

Peace United Church of Christ
Governing Body Meeting
June 16, 2015

IN ATTENDANCE: Jenny Davis, Scott Guerrero, Marilyn Stavenger, Norma Leuthauser, Gary Boehnke, Betsy Reznicek, Debbie Gregg, Joe Kelly, Jean Karr, Al Schon, and also Bob Karr and Doug Cormack from the Peace UCC Foundation

NOT IN ATTENDANCE: Bob Molsberry, Grace Morris

Joe Kelly called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

MINUTES:

It was MSP to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2015 GB meeting.
It was MSP to approve the minutes of the May 31, 2015 GB meeting.

FINANCE:

Treasurer, Scott Guerrero, reported that as of May 31, 2015 the budget is in the black \$1,597, expenses over income, due in part to most teams having spent under budget and pastoral search budgeted money not used to date. A concern is envelope giving with \$7,923 less than budget; statements were mailed in May. The Refresh projects group has \$18,776.89 available to spend.

ADMINISTRATION AND COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR UPDATE:

Scott Guerrero reported that all is in place to fund the full time, 40 hours per week, position through the end of the year, offering a full benefit package as per the minutes of May 31, 2015. Office hours will be Monday thru Friday, 9:00 to 3:00. Appreciation was expressed to Scott for his time and effort in this endeavor.

PEACE UCC FOUNDATION:

Bob Karr, trustee of the foundation, stated that the foundation is comprised of six trustees, each serving three year terms, two trustees are elected every year; and Doug Cormack is the current president. Their purpose includes making quarterly distributions to the general fund each year, investing the assets responsibly, and to grow the assets of the foundation. They are very pleased with the service of their current investment firm, the Moneta Group. The balance in the fund is about \$780,000 and in 2015 the distribution rate set is 4.6%, and it is anticipated that approximately \$31,000 will be contributed to the general fund. This amount has steadily increased since 2012 when it was \$12,000. The distribution rate is set every year by a percentage applied to the 16 rolling quarter average of the market value of the fund and cannot exceed 7%. Currently all funds are unrestricted; however, restricted fund are also possible and would be invested in the same manner as the unrestricted funds.

They continue to look for ways to educate and encourage members of the congregation to consider the foundation in their yearly and end of life financial planning. Quarterly reports are provided in News and Notes and the Sunday bulletin, annual written reports at the winter congregational meeting, interim reports at the July meeting and other times, including adult education earlier this year. Testimonies by two members of the congregation were given in the Sunday worship services. The foundation also has a link on the church webpage.

MULTIFAITH PROGRAM:

Al Schon and Laura Bardelmeier met with representatives of the United Hebrew congregation and the Islamic Foundation of St. Louis to begin discussions about developing a multifaith program for youth from our three traditions. There was commitment to continue the discussion towards developing a program to be offered in 2016.

SAFE CHURCH POLICIES:

Debbie Gregg, Learning Team, stated she is still looking at changes for the safe church policies; there is an updated version on the United Church of Christ website. One issue is how to deal with communicating to youth through social media, such as texting, emailing, etc. Discussion offered several suggestions. These revisions will be presented to the GB at a later meeting.

SEMI-ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:

The meeting will be held Sunday, July 26, immediately following the second service. An agenda will include: approval of February 8, 2015 congregational meeting minutes; GB Elections: Sarah Webster to fill a one-year term of the Worship Team and Lola Contestable to fill a one-year term of the People Team; Melissa Hattman for a two-year term as Secretary of the Congregation; Financial Reports; Shared Space report; Search Committee report; Peace UCC Foundation report; and Servant Team update.

END OF THE YEAR PICNIC:

The Picnic on Sunday, June 7, headed by Cindi Myers and Susan Morgan went very well. Will try to adjust future plans so food, people and money are in alignment.

DART BALL LEAGUE

Jenny Davis, Community team, reported that we have been invited to participate in a UCC Dart ball league in the fall with other congregations in the area. Not sure of the interest; Jenny can handle as she sees fit.

OUR FUTURE STORY:

Joe Kelly stated that there was not enough time to discuss Our Future Story; perhaps a different time is needed. It was suggested that perhaps a Saturday morning or Sunday afternoon in August, including the new elected GB members, would allow more time.

The next GB meeting will be Tuesday, July 21, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Norma Leuthauser, Secretary