

**UCC COUNCIL MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2022**

Carley opened the meeting with prayer.

Members present: Pastor Gretchen, Carly Retterath, Lonna Augustadt, Dave Archer, Camille Grothier, Autum Eisenbraun, Dave Augustadt, Pamela Clark-Stein

Reflection - Carley read this month's reflection and asked the council members to think about what we could let go of personally and as a church. There are partnerships we can let go of now and perhaps pick new partnerships.

The minutes of the August 3rd meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Dave Augustadt, seconded by Autum, to accept the minutes. The motion carried, minutes were approved.

**Committee Reports:**

Finance and Trustees: Dave Archer reported that the Trustees are now working on fundraising ideas to pay for the painting of the church and other necessary repairs and upkeep. Evan Mandigo is the liaison from Trustees for the Afterschool Place. New flooring for the hallway and bathrooms in the basement, as well as refinishing the stairs has been delayed due to a backorder. Church clean up day is scheduled for Saturday, September 24th.

Deacons: Did not meet this month due to technical difficulties.

Christian Education: Autum reported game night has been successful and a lot of fun. Monday evening Bible Study has started and is going well. Sunday school, Confirmation and Caffeine and Christianity are off to a good start.

Music: David reported the choir is back and will sing three times per month. Music is planned through January. They are looking into purchasing a phantom mic for the choir which will produce a better, bigger sound.

Stewardship and Mission: Pamela reported the committee is working on their pledge drive which will kick off in October. They are also planning their fundraising and mission outreach. One idea they have been talking about is having a silent auction like the one they had several years ago in lieu of the Buffalo Supper during COVID. It was very successful and very well received.

Mayflower Circle: Camille reported the annual rummage sale has been cancelled.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Gretchen reported that Hannah Vanorny will be joining the church September 25th, Dale Carmen and Ken Trana are her mentors. Jax Weil will be

baptized October 23rd. Pastor Gretchen will be attending the UCC Retreat at Maryvale, September 30 and October 1. She will also be attending the Northern Plains Conference Annual Meeting, October 28 and 29 at Camp of the Cross. Delegates are Ken Trana, Camille Grothier, Pastor Gretchen, and Hannah Vanorny will be a delegate. Carley will be attending the Saturday portion of the meeting.

The Block Party proved to be a huge success. It was very well attended and those attending were excited that our church and Church of the Cross are continuing with this event. Lonna visited with Pastor Ahlness at the Church of the Cross and she heard good reviews from their parishioners and neighbors as well. We still have grant funds to spend down and the planning committee will be looking at ordering yard signs that can be used yearly to advertise the Block Party, purchase more safety cones for blocking off parts of the parking lot and welcome feather flags to post on the boulevard of the church.

The Pastor Parish Relations Committee and their function was discussed. This committee consists of Lance Schreiner, Bill Patrie and Wanda Benson and the purpose of this committee is to do the pastor's evaluation and mediate any conflict resolution. Bill and Lance no longer want to be on the committee. Wanda has agreed to continue on the committee. Carley asked if this should be a function of the Council or should we keep the Pastor Parish Relations Committee and appoint 2 new people and redefine the role and responsibilities for this group. The Trustees are responsible for the employees evaluations so it would just be a matter of the Council taking over doing the Pastor's evaluation; however, there would still need to be someone who is not affiliated with the Council or other committees in the event there is a conflict. It was decided that reviewing the pastor evaluation tool and reworking the process be worked on at our next meeting.

A review of our partnerships and prioritization of them will be on next month's agenda.

Pastor Gretchen closed the meeting with prayer.

One Word: exciting, opportunities, fresh ideas, ineffable, fun, busy, gratitude.

The next meeting will be held October 25 at 6 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lonna Augustadt, Clerk