

(Subject to approval at the next Church Council Meeting.)

## CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES Monday, May 3, 2010

The Regular Meeting of the Church Council, 1<sup>st</sup> Congregational Church of Deep River, was called to order at 7:38pm in the Upper Room by Moderator Bob Butkus.

Members in attendance: Jack Coulter, Heidi Lee, Pam Visel, Emily Bjornberg, Fred Phinney, Fran Phinney, Laurie Eriksson, Sybil Higgins, David Johnson, Nancy Peluso, Bob Butkus, Rev. Tim Haut, Cheryl Jacome and Deb Van Wyngaarden.

Rev. Timothy Haut opened with a prayer.

The minutes of the regular meeting of April 5, 2010 were approved as written.

**Collector's Report** - As of April 30, 2010, \$84,766.39 has been turned over to the General Fund. Of that amount \$1,570 is advanced 2010 pledges received in 2009 and \$67,180.30 received in 2010 for a total of \$68,750.30 or 30% of amount budgeted for pledge goal. The total of Prayed For to date is \$14,168.85 or 47% of amount budgeted.

**Treasurer's Report** – The following report is as of April 30, 2010: Burroughs Savings Account (Repairs & Maintenance)-\$2228.35; Cemetery Fund-\$9857.28; Debit Card Account-\$1186.66; Doris Pelton Memorial Fund-<\$455.00>\*; General Fund-\$48,548.01<sup>1</sup>; Gifts & Bequests-\$60,542.34; Good Samaritan-\$5173.92; Grohs Investments Fund (for CD-3yr. term)-\$4000.00; Grohs Savings Fund (for various CE expenses)-\$4135.45; Haut Fund (Ministerial Scholarship Fund)-\$5700.76; Kitchen Fund (continuing kitchen expenses)-\$983.67; Liberty Bank CD (insurance reimbursement from silver)-\$1486.50; Macgregor Fund (outdoor ministry)-\$2103.26; Memorial Fund-\$5681.01; Mission Fund-16,410.64; Phelps Savings CD-\$5766.74; Phelps Savings (Music) \$2156.11; Program Maintenance Savings-\$10,425.29; Sabbatical Fund-\$6200.34; Samuel F. Snow Fund-\$1011.79; Stephen Ministry Fund-\$2271.95; Supplemental Health Insurance (6 month CD)-\$28,013.53; and Youth Music Fund-\$827.02.

<sup>1</sup>\$2350.00 of balance is restricted with funds donated for specific use (wedding fees, funeral fee, etc.)

\*Gift to the fund which will be paid by year-end.

Messenger Mailing Costs: Month - \$67.10 YTD - \$314.40

Jack Coulter notified Church Council that the Liberty Bank CD (insurance reimbursement from silver) will not be renewed and the funds will be available to Deaconry.

MOTION: Pam Visel spoke on behalf of the Senior Mission Trip participants. A motion was made by Deb to allow the Senior Mission Trip participants to collect socks during the months of May and June. The socks will be distributed in PA during their mission trip work. It was seconded by Fran, which passed by unanimous vote. All appropriate mission policy form(s) were handed to Clerk for processing.

**Cemetery** – No representative or report.

**Christian Education** – Cheryl said that the butterfly project is on hold due to a complaint from one parent. The Board will inform parents prior to the restart of the project next year about the relevance and what will be explained in each grade level. Confirmation Sunday is May 23<sup>rd</sup> and the cakes are all set. Bulletin covers for Children's Sunday are being made for the June 13<sup>th</sup> event. They are requesting that each Board/Committee get back with the BofCE ASAP on what they will be doing for the

September 12<sup>th</sup> Mission Fair. Sign ups so far are as follows: Deacons-Bake sale, BofCS-Cake Walk, Nominating-Food.

**Christian Service** – Gerry said that 28 layette kits for CWS were assembled. There are various supplies left over and 11 kits could be assembled for distribution locally. Gerry mentioned that Melissa might be asking for disposable diapers for the local kits. (Note: Request for Collection Form will need to be completed as this collection is not CWS). BofCS will be working with BofCE to assemble health kits for the Eddy Shelter. They are looking for help with the meals for the Eddy Shelter. DRCC is responsible for the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month. Three to four people are needed for each meal. Please contact a member of the BofCS if you can help out with purchasing food, meal prep, or helping at the shelter.

