

## CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, April 4, 2011

The regular meeting of the Church Council, 1<sup>st</sup> Congregational Church of Deep River, was called to order at 7:35 p.m. in the Upper Room by Moderator Bob Butkus. Tim Haut gave the opening prayer.

Members in attendance: Bob Butkus, Valerie Nucci, Jane Moen, Emily Bjornberg, Gerry Nolin, Fran Phinney, Fred Phinney, Scott Paulson, Tim Haut, Sybil Higgins, Evelyn Grohs.

On motion by Val Nucci, seconded by Gerry Nolin, minutes of the March 7<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved as printed.

Collector's Report: As of March 31<sup>st</sup>, \$78,308.56 has been turned over to General Fund of which \$1780 is advanced 2011 pledges received in 2010 and \$64,620.38 was received in 2011 for a total of \$66,400.38 or 29% of amount budgeted for pledge goal. The total of Prayed For to date is \$9542 or 27% of budgeted.

Treasurer's Report: As of March 31<sup>st</sup>, balances are as follows: Burroughs Savings (Repairs & Maint.) \$3,608.40; Cemetery Fund \$9794.91; Debit Card Acct. \$717.97; Doris Pelton Mem. Organ Fund \$45.30; General Fund \$54,429.59; Gifts & Bequests \$50,733.08; Good Samaritan \$7,739.68; Grohs Invest. CD \$4,000; Grohs Savings for CE \$3,127.08; Haut Fund \$5,740.05; Kitchen Fund \$918.63; Macgregor Fund-Outdoor Ministry \$41.55; Memorial Fund \$6685.28; Mission Fund \$28,536.39; Phelps Savings CD \$5,802.64; Phelps Svg.-Music \$1921.96; Program Main. Svgs \$9,119.33; Sabbatical Fund \$6,897.56; Samuel Snow Fund \$1,012.15; Stephen Ministry Fund \$2640.02; Supplemental Health Ins. \$22,878.58; Youth Music Fund \$832.72. Moved by Val Nucci, seconded by Fran Phinney, to accept Collector's and Treasurer's reports as printed.

Cemetery Committee: Val Nucci reported two interments would take place in April - Geri Offerjost and Joyce Stempel; fertilization of the grass was done by Don Grohs in March.

Christian Education: Sybil reported forms are available on website; plans underway for Mission Fair Sept. 11 with each committee receiving a notice to participate; committee served at Lenten supper.

Christian Service: Gerry reported 21 layettes completed with still more to finish; will do Dollars for Diapers; Ad Hoc Committee for Fund Raisers delegate is Kelly Frazier.

Church Delegates: No rep.

Council Members-at-Large: No rep. Jane Moen mentioned exploring moving the Soup Kitchen to our church in that the present kitchen facilities are hard to work in. Some history of various locations were discussed.

Deacons: Scott Paulson reported plans for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday are set; sign-up for Men's Breakfast light with need to spread the word; Arlene Macmillan worked on usher list with only two designated ushers each Sunday and two volunteers from congregation; working on "wish list" for memorial donations; Luther Moen volunteered to teach others how sound system works. Mention made that it go into Messenger regarding the new usher system.

Historical Committee: No rep. Mention made of committee needing new vitality.

Senior Minister: Tim reported rising spirit during Lent with good attendance at Lenten suppers; Paul Mahabir of YMCA to be Men's Breakfast speaker; memorial service for Joyce Stempel to be this Thursday; Holy Week services coming with Easter Sunrise at 6 a.m. on St. John's hill; Confirmation Class to have retreat with visit to synagogue on Friday night; and area church tours on Saturday; Cheryl Anderson eager to assist at confirmation; Alison Glass from Killingworth to be next year's seminary intern; he (Tim) to serve as Vice Moderator for CT State Conference; Phyllis Haut had good experience on recent Haiti mission though native peoples are frustrated a year after the earthquake; have request for Dominican

Mahabir

Republic Mission trip fund-raiser May 20 at Carriage House to be co-sponsored by Grillos. It was moved and seconded to allow the fundraiser.

Director of Christian Education: Sybil reported 3<sup>rd</sup> graders working toward Bibles; Butterfly project to be continued another year; 8<sup>th</sup> graders to "kick-off" Heifer Project in a five week campaign; VBS volunteers being organized; Church World Service kits to be completed; 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> graders enjoying the Lenten Supper question challenge; will be away Apr.25-May 3<sup>rd</sup> for Cy's graduation in Spain.

Director of Youth/Family Ministry: Emily thanked all who worked on Ben's Light Fund dinner Mar.13<sup>th</sup>; preached at Old Lyme church with Mom; Jr. PF worked with Christian Service in assembling layettes; Joy Fellowship went bowling March 13<sup>th</sup> and will go to Ray of Light Farm in East Haddam Apr.10<sup>th</sup> (rescued animals) and have a final cook-out May 1<sup>st</sup>; a overnight service project at Camp Claire is planned for Apr.30-May 1<sup>st</sup>; working with Cheryl Anderson on Confirmation Class; play-group is on-going.

Jane Moen reported on the El Salvador mission trip with twice monthly meetings for research and learning in preparation; each person paying \$1500 and some donations received to help with misc. expenses; have applied for a mini-grant from Tri-Town Youth; awaiting air arrangements; 7 youth and 3 adults going; will launch a campaign in May for medical supplies and appropriate small toys to take.

Sybil reported on NOIA mission trip; held meeting in March; selling "stock" as fund raiser; Yankee Candle fund raiser completed; to sell sun catchers and aprons in May; 42 spots filled with 6 on "wait" list.

Nominating Committee: Fran reported an opening on Stewardship.

Stewardship Committee: No rep

Trustees: No rep. Evie Grohs reported for trustee Don Grohs that the trash containers had to be moved away from children's play area at State Inspector's request.

Kitchen Committee: Fred reported good turn-out at corned beef lunch; \$727.59 raised for kitchen fund.

Women's Fellowship: No rep.

Faire/Flea/Rummage: No reps.

Pastoral Relations: No rep.

Personnel Committee: No rep.

Outdoor Ministry: No rep.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Tim gave the closing prayer. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Evelyn Grohs

Substitute for Deb VanWyngaarden, Clerk