



## North Haven Congregational Church

# Church Council Minutes

Meeting of July 21, 2009

### ATTENDING

Beth Anderson (Finance), Martin Benassi (Music), Priscilla Bradford (Clerk), Chris Corcoran (Outreach), Kim Coughlin (Christian Education), Philip DiPeri (Moderator), Doris Ferner (Deacons), Ray Geissler (Finance), Care Goodstal-Spinks (Associate Pastor), Phil James (Building and Grounds), Betsey Reid (Finance), John Tibor (Treasurer).

The meeting was preceded by a supper and held at the home of Betsey Reid.

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:34pm.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the June 16<sup>th</sup> meeting were corrected as follows: Christian Outreach: The committee is *considering* writing. Moderator's Report: add an associate moderator *to help create seamless year to year leadership continuity through mentoring and limited hands on experience*. Form of a survey *near the end of the calendar year*. New Business: adoption of this statement *by the congregation*. D. Ferner moved and B. Anderson seconded motion to accept minutes as amended. Passed. Minutes of July 12<sup>th</sup> special meeting were accepted as printed on a motion made by B. Anderson and seconded by D. Ferner.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

John stated that the report is current to today on expenses but does not include Sunday's collection. July payroll has been paid and all bills are current. Buildings and Grounds will be over budget. Betsey, Beth and John met. Trustees may help support B&G expenses by paying the elevator service contract from their funds. Report accepted on a motion made by B. Anderson and seconded by D. Ferner.

### SENIOR PASTOR'S REPORT

Scott submitted a report with the following highlights: A new music director, Anne Lee, has been hired and will begin on August 12<sup>th</sup>. Pastoral coverage will be provided by the Rev. Karen Johnson of Old Stone Church, East Haven from August 2-August 8 while both pastors are on vacation. The sound system needs repair. Office hours return to 8:30-3:00 on August 17<sup>th</sup>.

### ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S REPORT

Care reported that she has been attending and facilitating meetings. A group met to discuss ideas for adult education. Plans are being made to offer child care during adult education. John is looking for a place for the mission trip in 2010. A meeting is scheduled for September 8<sup>th</sup> with parents of the youth. September 20<sup>th</sup> is the Youth Group kick off day. Question was asked as to who should be invited to the August 29<sup>th</sup> calendar retreat-food closet rep, men's breakfast rep, book sale rep?

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### Buildings and Grounds

Phil James reported that three items are left to be fixed from the fire marshal's inspection. Phil and Martin are looking for prices for steeple restoration. A bid of \$1,400 has been received to repair the wall and stairwell from Carroll Hall to the parking lot. Work will begin soon. The board is looking for a painter to paint the exterior sanctuary windows on the parking lot side. Discussions are planned with the Masons concerning their payment for use of the parking lot. The town will repaint the lines in the parking lot. Hand sanitizer will be available in the narthex to be used by members. Martin is working on the design for the new sign.

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**Deacons**

Doris reported that the board members voted to return the order of the service to have the benediction before the postlude. They are still discussing the taking of attendance and working on the directory, digital pictures and name tags.

**Director of Music Search Committee**

Doris reported that the committee has received a signed contract from Anne Lee. She will begin on August 12. The committee was thanked by the council members.

**Christian Education**

Kim stated that Sue-Beth Collins and staff from St. John's are planning VBS. They will solicit registrations by e-mails and phone calls. A fire drill is planned in October. Sunday school is planning festival days three times a year where students will share what they have learned. Sunday school curriculum will be based on the liturgical seasons and coordinated with the adult lectionary. Teacher planning sessions will be held the end of August. Teacher recruiting and planning for rally day is in the works. Joe Burr has agreed to be an advisor for the Junior High Youth Group and John Tibor for the Senior High Group. Two female advisors are still needed.

**Christian Outreach**

Chris is following up on selling of fair trade coffee. DESK is going well. A good group went to a Habitat site. Volunteers will be needed in August for another Habitat work day. A Red Cross blood drive will be held in November.

**Finance**

Betsey and Ray stated that the step-up pledges are still \$5,000 short of goal. David Marks, Kevin Rossi

and Scott Morrow looked at the sound system. They recommend a digital Sony system for \$2,338. Kevin will install it. Finance board is looking for ideas for a stewardship campaign. Trustees will pay elevator service contract from restricted funds. Buildings and Grounds will not be budgeting this expense in 2010.

**Music**

Martin reported that the Pierpont Concerts are almost settled. Note: The group for October 24 is Grass Routes. August 9<sup>th</sup> is the choir party.

**Trustees**

Beth reported that the board members will meet to talk about how to distribute funds and support next year's budget.

**Communications Group**

The September Window will introduce a dedicated two-page section focusing on Christian education and youth events to make it easier for those who have an interest to find relevant information more quickly.

**MODERATOR'S REPORT**

Philip submitted a written proposal for the position of associate moderator. He asked that the proposal be shared with committees and be ready to discuss at the August Council meeting. It would require a by-law change to be made at the annual meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Next meeting August 18 at 7:30 pm. Calendar Retreat August 29, 9 am to 1 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Priscilla Bradford, Clerk