



North Haven Congregational Church

Church Council Minutes

Meeting of April 21, 2009

ATTENDING

Beth Anderson (Trustees), Martin Benassi (Music), Joan Bennett (Nominating), Priscilla Bradford (Clerk), Chris Corcoran (Outreach), Kim Coughlin (Christian Education), Philip DiPeri (Moderator), Care Goodstal-Spinks (Associate Pastor), Phil James (Building and Grounds), Linda Kirk (Deacons), Scott Morrow (Senior Pastor), Tim Peiffer (Congregational Rep), Betsey Reid (Finance), John Tibor (Treasurer).

CALL TO ORDER

Philip DiPeri called the meeting to order at 7:34. Linda Kirk led us in prayer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the March 17th meeting were accepted as printed. Minutes of the March 22nd meeting were accepted with the following correction: The last sentence in the background paragraph should read: The \$4,800 to be received from Sprint/Nextel in 2009 will be deposited as follows: \$3,464 to the 2009 general budget and \$1,336 will be placed in the Trustee's escrow account to cover related Buildings and Grounds expenses.

SENIOR PASTOR'S REPORT

Scott reported that the Confirmation class will be making visits to the Wallingford Baptist Church and Temple Mishkan Israel. Our pulpit will be a neutral pulpit for a candidate for an area church on May 3rd. Book Sale is April 25th and 26th. May 9th is the Connecticut Conference Annual Meeting and the Pierpont concert. May 10th will celebrate youth music. May 17th is Teacher's Appreciation Sunday, the Youth Choir concert and New Haven East Consociation Annual Meeting at NHCC. Confirmation will be celebrated on May 31st. The Mission trip leaves on June 23rd. Scott will be in Grand Rapids at the UCC national meeting from June

26th to June 30th and at the preaching festival in Atlanta from May 18th to the 22nd.

ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S REPORT

Care expressed appreciation for the warm welcome she has received and for the refurbishing of her office. She expressed a special thanks to Barbara Marks for help during the transition. She reported that we have a wonderful group of Church School teachers and volunteers who are leading the Mission trip. She identified an immediate need for Youth Advisors to assist her with the Jr. High and Sr. High Youth Groups. Amy Morrow will play the piano for Church School Chapel on Communion Sunday. Care will be with the Mission trip from Tuesday to Friday.

TREASURER'S REPORT

John reported that all bills are paid to date except Care's salary. They are working out the details. The adult mission trip deficit of \$500 will be paid.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Buildings & Grounds

Phil James stated that the Sprint/Nextel settlement has been completed. We are waiting for the check. A lawn contract has been signed with a savings of \$320 from last year. Roof replacement will begin late in April or early in May. A walk-through with the roof contractor will be held before work begins. The annual inspection was done by the town fire marshal. We received two citations which will be addressed. Clean-up day was held on April 18th. Bernie Hummel is the board's representative on the Personnel Committee.

Deacons

Linda reported that the order of worship has been re-aligned to have the postlude before the benediction. The bell will be rung before the prelude and after the benediction. A suggestion was made

North Haven Congregational Church

28 Church Street, North Haven, CT 06473

www.NorthHavenUCC.org ❖ (203) 239-5691 ❖ (203) 234-1751 (fax)

that the person doing the children's message use the hand-held mike. Calls to members are continuing. The Deacons are exploring establishing a prayer chain. We will be using pew attendance sheets shortly. A brochure has been written for families requesting baptisms. Bette Vento and Scott are working on purchasing new pew Bibles. There will be a new church directory this year. May 27th is the date for a reception with the Confirmation class.

Christian Education

Kim stated that safe church forms are being updated. The special children's event on Easter was well received. On May 10th Chet Blue will make wooden crosses with the fifth and sixth graders. May 17th is planting Sunday. Summer Church School begins on June 7th for four weeks. Teachers are needed. The nursery is now open on Sunday mornings in the old kindergarten room upstairs. Vacation Bible School is being planned.

Christian Outreach

Chris reported that the delivery of food to the soup kitchen is going well. Blanket Sunday will be on May 3rd. Contributions to OGHS totaled \$892. The board is looking to sponsor another blood drive and host CPR classes. A suggestion was made to purchase a heart defibrillator. Fair trade coffee will be sold soon. Ground breaking will be held on April 25th for the next house of the Habitat Sleeping Giant Build on Edgcomb Street, Hamden. Interfaith Christian Ministries is looking into offering foreclosure help.

Finance

Betsey stated that the members of the board are studying how to continue the special appeal to close the \$6,000 gap between the budget and the pledging. The board is continuing to look at the building evaluation report especially code issues. Members of

the board are considering a special project to attract new members.

Music

Martin reminded us that the final Pierpont Concert will be held on May 9th. Booking has begun for next year. The piano and organ have been tuned.

Trustees

Beth reported that \$675 given in memory of Ira Munson has been added to the Cooper Fund per request of the family.

Congregational Rep

Tim asked each board to select two Sundays between June 6th and December 31st to sponsor coffee hour. Lemonade will be served from the Sunday after Heritage Sunday to Labor Day.

Nominating

Joan stated that Phyllis Kaercher resigned from the Board of Deacons. There is a need for a Deacon and another person on the Nominating Board.

Communications Group

Each chair of a board should consider writing an article for the Window. Please get the articles to Nancie on time.

MODERATOR'S REPORT

Philip DiPeri stated that the search for a Director of Music Ministries has begun. Salary guidelines need to be established. O&A committee is fully staffed and will begin work soon.

On May 16th a seminar for planning home-based businesses will be held.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:23 pm.

Next meeting May 19 at 7:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Priscilla Bradford, Church Clerk