



North Haven Congregational Church

Church Council Minutes

Meeting of September 15, 2009

ATTENDING

Beth Anderson (Trustees), Martin Benassi (Music), Priscilla Bradford (Clerk), Philip DiPeri (Moderator), Care Goodstal-Spinks (Associate Pastor), Eleanor Harple (Women's Fellowship), Phil James (Buildings and Grounds), Sally Pallatto (Finance), Stephen Simonson (Deacons), John Tibor (Treasurer).

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by the moderator, Philip DiPeri. Ellie Harple led us in prayer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the August 18th meeting were approved as printed on a motion by B. Anderson and seconded by E. Harple.

SENIOR PASTOR'S REPORT

Scott submitted a written report in his absence. Highlights included a report on the Leadership Retreat held on August 29th. A meeting for the welcoming program will be held on September 29th. Open and Affirming sessions are in progress. Scott requested monies to attend a reunion of the group he was part of during his sabbatical. Motion: To use sabbatical funds (\$350) to cover the cost of registration and travel for a reunion meeting in MA of Scott's sabbatical group. Motion made by E. Harple and seconded by S. Simonson. Passed.

ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S REPORT

Care reported that she has been busy meeting with the CE Board and the Leadership Retreat. The new Sunday school program was launched last week. Eighteen registrations were received on Rally Day. Rooms have been moved to accommodate new class configuration. Four and a half youth advisors are on board for the Senior/Junior High groups: Joe Burr,

Sue Compton, Kim Coughlin, Jeremy Harlan, and John Tibor. Ten to twelve are expected in each group. There was good participation at the parent's group meeting last night. Care met with Anne Lee to plan music. Care is looking for opportunities to involve the older youth in the life of the church. In the Window each month she will have a bio of one adult and one youth. Steve mentioned that he needed to spend time with Care and volunteers to educate them about the Safe Church policy.

TREASURER'S REPORT

John noted that \$3,500 was received from the North Haven Food Council and has been put on the building contribution line. To date, we have received 63% of the pledges and gifts but we are more than 63% into the calendar year. Need \$73,000 to meet budget. If receipts continue on this track we will fall \$18,000 short for the year. However, between the plus in income in some areas and the saving in expenses, John feels we may break even. Beth expressed concern that pledge statements have not been sent to the members. Philip DiPeri will call Jodi Gallagher to see if statements can be sent. Report approved on a motion by P. James and seconded by E. Harple

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Buildings and Grounds

Phil noted that more hand sanitizer units are being ordered for the walls throughout the building. A fire drill is scheduled for September 27th. Sanctuary windows have been painted. Putty is bad in the windows in the Heath room and two adjacent windows. He is getting prices to replace the windows. Parking lot lines will be repainted in the next few weeks. The curb between us and the recreation department building will be replaced by the Town. Interior sidewalks were edged by a volunteer. Phil is looking into resealing the area

North Haven Congregational Church

28 Church Street, North Haven, CT 06473

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

under the front steps. He is speaking to the Masons about the trash left in the parking lot by one of their renters.

Deacons

Steve stated that Scott's evaluation is ongoing. They have received in excess of 35 questionnaires and all board members are encouraged to submit them by the end of September deadline. Mabel Peterson and Steve will review the material and write the summary. Then they will meet with Scott to set goals for the year and give the monitoring to the Pastoral Relations Committee. The 'Where Everyone Knows Your Name' project is moving forward. Pictures in the hallway are labeled. Pictures for the directory are being taken by volunteer photographers. A mission trip DVD will be created. A DVD or digital frame presentation of church members being active will be pursued when the directory is completed. Name tags for church members will be ready by November. Rules concerning baptism have been reviewed. David Marks has resigned from the board. He needs to be replaced on the Pastoral Relations Committee, (S. Simonson will probably replace him). Deacons are hosting the scheduled O&A sessions.

Finance

Sally reported that Adam Schweickert and Steve Peterson have looked at the receipts for the current year and estimate that we may be under budget by \$19,000. All committee budgets are not in for 2010. Because there will not be a carryover of 2009 funds, the 2010 pledges will need to be \$225,000. The committee is looking for a positive approach to the Stewardship campaign.

Music

Martin is educating Anne Lee as to how the budget works. Pierpont Concert is October 24th. Anne is questioning purchasing more stops for the organ.

Trustees

Beth reported on the meeting with John Lelas from UBS. The bonds are holding stable. Equity Funds are up 15% in the period from Feb 28-Aug 31. Bonds were bought with the increase in value during the good market. It is projected that the portfolio will see an income of \$20,000 for next year. Trustees will pay \$1,200 toward utilities next year as part of energy upgrading and \$1,800 for the elevator contract. They are looking at how to use restricted funds interest to support the budget. They are also looking how to help with the budget in other ways.

Women's Fellowship

Ellie stated that the group bought an air conditioner for Care's office. They contributed \$500 to the operating budget. They will buy a lamp for the piano. The fair is November 7.

Nominating

E. Harple moved and M. Benassi seconded a motion to appoint Mary Pallatto to a term on the Board of Christian Education ending in 2011. Approved.

MODERATOR'S REPORT

Philip reminded all boards to submit budgets for 2010 to the Finance Board. We were also reminded to complete Scott's evaluation, have pictures taken for the directory and attend an O&A session. He has pulled the proposal for the Associate Moderator until a future time. Volunteers are needed to plan a workshop in February 2010 to establish a vision for the next five years.

ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting October 20 at 7:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 9:06 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Priscilla Bradford, Clerk