

Minutes of October 10, 2022 Consistory Meeting

Present: Mark Chapinski, Judy Peters, Denise Melter, Marsha & Jeff Mihalko, Rebecca Booth, Bob Banky, Cindy Huss, Thadd Huss, Mike Sondergeld, Lisa Gargas. Guest speaker: Reverend Dan Busch

Absent: Sheila Tucker, Andy Dembowski, Pastor Don Giesmann, Paul Planz, Kim Harsanje

The meeting began at 6:30 p.m. Thadd Huss presented Devotions and Prayer. The Devotion was titled, "God's Voice," from The Upper Room.

Reverend Dan Busch spoke on the guidelines for the search process recommended by the UCC. First and foremost, God needs to be a part of the call. Each church has a different need, and a church profile needs to be done in prayerful consideration. Dan Busch handed out a packet of information sheets regarding the recommended search process, a copy of which is attached; and Dan Busch carefully reviewed each page with the Consistory group. Dan Busch also informed the group that he does have someone who is willing to come and be an interim pastor, if we are interested in such. He went on to discuss the need for the church to continue with such things as funerals, weddings, baptisms, etc. and that an interim would take care of the needs of the congregation. An agreement (or covenant) with the interim should be made with the expectations of the interim during that time. Dan Busch continued reviewing each of the sheets in the informational packet, regarding compensation guidelines, along with financial implications of a pastoral vacancy, call guidelines, meeting the new pastor, and a Sunday service with a vote taken on the new pastor. Reminder that the church does not hire a pastor, you call a pastor, and that God needs to be involved in the process. Dan Busch ended his talk with giving us all his cell phone number, 419-934-5386, and reminding us that any of us could call him for advice. Judy Peters thanked Dan Busch for his time.

The meeting continued with amending the September 22nd meeting minutes in the last paragraph where it stated the Judy Peters as the Vice President of Consistory would automatically be on the search committee. That sentence was removed as a review of the Constitution does not state that. After the amendment, the September 12 and September 22 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Pastor Don was absent from the meeting, but sent a brief Pastor's Report via email, a copy of which is attached.

Marsha Mihalko reviewed the Treasurer's Report and bills to be paid. A motion was made by Mike Sondergeld to approve the Treasurer's Report and pay the bills, motion was seconded by Denise Melter and pass unanimously.

Trustees Check In: Mike Sondergeld reports that we did have a mouse problem in the office and kitchen, but that is now taken care of. He also found possibly the entrance where the bats have been getting inside and will need help with a ladder to put a screen over that hole so that bats cannot continue to get inside. Lights have been replaced. Trustees have not yet been inside the parsonage. Five fire extinguishers are being refurbished.

Deacons Check In: Everything is going well. No worries 😊 .

Elders and the Worship Team are to meet Wednesday, October 12th and will discuss a software Pastor Dawn has inquired about. The church Easy Worship version 2009 has crashed. Discussion over obtaining a subscription to the new updated version of Easy Worship Premium 7.4. Judy Peters made a motion to obtain the Easy Worship Premium 7.4 subscription for the church to use with Sunday's slide presentations. The motion was seconded by Denise Melter and passed unanimously.

Evangelism Update: Rebecca Booth passed out a handout listing fundraising ideas. Discussion was held regarding a possible Bus Tour to The Ark, a Bingo Night, Grave blankets. A copy of the handout is included. Also discussed was a new logo for St. John's church (copy also attached) and # 1 was selected with some font update. Judy Peters made the motion, which was seconded by Jeff Mihalko and unanimously passed.

Old Business: Discussion regarding Don's Retirement party.

Search Team Update: Mark presented a list of volunteers for the Search Team. They will finalize the group and meet soon. First meeting was to be held October 20, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. There will also be an exit interview with Pastor Don. A retirement gift to Pastor Don was also discussed. The Search Committee will provide continuous updates.

A motion was made by Rebecca Booth to adjourn the Consistory Meeting, which was seconded by Cindy Huss. The Consistory Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.