Congregational United Church of Christ

Ministry Council Minutes for October 3, 2024

Present: Pastor Rob, Moderator: Scott Olson, Vice Moderator: Signa Meyers, Ministry of Stewardship: Marilyn Kostrzak, Council Secretary: Jenn Abing, Ministry of Faith Development: Jenn Abing, Ministry of Service: Mary Janness. Ministry of Spiritual Life: Terri Flesburg. Members at Large: Connie Ragazzi, Sue Dollhopf, Sherri Jischke

Absent: Ministry of Faith Development: Dawn Welling.

Guest: Kevin Shumann

Scott Olson opened the meeting and Mary offered devotional. Joy and Concerns were shared

Reports from the ministries were received via email prior to the meeting. The minutes from the August meeting were approved.

Updates from the Ministries:

***Ministry of Spiritual Life: Terri Flesburg**

*Met on September 15th
*Starting in January Gay Dickson is going to schedule the ushers and liturgists; Terri will schedule the refreshment suppliers and will send out reminders.
*Plan to put a line item in next year's budget for kitchen supplies for refreshments.

***Ministry of Service: Mary Janness**

*Met on September 22
*Mary and Connie purchase supplies for the kitchen, such as coffee, lemonade, flour etc…

***Ministry of Faith Development: Jenn Abing**
*Next meeting November 19th
*Rally Day was September 15th with a Pancake Breakfast before church; served about 60 people.
*Confirmation – 7 students
*Mission Trip & Camp Scholarship – Pastor Rob to discuss with a handout
*Bible Sunday – October 20
*UNICEF Halloween Party – October 20th following worship
*Christmas Program – December 8th - Sherri Jischke will direct the program

***Ministry of Stewardship: Marilyn Kostrzak**

*Met on October 1
*October 7th – 11th – Sewer & plumbing project. Church will be closed next week and staff will be working from home. Alan will be cleaning the outside windows.
*Remodeling of Alanna's and Melanie's offices is in process
*Fall Clean-up date - TBD
*Ministry Budgets are due November 7 – email them to Jeff or Marilyn or place them in the Stewardship mail slot in the copy room.

*Lake Edge, their Board, Signa, Scott, Pastor Rob and Kevin Shumann will be setting up a meeting to go over the midyear review to include cleaning expectations, room usage, etc.. as well as the 2025 contract. Plan for a midyear review next year.
*The cabinets in Fellowship Hall have been cleaned out and are available to be used by Lake Edge.
*The 9 stumps in the woods will be ground, cleaned up and filled in on Saturday. Cost is $800 for the stump removal.
*Habitat for Humanity scheduled for mid-2027. We will need a Project Manager with time commitment to work on fundraising, etc…to see it through until the end. It was asked that Ministry Council determine a Project Manager to lead and manager this project. Pastor Rob would like us to tie into the 175th Anniversary of the church with the 401st house build.
*Next meeting is October 29th

Media & Communications:

*2024 Goals – have been met or exceeded already! Great Job!
*Meeting in October

***Pastor's Updates:**

*Community Thanksgiving Worship Service at St Paul's Church Neenah on Wednesday the day before the holiday. Pastor Rob will be involved with the service among other area congregations.
*Outlook calendar – if you have dates or events, please give them to Melanie to add to the calendar; in addition, after ministry meetings, Melanie will add dates to the calendar based on the minutes. This calendar is also on the website.
*New Members will receive a packet which will include items such as the Time & Talent Form, Pledge Card, Church directory and a bio of each of the 4 Ministries. Possibly send Signa new members' preferred names in advance when possible so that they could have their name badge in their packet too. Also; complete the Pastor's short questionnaire and ask if they'd give permission to have a little bio highlighting them as a new member on Facebook.
*Discussion about homebound members; are they disconnected from the church because they are unable to attend worship in person and aren't tech savvy to utilize internet, facebook etc.. to be able to view service? Maybe something to look into?
*Met with Pastor Tom from Immanuel UCC, Neenah. As Immanuel prepares to close, Pastor Tom invited Pastor Rob to their last service of worship on December 29th. Pulpit support will fill in at CUCCNM.

Future Projects:
*Open and Affirming – "Now What" Adult Class
*Owl? Wise Congregation – Mary will be attending a WISE event at Daycholah September 15th

Calendar Review:

OCTOBER SPECIAL OFFERING: CROP Walk
October 6 - CROP Walk following worship
October 13 – Set up the Veterans Tree
October 14 – Columbus Day
October 27 – Installation of Pastor Rob
October 27 - All Saints Day

October 20 – UNICEF Halloween Party after worship

NOVEMBER SPECIAL OFFERING:
November 7 – Council Meeting
November 11 – Veterans Tree
November 24 – Hanging of the greens
November 27 – Thanksgiving Meal
November 28 - Thanksgiving

DECEMBER SPECIAL OFFERING: Christmas Fund
December 5 – Council Meeting
December 8 – Children's Christmas Program
December 13 -- Live Nativity
December 15 – Blue Christmas 3pm
December 24 – Christmas Eve – 2 Services – 4pm and 11pm
December 25 - Christmas

January 2 – Council Meeting
January 5 – Taking down of the greens
January -- Budget Hearings

February 2 – Annual Meeting & Scout Sunday

The meeting adjourned at 7:51pm with the Lord's Prayer.
Respectfully submitted,

Jenn Abing

Next Meeting: November 7, 2024, at 6:30pm