for a "trunk" online at www.zionuccton.com/TOT and spread the word to people. It was a great event last year and should be great again this year. The drive through community dinner is still on the schedule, since we will do as we did last year with one event following the other.
4. Our outdoor sign is up and working again. The wireless receivers were replaced.
5. Pastor's mentor wrote a great devotional book, "Practicing What Jesus Preached: A Month-Long Journey of Reflection, Practice, and Prayer" by Stephen Chapin Garner (he goes by Chapin). Chapin is one of the best preachers and pastors she has ever known, and this devotional book is wonderful. She has ordered 5 copies for members of the church to read, and when they're finished they can return the book for someone else to read. It's a month-long devotional book but can be read at any speed in her opinion.
6. She will be away for a week in November, but that week covers two Sundays. Pierre will preach on November 12 and Kalee will preach on November 19.

Old Business:

1. Possible overflow pictures will be looked at soon.
2. Sacristy renovation is finished - thanks Laurie! Great job!

New Business

1. Finding a professional who has a high lift that can take a cross down at Kenmore Presbyterian and moving it to Zion UCC Tonawanda. Cross is being given to us. It was donated to that church by Debby's family in honor of her grandfather, William K Wightman Sr. Kenmore Presbyterian has been sold and will be remodeled into apartments. More details to follow.

Committee Reports

- Administration – no report
- PPRC- no report
- Christian Education & Missions- attendance is down, Ansley is the new kindergarten teacher.
- Church Life + Community Dinners- we can use more volunteers to volunteer their time (there are time slots to fill)
- Memorials: Donations to the Memorial Fund were made in August for George Drescher and Robert Wattam. Current balance: \$4,208.40
- Community Assistance Ministry- no report
- Health Ministry no report -
- Environmental Ministry- no report
- Pastoral Care Ministry Team- Kalee discussed in her report
- Food Pantry- Day of the week changing. It will be opened on Tuesdays starting October 24 from 10 am- noon. If anybody would like to come for those 2 hours to volunteer and assist, please contact Pastor.
- Altar Guild- mentioned in old business
- New Member- if interested in joining, please contact Pastor Elizabeth.
- Network of Religious Communities-There is a walk on October 11 going from Buffalo to Amherst starting at 4:30 pm that will proceed depending on the weather. If it happens, Pierre will be walking.

Pierre made a motion to close meeting. Dave seconded it and all attending members approved.

Closing prayer: In the Church, for the people, with one another. Amen.

Next Meeting: November 14th at 7 pm (Pastor Elizabeth will be away)

Closing: At 8:10 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Debby Williams
Consistory Secretary