Congregational United Church of Christ Neenah/Menasha
Ministry Council April 3, 2025
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: Signa Meyers, Terri Flesburg, Mary Janness, Jeff Nichols, Pastor Rob, Connie Regazzi, Marilyn Kostrzak, Sue Dollhopf, Denise Stewart (for Dawn Welling), Scott Olson
Missing: Dawn Welling, Sherri Jischke
Guest: Kevin Shumann
Gathering Devotion: Led by Mary Janness
Joys and Concerns were shared
Quorum Count and Minutes taken by: Marilyn
Agenda Adjustment:
Approval of the consent agenda

Consent Agenda Items

Item	**Owner**	**Minutes Received**
Approval of Previous Month's Minutes – no changes	Marilyn	Received
Ministry of Spiritual Life - -Lenten dinner was hosted -Palms are ordered for Palm Sunday $60-70 -Maunday Thursday – looking for ushers to volunteer (preparing for 90) 7:00 pm -Good Friday is at St Paul's -Refreshments will be served – Mary and Connie are coordinating -May 4 – Confirmation Sunday – cake is ordered by Faith Development -Next meeting is June 8 -Gift cards for $10 will be given for youth volunteers (Spiritual Life budget)	Terri	Received
Ministry of Service – -Service Sunday coming up – May 18 --Meeting at church at 9:00 am, short send off service, meet back at church around 11:30 for a potluck lunch. List of project is being worked on. Bletzinger House is a painting project. List will be provided on the bulletin board. -Special offerings schedule is set for the year -Meeting in June -April 30 there will be a meeting to continue planning for House 401 – Pat Mahoney is setting this up,	Mary	Received
Ministry of Faith Development – -Super Bowl of caring was done - $109 was collected – will not be doing this in 2026 -Camp Sunday – no a lot of youth -Auction – didn't raise as much money – want to change it to closer to Easter time -Lenten dinner was hosted	Denise	Received
Ministry of Stewardship –	Jeff	Received

-Habitat account – working with UCC funds and we can open a separate balanced account to coincide with the POF, but not be a part of the POF. This will be an interest bearing account. Set up for long term builds -Running in a deficit right now – usually we have a surplus at the beginning of the year, this year seems to be different. We are hoping it will even itself out by year end. -Council would like Stewardship to evaluate the income/expenses and see if there are issues that need to be addressed. It would be good to see trends. -Building and Grounds has been busy with upkeeps of the building -Receiving concrete repair quotes (around $14,000) -Looking for office furniture for the office area		
Treasurer's Report – see above notes from Stewardship for financials. -End of Feb investments and March investments – balanced funds have dropped about $30,000 due to the market.	Jeff	Received
Pastor's Report – -We had 52 people at the Lenten dinner April 2	Pastor Rob	Received

Discussion Agenda:

Old Business:

1. Vision Process Update – Pastor Rob

Appreciative Inquiry Process was shared – we should be doing this every 5 years. Pastor Rob has talked with past ministers about the processes that were used and the results of those.
You look at what you do well – and take this and determine how to make goals for the future.
Bonnie Andrews would be able to facilitate this fall. Cost is $2500 for 5 sessions. All voices of the congregation would be involved. Schedule would run every other month during the church year.
Bonnie would meet with the council at first meeting. Lay leaders (3-4) would run the sessions with Bonnie. This would mean Rob would not be a leader. 2nd meeting would be all church, 3rd would be a dream meeting. At 3rd or 4th meeting each ministry would be given assignments to do their goal setting.
This process is meant to have congregation input to create the direction of the church.
This could possibly be partially paid for by a catalyst grant. This could be around $1000.
We can split the payments into multiple payments. Congregational Enrichment Funds would be used to fund this. Pastor Rob will write the grant request. Consensus was heard. We will need to select 3-4 people to help facilitate with Bonnie.

2. Office Remodel – Kevin – See Stewardship notes above
3. Service Sunday May 18 – Mary – See Service notes above
4. Pride Event – June 21

We have our booth paid for from last year. We have $400 budgeted for this year. Rob would like to get a second booth if it's available. Some supplies are from last year. We need a sign that is big enough to quickly identify who we are. Mary said she will follow up on the sign. Rob will take care of the rocks projects.

New Business:

1. Craft Show / Bake Sale – Connie

Last Saturday in October for the next 5 years (October 25). Would be 1 day 9am-2pm on a Saturday. People would pay for the spots and this money would go to the Youth Group. $500-550 would be the revenue. Could possibly do lunch for sale. Bake Sale – Faith Development fund. Fellowship Hall, Hallways. 22 tables and they would use CUCC tables. Connie is working with Amy Behnelein. Amy, Connie and Amy's husband would do the set up and clean up. Each spot will be $25 or $30 for electricity. Alanna does not need to be involved in this. Consensus was heard.

2. New Council Members – Congregational Meeting 4/6/25

Congregational meeting – we will have an official ballot prepared. 6 spots to elect. Sue Knuth, Vice-Moderator, Chuck Luebke, At Large, Signa Meyers, Moderator, Mary Janness, Ministry of Service, Becky Nichols, Ministry of Faith Development

Counting the ballots Sue Dollhoph and Denise Stewart.

3. Habitat (Permanent Habitat for Humanity Fund) Next House Fund – Congregational Meeting 4/6/25

Slide should be created – with key bullet points. There will be a handout as well. There will need to be a motion "To set up a separate revenue bearing account at United Church Funds (balanced fund) for collection of funds to be named the Habitat Build Fund".

April 3 – Council Meeting
April 6 – Congregational Meeting to elect new officers
April 11 – Youth Group – 6pm-8pm
April 13 – Cinnamon Roll Sale
April 17 – Maundy Thursday
April 18 – Ecumenical Good Friday Service
April 20 – Easter Sunday
April 27 – Teacher Appreciation Day

May 2 – Council Meeting
May 4 – Confirmation Sunday
May 9 – Youth Group – 6pm-8pm
May 25 – Pastor Rob Vacation- Gina Struensee, preaching

June 1 – Graduation Sunday (4 High School Graduates)
June 5 – Council Meeting
June 8 – Paige Pugh preaching
June 13-14 – Rummage Sale & Brat Fry/Bake Sale
June 15 – Outdoor Worship – Father's Day
June 21 – Pride Fest – Jones Park Appleton

July 20 – Outdoor worship – fried chicken picnic
July 27 – Lisa Hart preaching (possibly)

August 17 – Paige Pugh preaching

Lord's Prayer closed the meeting

Next Meeting May 1, 2025 6:30 pm
Agenda for May – 175th Celebration

Devotion : May will be Signa Meyers