

“I pledge allegiance to the Christian flag and to the Savior for whose Kingdom it stands. One Savior, crucified, risen, and coming again with life and liberty to all who believe.”

## **ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

February 3, 2010

The meeting opened at 7:14 P.M. with prayers by Pastor Mike Hurley and Ad Council Chair Carl Bartell, followed by pledges to the American and the Christian flags.

Minutes - Doug Harbaugh moved to approve the January 6, 2010 minutes. Harry Vercoe seconded and the motion passed.

Financial Report – Sandy Shipe did not attend the meeting due to a family emergency; her reports will be presented at the next Ad Council meeting.

### **Old Business**

1) Mortgage for the New Church Building - Ed Perry reported that the second appeal for a mortgage with Delaware National Bank was turned down. More encouraging, however, was the meeting with Community Bank. A bank officer visited the new church structure; and his response to our appeal of \$1.250 million was very positive. He was a little disappointed in the quality of the original appraisal so there is a possibility of having to do another one. Ed expected to hear from the bank in the very near future. Ed gave his talk to all three congregations about the need for increased giving to meet the mortgage interest. Thanks to Ed for the well-prepared and convincing presentations.

2) Manhattan Declaration – Carl Bartell said that some people who were interested in exploring more about these issues wanted to know how to proceed after signing the petition. The group who wrote the declaration suggests you can learn more by studying the declaration, getting fellow church members involved in discussion, and social networking. For more information, go to [manhattandeclaration.com](http://manhattandeclaration.com). The Thursday night bible class, beginning on February 4, will be studying the book *Get the Word of God as Truth* as a guideline for discussing controversial topics.

3) Pressing Budget Issue – John Gladwell reported that the Trustees, in an effort to control their 2010 budget in light of new building costs, had not budgeted for snow removal this year. They based this decision on the fact that we haven't spent much on snow removal in recent years. Unfortunately, with the bad weather we've had, we will incur approximately \$3000 in snow removal expense. John moved that we have a “snow removal challenge” similar to the challenge that was put forth for the new steeple. Mary Vercoe seconded the motion. After discussion, it was decided not to pursue this route of meeting the expense. John withdrew the motion and motioned to table this topic until next month's Ad Council meeting. Doug Harbaugh seconded the motion and it passed.

### **New Business**

No new business was introduced.

## Committee Reports

Prayer/Evangelism/Membership Committees – Wendy Schmitt commented that 136 families will be in the new directory. She is now seeking help for designing pages of all Conley's ministries. If you would like help, please let Wendy know. Also, if you have any recent pictures that could be used, please give them or e-mail them to Wendy. Where necessary, new photos will be taken. The Membership Committee is planning a Valentine "Couples Reconnect" on Sunday, February 14, from 4-7 P.M. where free babysitting with dinner, a movie and crafts is offered. Also under consideration are "Family Game Nights." A questionnaire will be given out as to what types of games and activities are of interest. Meeting dates for the committees are: Prayer – 2/4 at 7:00 PM; Evangelism – 2/6 at 10:00 AM. Annual Prayer Week will begin on Ash Wednesday, April 17, with services at 7:30 AM and 7:30 PM. It will conclude on Wednesday, April 24. A wrap-up prayer service will be held on the 25<sup>th</sup> of April.

Social Concerns Committee – The main focus during the past month has been helping several families with their electric bills.

Missions Committee – Jeanne Quinn read from several of the many thank you notes she has received from the mission ministries that we help support. She was glad to report that her brother, John Harvey, whom we support in Guatemala, is in better health after surgery. Take My Hand Ministries will be using our Fellowship Hall on Saturday, March 13, from 8 AM to Noon for a Silent Auction. Conley's UMW and UMM will be helping with a bake sale and lunch. Please plan to attend if you are able.

