Minutes
Peace United Church of Christ Semi Annual Congregational Meeting
February 18, 2018

Call to Order: President, Joe Kelly called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm.

Quorum count: 42 needed - 62 in attendance; a quorum was declared.

Opening: Pastor Wendy Bruner / Choir

Appointment of Parliamentarian: Ken Ulmer nominated by Joe Kelly to serve as Parliamentarian. Motion to accept nomination: Jenn German; second by Sue Yarber. Motion passed.

Governing Body State of the Community Report Joe Kelly, President

Joe Kelly reflected on the year’s activities likening them to the Dr. Martin Luther King’s passion for distributive justice. Joe cited Dr. King losing his life for the “everyone is someone” concept. Joe related Dr. King’s view to the way Peace changed the way we see our staff members, specifically our custodian who was hired at a living wage. He’s doing important work and knows he’s “someone”. Joe also mentioned the great work of Jen Einspahr and the Job Jar Circle as well as the needed parking lot improvement project by the Facilities Team.

Approval of July 30, 2017 Congregational Meeting Minutes:

Motion to approve: Cindy Tesdall; second: Doug Cormack; motion passed, the minutes were approved as written.

Reception of Team Reports: Joe Kelly, President

Financial Team – Harry Wilson, Financial Team Leader:
Noted below, Harry discussed the status of the budget as well as adoption of the 2018 budget.

Servant Team – Sandy Bowe, Servant Team Leader

Community Team – Cindi Myers, Community Team Leader

Worship Team – Sarah Webster, Worship Team Leader

Learning Team – Melissa Hattmann, Learning Team Leader: The Learning Team welcomed Darcy Swanson, Bob Cahill and Sue Yarber. Brad and Elizabeth are providing outstanding guidance and leadership to the OWL participants. Melissa and Darcy have signed up for the new facilitator’s training in April. Sprouts of Peace is preparing for their final structure event in April which will be held at the United Hebrew Congregation. Jeanne Smith and Darcy Swanson have joined the planning team.

Facilities Team – Gary Boehnke, Facilities Team Leader: Gary expressed appreciation for passing the use of Capitol Funds for parking lot improvements.

People Team – Debbie Gregg, People Team Leader: Debbie discussed the success of the Stewardship Campaign which will help provide funding for the expansion of the music coordinator position for Darcy Swanson to include a salary and benefits. Darcy will continue to work on the Peace’s musical
program as well as other programming and projects, such as Freedom School. Debbie also discussed Peace UCC’s upcoming 100th Anniversary in 2020. The People and Community Teams will collaborate to coordinate the celebration. The formation of a circle to begin collecting and discussing ideas surrounding the event.

**Foundation Report**: Mickey Clarke, Foundation Trustee

Mickey reported that the current balance exceeds the amount given to the church. Of the six trustees, Bob Cormack will step down as trustee as his term has expired. Bob Hill will serve a second term as trustee. There is a motion to nominate Nancy McDonald as Trustee.

Motion made to accept nomination by Norma Leuthauser; seconded by Al Schon. No nominations from the floor or discussion. Motion passed.

**Freedom School Report**: Pastor Wendy Bruner

Wendy reported that the scholars who attended Freedom School increased their reading level by an average of 8 months by the end of the session. Also, we will partner closely with Webster School District in the coming years. From a financial perspective, if the proposed budget passes Peace will have enough funding for this year. The total budget per year is $65,000-$80,000 / $250 per week for each student.

**Adoption of the 2018 Budget** – Harry Wilson, Financial Team Leader: Harry Wilson reported a healthy surplus of $37,500 for 2018. Harry provided copies of the new proposed budget (Attachment “A”).

Motion made to accept the proposed budget for next year nominated by Mickey Clarke; seconded by Cindy Tesdall. No unfavorable commentary or discussion from the floor. Motion passed.

**Other Business**:

Pastor Wendy Bruner announced the formal retirement of Marilyn Stavenger from the Peace UCC staff. Marilyn was presented with a framed photo signed by members of the congregation as well as Cardinal’s season opener tickets. Members of the congregation expressed wonderful appreciation for the work Marilyn does not only inside the walls of Peace UCC, but within the community as well.

**Closing**: Pastor Wendy Bruner

Motion to adjourn: Debbie Kelly, seconded: Roger Bridgewater; passed

**Adjournment**: 12: 43pm

Respectfully submitted

Jennifer German, GB Secretary