

OUR CHURCH COUNCIL

Executive Team

Moderator: Jason Jacque (2024)
Associate Moderator: Jodi Cowen (2024)
Clerk: Rhonda Thompson (2025)
Treasurer: *currently vacant* (2025)

Team Representatives

Christian Education: Shandy Roehrig (2024)
Fellowship: Jennifer Dimmer (2025)
Staff Support and Review: Ken Matthews (2024)
Property: Bill Bond (2025)
Community Outreach: Eric Olson (2024)
Liturgy: Tracy Greymont (2025)
Stewardship: *currently vacant* (2025)

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The June minutes were approved at the August 17, 2023 Church Council meeting.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH Church Council Minutes June 13, 2023

Call to Order by Jason Jacque, Moderator, @ 6:32 pm

Attendees- Pastor Scott, Jason Jacque, Tracy Greymont, Phil Stepanski, Ken Matthews, Mike Spalding, Jodi Cowen, Jennifer Dimmer, Shandy Roehrig, Kathy Bretl, Bill Bond, and Rhonda Thompson.

Opening Meditation – (Bill B)- How Important is Kindness in God's Eyes

Approval of the Minutes / Review of Spring Congregational Minutes – May 2023-Ken Matthews motions to approve the May minutes and Jennifer Dimmer seconds the motion. Minutes are approved. The Spring Congregational Minutes are for review and will be voted on by the congregation at the fall meeting in November.

Monthly Budget Review / Church Management Software Update (Phil)-Looking at the Budget vs Actual Report through May of 2023, there are no surprises. Gross Profit totals \$86,560 (2023 Budget is \$202,186), Total Expenditures come to \$91,868 (2023 Budget is \$255,926) for a \$5308 deficit (2023 Budget is estimated to end with \$53,740 deficit). For Phil the greatest issue is the cash flow and making payroll at the end of the month. As of May 31, 2023 the Main Checking Account balance totals \$4,855.14; Scrip Checking has a balance of \$1,383.89; Mission Account has a balance of \$1635 (not shown in Quickbooks) with -\$1435 Mission Commitment. The Memorial Savings Account has a balance of \$24029.32. The Cornerstone Fund has a balance of \$25,539.99 for total money available \$31,979.02 The Window Loan balance total is \$5402.78. The Home Depot Raise Right gift card balance is at \$39.56.

The latest AT&T bill is finally in line with services for a monthly bill of \$128.39, including \$42 for internet and \$89.59 for two phone lines. The Fellowship Team received a \$100 check that has been deposited, but is not in this Budget vs Actual. The Brat Fry brought in \$426.

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CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES continued...

We have received one pledge for Making All Things New at this time.

We received a thank you from United Church of Christ (UCC) for a \$315.86 check to be used for Turkey/Syria Earthquake Relief.

Phil went back to the company with the copier quote with a proposal for us to start a new contract with a new copier in 2024 with minor fixes to existing copier as needed in 2023, but hoping to get them to agree to sending the new copier if the existing one crashes before the end of the year.

Phil has a list of qualifying factors needed for the ERC, Employee Retention Credit (Cares Act) and doesn't think we qualify.

Realm, the new software program, is in the works, but Phil hopes July will be the month for data entry with volunteer help.

The insurance claim has a copy of a spreadsheet and supporting receipts/documents. Some of the vendors are getting anxious for payment, but we are waiting for the insurance company to review the claim and make the payout.

Phil and Amy have met to talk through electronic and technology services. Constant Contact the E-Blast or platform company is raising the monthly rate by 16%, but we pay annually. If that same 16% increase is applied annually that's about \$28. Phil thinks we should talk about the 2024 budget before the fall to start discussions on trimming cost and generating revenue to eliminate/reduce deficits as reserves are depleting.

Pastor's Moment (Pastor Scott)-Pastor Scott is taking a vacation July 8th through the 15th. Don Niederfrank will cover services on July 9, 16, and 23.

Old Business

Property Team, Building maintenance updates (Bill)-They met on May 26th. The Property Team meetings will be moving to the third Friday of the month.

The quote for the repair of the solar panel inverters is \$4,380, but repairs wouldn't be until the end of the year. They are looking at other sources for the repair. Not having the inverter does impact the bottom line with credits to the electric bill and the occasional check. Getting quotes on the solar panels has been difficult. It's been discovered that another panel has some storm damage.

The roof has been repaired.

Jon Crain will be billing us \$200 for the removal of the black walnut tree. There is still more trees to remove/work to be done.

Brett has completed the Property Team calendar. LED replacements are still being changed out as some bulbs have been difficult to locate.

AED and CPR Training (Bill)-The first class was a success. The next class will be Sunday July 9th. Bill hopes to have a class this fall. The class discussed that it would be good to add the location of the AED in the bulletin.

Church Google Drive (Jodi)- Tabled til next month.

Rental Space update – (Pastor Scott)-The team will meet tomorrow. Pastor Scott has asked an accountant what it would mean for the church taxes/financials if we have a for profit company rent our space.

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CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES continued...

Council updates from Pastor Parish Relations (Shandy)-The group will meet Thursday to continue work on evaluation process. A latest intel is that it's a waste to have office hours; Pastors should be working out in public facilities. The idea was brought up is to have meetings out in the community to give some exposure and also to show more of what goes on behind the scenes.

St. Benedict's Coordinator for Ozaukee County (Pastor Scott)-The hope is have Joanne Pierringer back in the fall to lift the need for a replacement up again. Pastor Scott hopes to make a trip with her to St. Benedict's for his first ever visit to see how things operate and for reinstating it as Confirmation Class outing.

Interest Surveys (Pastor Scott)- Previously a Ministry Options Survey was conducted in Spring 2022. There was some talk of hope for the future activities, like the Liturgy Team to help plan worship services. Pastor Scott would like to get a new survey started again this fall. He would like all team leaders and teams to review their proposal and provide input on the proposal or to add team thoughts on how others can help.

Additional Team Updates (Shandy, Eric, Jennifer, Mike, Ken, Jodi)-Jennifer Dimmer says the end of the year picnic was a success.

Jennifer Dimmer, Jodi Cowen, and Tyfani Ulicki are meeting to discuss a possible church rummage sale as a fundraiser. Another fundraiser idea is Breakfast with Santa. Jodi has an update on Santa fees for Breakfast with Santa. She was given a quote of \$250 (discounted)

Capital Campaign Update-Thanks to the team for assembling the mailings and getting them out. Thanks to Amy Gilhooly for designing the brochure. There is a member that asked about gift donation challenge/match or a plaque for any members that donate a certain amount. Any mention in the newsletter will also go out in an email blast. A plaque should list all donors or nothing.

Any other new business to come before the Council?-Jason was approached about having one service. Some feel this would make the church feel fuller, but some like the difference the two services offer. Jason will add it to the August agenda for discussion. Another topic to be added to the agenda, to discuss Confirmation Sunday options.

Thank you to Mike Spalding and Kathy Bretl for all of their service to the church and for their time and effort in their roles.

Closing Prayer and Adjournment 8:06 pm. Submitted by, Rhonda Thompson -Clerk

PROPERTY TEAM MEETING MINUTES

Our Property Team is an active church team comprised of a handful of folks from our church. The team keeps a close eye on our church and works to maintain all aspects of our church building and grounds. The team would like to share their recent monthly meeting minutes:

August 2023 Property Team Minutes