Health Ministries – Sue Woodward has retired from chairing this committee due to increased work commitments. The Committee will be holding a meeting on Thursday, February 11, to discuss some changes to its vision and focus. If you are interested in joining the Committee or attending the meeting, please contact Wendy Schmitt.

Staff-Pastor Parish Relations Committee – Jerry Mitchell said that the SPPRC had a good first meeting where new members were introduced and brought up to date on last year's activities. He is looking forward to a positive and productive year ahead with the new Committee.

Lewes-Rehoboth Association of Churches (LRAC) – Harry Vercoe gave a comprehensive report on LRAC's January 12 meeting. A very active agenda for the meeting included Rev. Jeffery Ross leading the group in a healing service, especially for those affected directly or indirectly by the recent allegations against a Lewes pediatrician. Pastor Ouemonde Brangman of New Zion AME Church was welcomed as a new member. Some of the outreach programs by LRAC reported at the meeting were: 48 emergency cases (\$19,300); 11 regular cases (\$4,323); shelter support (\$2,995); Christmas cookies for prisoners (1,479 bags); almost 10,000 people served by the Cape Henlopen Food Basket in 2009. The next meeting is February 9 at Epworth UMC.

Transition Committee – Ed Perry said that all activity is on hold until the Committee hears about the new loan request. When that's completed, the Committee will visit with other successful churches to see how they are attracting new members.

Trustees – John Gladwell reported that the Trustees had met and elected Mike Keim as the new chairperson. The Trustees decided that the current pavilion and new church site are not in a proper state to avoid liability that could arise if someone were hurt. Therefore, they propose moving the Yard Sales to a new location and are developing plans as to how this can be accomplished. A recent offer to rent the land in front of the boat yard on Rt. 24 was declined for various reasons.

Capital Campaign Committee – Pat Short announced the following fund raisers for February and March:

- Feb. 13 – Valentine Yard Sale – Pavillion
- Feb. 16 – Friendly’s – 5-8 PM, No Voucher
- Feb. 24 – Nicola’s Pizza & Nic-O-Boli – 5-8 PM, No Voucher
- Every Monday & Thursday in March – Rehoboth Diner – Voucher Required

Future plans include: Variety Show (date moved to October so that we might be in our new Fellowship Hall); Domino Pizza Cards (good return on these); Sees Candy sale. Pat is waiting for more info on Domino’s and Sees.

Youth Group – First activity was attending the Youth Rally in Ocean City where they heard a rousing talk by Bishop Violet Fisher. They also attended worship services and concerts while at the rally. The group has planned a schedule and will hold a Super Bowl Party (weather permitting). They are also planning a college campus visit to Liberty College.

Pastor’s Report – Pastor Mike and his wife, Ann, attended the Bishop’s Retreat in mid-January for enrichment and renewal. Two new members joined church: Bob & Alverna St. John. There was one renewal of vows. Mike thanked the men who helped move a member to a new house. He thinks the last church cancellation due to snow went well, and he is totally thrilled with the restart of the Youth Group. The pictures of the ground breaking ceremony are in. Please get them from Mike in the office.

### Miscellaneous

The Ad Council will meet on Wednesday, April 24 at 7:00 PM, for their prayer session in observance of prayer week.

Because of the ground conditions at the new building construction site, Living Easter will probably be modified this year. An announcement will be made as plans progress. This information will be shared with the public.

Ed Perry asked the Council to thank Anne Bothmann and Jean Carpenter for their volunteer efforts with the music program at Conley’s. They are both very much appreciated.

Doug Harbaugh reminded the Council of the Board of Lay Ministries dinner, to be held on Saturday, February 27, at 6:00 PM at the Harrington Fire Hall, at which time Conley’s will be one of the churches recognized for their outreach programs and perseverance in the building of the new church. All church members are invited to attend. Please contact Doug at 945-4008 if you would like to attend.

Laura Hill moved to adjourn at 9:02 P.M. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jean Unruh, Secretary

These minutes are temporary until approved by the Ad Council at its next meeting.