Congregational United Church of Christ Neenah/Menasha
Ministry Council November 7, 2024
November Minutes

"Transforming the lives of our members and our communities through our discipleship of Jesus"
"Serving our members, serving our neighbors, inviting our neighbors to serve with us"
"Measures of Success – How many lives have we touched?"

Present: Pastor Rob, Ministry of Stewardship: Marilyn Kostrzak, Council Secretary: Jenn Abing, Ministry of Service: Mary Janness. Ministry of Spiritual Life: Terri Flesburg. Members at Large: Connie Ragazzi, Sue Dollhopf, Sherri Jischke,

Missing: Moderator: Scott Olson, Vice Moderator: Signa Meyers, Ministry of Faith Development: Dawn Welling,

Guest: Kevin Shumann
Gathering Devotion: Led by Pastor Rob
Joys and Concerns were shared
Quorum Count and Minutes taken by: Marilyn Kostrzak
Agenda Adjustment: added: 2025 Ministry budgets due today
Approval of the consent agenda - approved

Consent Agenda Items

Item	**Owner**	**Minutes Received**
Approval of Previous Month's Minutes	Jenn	Approved as submitted
Ministry of Spiritual Life	Terri	Verbal update
Ministry of Service	Mary	Not met
Ministry of Faith Development	Jenn	Received
Ministry of Stewardship	Jeff	Received
Treasurer's Report	Jeff	Received
Pastor's Report	Pastor Rob	Received

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

Pew cards are available in the pews – thank you Sherri for creating these. Kevin is bringing in the Christmas tree on Nov 23 and is looking for help around 1:00 pm. Nov 24 will be hanging of the greens. Colors in the sanctuary will be changed. Pew communion will be used during worship now moving forward. This will help to get everyone trained and consistent. This will be re-evaluated after the first of the year.

***Ministry of Service: Mary Janness**

Will not meet until January – no updates

***Ministry of Faith Development: Pastor Rob/Jenn Abing**

Alanna is happy with the remodeling of her office. Sherri and Dan will help with the painting of the room

***Ministry of Stewardship: Marilyn Kostrzak**

Finances look positive. Sewer project was over cost, but is being covered by a Lois Prosser estate gift and POF/FFF monies. The historical pictures will be moved. LELC reimbursement arrangement is being finalized. Ministry Council will be expending the $150 good-will offering for the piano from Immanuel UCC. Pledge 23 pledges $72,000 – 6 are first time pledging units have been received so far.

***Pastor's Updates:**

Pastor Rob is putting together a Pastoral Relations committee. Sue Knuth, Bob Nault, Kerry Fox, Gary Zurbuchen will be on the committee. The committee meets eight times a year. This committee is selected by Pastor Rob. Pastor Rob is involved with doing the Personnel Reviews in progress.

Discussion Agenda:

Old Business:

- *Calendars:* Dates and events are listed below
- *Computer System:* Office issues have been resolved. Things are working.
- *Office Reminders:* Glad Tidings articles are due November 19
- *Fall Clean up dates:* November 9
- *Plumbing Project:* Phase I is completed – Phase II will be in 2025
- *Bench- Time line and location:* Placement is completed. There is hope that a Green Team will be created to carry on this project. Volunteers are needed to keep working on this project.
- *Recycling Cans- cabinet:* It would be helpful to have trash cans labeled recycle and trash. Marilyn will see what the cost is and find a way to pay for this.
- *Wisconsin LGBT Chamber/ 175th anniversary:* CUCCNM will become an official member. For the anniversary – it will be a year away. We still need a project leader for HFH 401. We will coordinate fund raising with the anniversary date. Habitat has been included in discussions. Mary Janness said she would put together a list of people that could lead this.
- *New Member Process:* Pastor Rob is meeting with new member potentials. People are looking for a personal connection. Members will be able to join when they are ready.
- *LE Edge- closing for plumbing discussion:* LELC was given a discount for the month for the days they were closed. They are back in business on a regular basis.
- *2025 Ministry Budgets* – Budgets are due today – dollars requested with explanation of what the dollars are needed for. Send them to Marilyn Kostrzak or Jeff Nichols

New Business:

- *Children's Program* – if audio/visual is needed, Ch Ed needs to be involved.
- *Thanksgiving Advertising* – St Paul's Lutheran is doing this

Future Projects:

Open and Affirming- Now What" Adult Class
Owl? Wise Congregation
Labyrinth Upgrade

NOVEMBER SPECIAL OFFERING: Community Table
November 7 – Council Meeting
November 8-10 – Faith Formation retreat
November 9 – Yard Clean-up
November 11 – Veterans Tree
November 17 – Ask the Pastor Sunday & Breakfast before worship
November 17 – Mission Trip meeting after church
November 16 – LELC dinner
November 23 – Christmas tree delivered, Program rehearsal
November 24 – Hanging of the greens
November 26 – Ministry of Stewardship meeting
November 27 – Thanksgiving Meal preparation
November 27 – Ecumenical Service at St Paul's 6:30 pm
November 28 - Thanksgiving

DECEMBER SPECIAL OFFERING: Christmas Fund

December 1 – Advent begins
December 5 – Council Meeting
December 6 – Neenah Christmas
December 8 – Children's Christmas Program
December 12 – LELC Christmas Program
December 13 - Live Nativity
December 15 – Blue Christmas 3pm
December 24 – Christmas Eve – 2 Services – 4pm and 11pm
December 25 – Christmas
December 29 – Pastor Rob will be at Immanuel UCC – Paige Pugh will preach

January 2 – Council Meeting
January 5 – Taking down of the greens
January 19 & 26 - Budget Hearings
January 20 – MLK Service

February 2 – Annual Meeting & Scout Sunday
February 16 – Camp Sunday

We closed with the Lord's Prayer
Next meeting: December 5 @ 6:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Kostrzak, Ministry of Stewardship/Communication Coordinator