

Hope United Church of Christ Council Meeting Minutes – September 2014

DATE: September 18, 2014

ATTENDEES: Paul, Dan, Alice, Randy, Erik, Andy, Dave, Pastor Sarah, Sue, Jennifer, Carol, and Kristine

ABSENTEES: Carolyn, Pastor Ed

DECISIONS MADE:

1. Via electronic communication, Council voted to put a color ad in the 2014 Art in the Park booklet. The vote took place on August 31, 2014.
2. Council approved the use of the chapel by Pathways Ministry to hold their September 2015 graduation.

NEXT STEPS/FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS:

1. Alice will continue to work with the Finance and Insurance Ministry to research viable options to continue the conference call.
2. Alice will look into acquiring the May-day ribbon to be used as a stairs barrier for the house tour.
3. Council members are asked to submit suggested names to Ed and Sarah for the Chapel Flexibility project.
4. Ministry liaisons will inform the applicable ministries of the decision to discontinue Ministry Night snack.

GENERAL NOTES:

OPENING

The meeting was opened by Paul at 7:02 p.m. Pastor Sarah led us in an opening prayer.

MINUTES

Minutes of the August Council Meeting were approved with no exceptions.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Treasurer Alice presented the financial report. The big item of note was the monthly deficit of (\$622). Alice also (1) highlighted the Operating Fund balance of \$29,473.43; (2) updated the Council on the various eScrip programs and the current discussions being had by the Finance and Insurance Ministry; and (3) highlighted the need to increase donut revenue. Kristine will make an announcement about this need during announcements on Sunday. Alice also highlighted the

expense of the conference call. Alice will continue to work with the Finance and Insurance Ministry to research viable options to continue the conference call.

PASTORS' REPORT

Pastor Sarah distributed a written report. Items of particular interest included Richard Colligan as a guest musician on September 28, 2014; World Communion Sunday on October 5, 2014; good progress on Art in the Park volunteers; and good progress on getting volunteers on the house tour. Sarah also reminded Council of the upcoming CROP walk.

OLD BUSINESS

Budget Committee

Alice reported that the Budget Committee, in addition to herself, is Kristine, John, Robbie, Clinton, and Jennifer. She reported that discussions are going well.

Nominating Committee

Randy reported that the initial contact with Ministry Team chairs was made by letter on September 17, 2014. Randy has asked that all ministries have suggestions of additional members to Randy by October 10, 2014. Randy also pointed out that we will need to replace at least two Council members. Randy requested that suggestions for new Council members also be submitted by October 10, 2014. Initial names were given for consideration as Council members.

Evangelism and Communication Ministry

Erik reported that the Ministry Team has picked the name 'Evangelism and Communication Ministry.' The ministry mission is "to share the good news of Hope UCC with its members and the community at large." Erik stated that the Ministry Team is very excited to pursue its mission further. Pastor Sarah reported that good progress is being made on utilizing Facebook.

St. Louis Hills House Tour

Carol reported that good progress is being made on facility repairs and updates. Building and Property Ministry has additional work days coming up. Jim will be playing the organ at four scheduled times during the house tour. Carol stated that they are looking for some sort of 'velvet rope' to rope off stairs. Alice will look into May-day ribbon. Finally, Carol reported that the initial projection for 'tourists' is 750 people.

Chapel Flexibility

Pastor Sarah reported that, based on a meeting with Sister Joyelle, the pastors are looking to put together a formal Chapel Flexibility team to guide further efforts. Pastor Sarah reported that it will cost \$600 for Sister Joyelle's guidance to this group, for a total of six sessions. Council briefly discussed their enthusiasm for the project and urged the pastoral staff to move forward on the assemblage of this group and formally engaging with Sister Joyelle to guide us in this process. Council members are asked to submit suggested names to Ed and Sarah.

New Member Dinner

Jennifer reported that invitations have been sent and she and Andy continue to work on games and get-to-know-you activities. Child care will be available. Jennifer will also send out a guide to Council members on dishes needed.

Little Library

Jennifer reported that Ethan has submitted a final design and has started to build the Little Library. As it will not be done in time for the St. Louis Hills House Tour, they plan to put out a sign stating that Hope will be placing a Little Library on its grounds. They are currently planning to dedicate the Little Library after the Annual Meeting on November 16, 2014. Hope will be joining the Little Library Association for \$35. They will be putting an article in the Builder with further details. Finally, Jennifer reported that they are hoping to become an ongoing committee.

Building Closure Procedures

Erik reported that Building and Property Ministry is continuing to draft these policies.

NEW BUSINESS

Art in the Park Directory Ad

Through electronic communication Pastor Ed reported that Hope needed to make a decision on whether it wanted to advertise in the Art in the Park booklet and/or the St. Louis Hills House Tour booklet. After brief discussion, Council decided that they did not want to advertise in the House Tour booklet as Hope would be featured as a stop on the tour anyway. There was however interest in continuing Hope's ad in the Art in the Park booklet. Via electronic communication, Council voted to put a color ad in the 2014 Art in the Park booklet. The vote took place on August 31, 2014.

2015 Pathways Graduation in Hope Chapel

Pastor Sarah reported that the Pathways group, a UCC lay ministry education program, would like to use the chapel for their graduation in September 2015. Paul moved and Dave seconded that we allow the Pathways Ministry to hold their September 2015 graduation in the chapel. The motion passed.

Fifth Sunday "Workshop"

Pastor Sarah reported that she is looking to start a fifth Sunday "Workshop" outreach program. On all 5th Sundays Hope would participate in simple outreach ministry before an abbreviated 11:00 a.m. service, followed by lunch for all. Small groups would break off into different service projects around the community. After brief discussion, Council enthusiastically encouraged Pastor Sarah to pursue this ministry starting in 2015.

Snack Time after Ministry Team Meetings

Paul reported that, due to dwindling enthusiasm for Ministry Night snack, the question of its necessity has been raised. After a brief discussion, Council decided that snack is no longer needed. Ministry liaisons will inform the applicable ministries of this decision.

Hope UCC as a Global Mission Church

Sue reported that the Outreach Ministry feels that Hope is ready to take the next step and become a Global Mission Church under the joint UCC and Disciples of Christ Global Mission Church Program. After brief discussion, Council agreed to continue contemplating the question with the goal of voting on whether to become a Global Mission Church at the October 2014 Council Meeting.

MINISTRY UPDATES

Building and Property

Minutes of the ministry meeting were submitted for Council's review.

Finance and Insurance

No Report

Hospitality

No Report

Outreach

Minutes of the ministry meeting were submitted for Council's review.

Special Events

No Report

Stewardship

No Report

Pastoral and Staff Relations

No Report

Worship and Liturgical Arts

Minutes of the ministry meeting were submitted for Council's review.

Youth and Children

Kristine reported that the high school Sunday School class will be meeting with the adult Sunday School class. Kristine also reported that the nursery carpet is much worn and the ministry would like to have Building and Property look into replacing it. Erik suggested they contact Terry.

CLOSING

With no further business appearing, the meeting was closed at approximately 8:57 p.m. with a prayer by Pastor Sarah.

Respectfully Submitted,
Secretary Andrew