**Community Congregational Church of Clinton Heights UCC**

**Board of Deacons/Council Meeting**

**Minutes of March 13, 2024**

Meeting called to order on Zoom at 7:40 pm.

Members Present: Tom P, Brian F, Nicole F, Bob H, Cindy M, Tina K, Joanne B, Elaine W, Julie K

Members Absent: Tracey P, Bruce G

Guest: Rev Kenny

Opening Prayer was said by Rev Kenny.

Due to technical issues, we were unable to view all of the reports. However, they were all sent out earlier to everyone and were read by everyone.

Tina made a motion to approve the Secretary’s Report. It was seconded by Julie. The motion was carried.

Joanne made a motion to approve the Council Financial Secretary’s Report, Brian seconded it. The motion was carried.

Elaine motioned to approve the Council Treasurer’s Report. Bob seconded it. The motion was carried.

Brian motioned to approve the Deacon’s Treasury Report, Elaine seconded it. The motion was carried.

There was no Visitation/Elder Conversation Report because Tracey was absent from the meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Deacons’ Budget: Elaine is working on it. She will have it finalized soon.

Tom received a new estimate from Otis for the Elevator Slack Test of $2680. ($1340.00)The contract has been signed. We now need them to contact Bruce to set up a schedule of when he can be at the church while they do the test.

Bruce, and maybe Elaine or Cindy will check in the office to see if there are some toner cartridges there. If not, we may have to order some.

Rev Kenny had requested a pool for immersion baptisms. They sell pools specifically for baptisms, Rev Kenny will check on the pricing.

Brian will give a key to the church to the Life Song leader when he sees him again.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

We had a couple of people pass away recently and the question of the Memorial Fund came up. It was determined that the people who passed away were not actually members. To become a member in UCC, you must have a discussion with the Pastor. Then on a Sunday, you stand in front of the congregation and recite certain wording and the congregation responds. There is a list of members in the office, and there is a book of ceremonies that the Deacons update. When a member passes, if they leave anything to the church, the monies go into the Memorial Fund. Prior to covid, a monthly donation of $25 was put in the Memorial Fund as well. The money in this fund can be used to make purchases for the church in someone’s memory.

A decision was made to not have a Maundy Thursday service. There will be a Good Friday service at Riverview Baptist Church.

Tom redid our web page and it is more up-to-date now. Tom will add some pictures of Rev Kenny preaching. If anyone has anything else they’d like on the page, please let him know.

We will resume cleaning the church on the Saturday before Communion Sunday. There will be an additional cleaning the Saturday before Easter at 10:30. The flowers should be delivered by then and the church can be decorated for Easter.

Rev Kenny is working on having a revival. This is still in the planning stages. He also has ideas for fish frys and chicken dinners as fund-raisers. He also brought up playing Bingo, however, we can only give out gift cards as prizes.

Rev Kenny suggested that if the affordable housing near Aldi’s has a community room, we may be able to go in there and make ourselves known. We can invite them to church or perhaps provide dinners in the future.

Rev Kenny will bring a box in to put in the back of the church for donations to Conserns-U. Rev Kenny will also share an “item of the month” so donations can be made specifically for what is needed.

Rev Kenny mentioned a church he knows of that is down to one family. He’d like to reach out to them to see if they would like to join us.

**Community Outreach:**

While it is probably too late to join the Parks and Recreation Department in East Greenbush for Easter Egg Hunt, Elaine will find out who to contact and how we can participate perhaps next year.

**Ongoing Items and Concerns**

**\*** check the gas lines in the kitchen before Life Song starts on April 24, 2024.

\* locate the membership list and have it updated. Cindy thinks it may be in her locked drawer or on the laptop that is upstairs.

**Reminders:**

Our next meeting will be April 10, 2024

DOM for March is Bruce and April DOM is Bob.

Brian made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45. Tina seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Boel, Secretary