**Church Delegates** – No representative or report.

**Council Members at Large** – Fred and Laurie had no report.

**Deaconry** – Heidi said that she and Nancy met with the confirmation class to talk about Deaconry responsibilities. They are working on confirmation prep and bibles and gifts have been ordered. Nancy will be Deacon during Confirmation Service. Five new members were welcomed to our church and two more are expected at a later date.

**Historical Committee** – No representative or report.

**Senior Minister** –Tim noted activities happening at the church (see above reports). In addition, he officiated at one wedding, 2 funerals were held, attended various clergy meetings, and went to the retirement reception for Rev. Crabtree. He also officiated the “blessing the pits” (horse shoe). He gave a reminder about the wine tasting event on May 14<sup>th</sup> which benefits the Dominican Republic trip. Tim mentioned that our contingent of 11 is the biggest representation from any of the churches involved. David Johnson soon ends his time as our seminary intern. Tim noted that David has been a wonderful gift to our church and that he has established a special relationship with our church members. The congregation will hold a celebration for David on May 16<sup>th</sup>. There is a confirmation luncheon on May 16<sup>th</sup> as well.

**Director of Christian Education** – Sybil said that the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade will be working on assembling health kits for the Eddy Shelter. She was happy to report that 65 hygiene kits and 65 school kits were assembled for CWS by the 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade class. The 3<sup>rd</sup> grade bibles have been ordered and the confirmation sleepover was enjoyed by the kids. They especially enjoyed the Synagogue service. A special thanks for the great breakfast prepared by Jane Moen and Stella Beaudoin. Next year’s Sunday School schedule is pretty well set and Sybil will be reviewing with Tim and Emily. Amanda is getting ready for VBS and kids from The United Church of Chester have again been invited. Cookbooks, aprons and a combined gift will be on sale during craft fair on May 8<sup>th</sup>, with samples of recipes available for tasting.

**Director of Youth and Family Ministry** – Emily said that the Midnight Run was a great success with 38 participants in total in six vehicles. The group left at 7pm and arrived back home at 4:30am. She thanked the teens that were able to get up and attend the Sunday Sermon. The Medieval dinner was successful; just over \$500 was raised. Emily thanked everyone who set-up, cooked, donated supplies and performed and/or served. The Community Playgroup is plugging along and at the last homeless discussion she and David moderated, there were 10 participants. The weekend clean-up at Camp Claire has 34 participants signed up.

**Youth Groups (Joy, Jr. PF, Sr. PF)** – Emily Bjornberg – still trying to reorganize these programs.

**Nominating** – Fran read Cathy Smith's resignation from Church Street Child Care Committee.  
MOTION: Fran made a motion to accept, with regret, the resignation of Cathy Smith from the Church Street Child Care Committee. It was seconded by Cheryl, which passed by unanimous vote.

**Stewardship** – Deb said that one new pledge was received in April from a new member. Dale and Deb are the only active members currently (Paul-out on leave). Deb asked Tim to review the list of follow-up calls to members who pledged in 2009 and not in 2010. They hope to have a letter and statement ready for a July mailing.

**Trustees** – Jack reported that the sidewalks have been repaired and the drain in the parking lot is fixed and blacktop will be repaired. A set of railings will be placed on steps in front of the sanctuary (roadside). Marion will plant flower beds along each side. Projects under consideration: replace room divider, redo bathrooms downstairs and turn into 1 unisex bathroom, and Parsonage repairs (energy efficient windows) is being reviewed. The two new closets are finished near the kitchen (thanks to Richard Higgins) and more closets are planned in the downstairs Fellowship Hall. A May clean-up day for the church building is being planned, mowing at the church cemetery is on hold until daffodils die off, the roof leak problems are being addressed and the primary issue is near the steeple, the Bell Tower rope was repositioned to eliminate sound, and two trees will be removed (one on Union and the other near horseshoe pit). The Horse Shoe Group gave a monetary donation to the church.

**Women's Fellowship** – Group still needs new leadership.

**Faire/Flea/Craft** – Sybil reported for Claudia Hardy. There are 24 crafters registered so far; Thursday she is setting up and could use some assistance as well as clean up on Saturday.

**Pastoral Relations** – No representative or report.

**Personnel** – Nancy said that meetings with staff members will start in May.

**Outdoor Ministry** – There was no representative or report. However, Tim mentioned that Bill Krick will be taking over the administrative tasks for the group, as Jim MacGregor has stepped down after many years of service.

David Johnson gave the closing prayer.

**Old Business** – None to report.

**New Business** – None to report.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

*Deb van Wyngaarden*

Church Clerk