

January 7, 2009

Carl Bartell, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:13 P.M. He opened the meeting with prayer, and the Council pledged their allegiance to the American and the Christian flags.

The meeting minutes of November 5 were distributed and read. There were no corrections or additions. John Gladwell moved to approve the minutes; the motion was seconded by Cheryl Wood. Motion passed.

Financial Report – Sandy Shipe, Treasurer, presented the financial report. Laura Hill moved to accept the report and Lily Roadcap seconded the motion. Motion passed. Sandy noted that the budget had a credit of \$6,660.47 at year's end. Carl Bartell commended Conley's church members for this achievement. John Gladwell requested that this information be shared with the church members in the bulletin and Diane Johnson suggested that it be reported in the Newsletter as well.

Old Business

1) Reconstitution of the Capital Finance Committee – This committee is in the process of being reconstituted. Wendy Schmitt, Sandy Shipe, and the Pastor will return from the old committee;

Pat Short and Barbara Moxey have been added to the new committee. The committee plans to revisit the whole campaign plan and will develop a comprehensive path forward. Carl Bartell initiated a discussion on having a Trustee on this committee for coordination between the two groups. Subsequently, Diane Johnson moved and Brenda Eaton seconded a motion to have the Trustees appoint one of their members to be on the Capital Finance Campaign Committee. Motion passed. Pat Short reported that the fundraising dinners will continue. Plans are being discussed for a possible Antique Show & Auction at the Rehoboth Beach Convention Center. John Gladwell warned that consideration will have to be given to future maintenance expenses for both the new church and the current buildings.

2) Re-establishment of the New Building Planning Committee – Carl Bartell asked Laura Hill if she would like to withdraw the motion she made at the September 3, 2008 Ad Council Meeting, which stated "I move that the Building Committee be re-established and that it be in charge of the building with the contractor being answerable to that committee, with a representative of the Trustees on it." The motion was tabled at the Sept. and Nov. Ad Council meetings. Laura said that she did not want to withdraw the motion and would like to have it voted on. Discussion was held before the vote was taken in which John Gladwell stated that the Trustees want to stay with the congregation-approved building design and that they would be the general contractor. The Trustees also invite anyone who has a suggestion or request re the building to present such suggestion/request to the Trustees at one of their regular meetings. John Gladwell also indicated that, at the appropriate time, the Trustees will work with the former planning groups (such as kitchen, sanctuary) to equip the building. Pastor Mike has checked to make sure that what we have done so far and plan to do in the future is in agreement with the Book of Discipline. Carl then called for a vote on the motion. Motion did not pass.

New Business

- 1) Newsletter - Cheryl Wood, who has been assisting with creating the recent Newsletters, said that writing the Newsletter is not really the job of the Spiritual Director, Wendy Schmitt (who has been spearheading the effort), nor of the Pastor. Cheryl moved that we create a Newsletter Committee, with Rebecca Rollins seconding the motion. Motion passed. Laura Hill suggested that we poll each service for volunteers. Cheryl offered to be the initial chairperson. Carl Bartell volunteered one of his business websites to post the Newsletter. Carl also will investigate finding an inexpensive website (\$30/year or less) dedicated solely to Conley's use.
- 2) Living Nativity/Living Easter – Cheryl Wood reported that the 2008 Living Nativity was successful. The 3-night attendance was between 1500-1700 people. Twenty-five cases of canned goods and \$1500 in cash were collected. Part of the cash donation was shared with the Latin American group who participated on Sunday evening and the rest was distributed to local charities. Cheryl and Kathy Gurschick stated that a renewed commitment is needed from the Conley's community for these two events to continue. Kathy is unable to do the Living Easter this year so **a new coordinator is needed immediately**. A presentation will be made at each service the weekend of January 10 and 11 to seek a new coordinator. Cheryl asked the following question of the Ad Council and of Conley's church community at large: "What is your level of commitment to these outreach programs?" While financial support has been adequate, it is getting harder and harder to find participants for the expanded layout of the Living Nativity. Those who have participated for years are getting older and less tolerant of the cold weather. Fresh volunteers are needed. Cheryl also asked for and received permission from the Council to seek participants from other local churches. Rebecca Rollins proposed that Cheryl bring all these concerns before the three congregations to ascertain their commitment.
- 3) Archival File of Ad Council Business - Carl Bartell reported that the Ad Council has no archival records of past meetings and correspondence. He proposed that we create an archival file and requested that all persons who have personal copies turn them in for establishment of the file, which Jean Unruh will assemble. Jean stated that if anyone wants their copies returned, she would make copies and return the originals.

Committee Reports –

Prayer/Evangelism/Membership Committees – Pastor Mike Hurley reported the following for Wendy Schmitt, who was unable to attend the meeting.

- February 4 - Ad Council Intercessory Prayer Meeting
- February 25 at 7:00 A.M. and 7:00 P.M. - Ash Wednesday Services
- February 25 through March 4 - Week of Prayer - No business meetings will be conducted during Prayer Week. All committees will meet for prayer, including Ad Council on March 4. (The Ad Council business meeting is changed to March 11.) Mike also said

that, in the future, new church members will be received and awarded certificates at the church service of their choice, rather than at a separate service on Sunday afternoon.

Social Concerns Committee – Will have a report for the March meeting.

Mission Committee – No report.

Staff-Parish Relations Committee – Jerry Mitchell said the committee has not yet met. The first meeting will most likely be on Thursday, January 29.

Lewes-Rehoboth Association of Churches (LRAC) – No report.

Trustees – John Gladwell said the Trustees met and elected the following officers: John Gladwell, President; Bill Barry, Vice President; Debbie Marker, Secretary. All documents have been assembled for the fire marshal's inspection, which should take place soon. A propane leak in the church building was repaired and work will be done on the heating and air conditioning system. The outside light on the pole near the shed is not working well. It is scheduled for repair.

Pastor's Report – Mike and Anne felt very blessed over the Christmas season as they experienced loving wishes, cards, and a monetary gift from the congregation. Mike is scheduled to perform three weddings. He and Anne are looking forward to attending the Bishop's Mid-Winter Retreat on January 13-15 in Ocean City.

General Discussion

Cheryl Wood requested that Conley's consider making the Girls Night Out group an official outreach/ministry program of Conley's based on the fact that they raise a large amount of money to support

Conley's donations to those in need (about \$4500 this past December), they use Conley's 501C tax exempt status for donations accepted for the annual auction, two of their Board members are on the Social Concerns Committee, and they have incorporated devotional material as part of every meeting. Pastor Mike Hurley agreed that this is a good idea, but requested the group bring this proposal before their general membership to see if the majority are in agreement with the proposal.

Mike Hurley reported that Sherry Barry and Jackie Moody will be the new Sunday School Superintendents. Thanks to each of them for stepping forward. Sherry said they now need some volunteers to teach. Children's Sunday school will be held only during the school year – no summer classes.

Diane Johnson requested that if you have something to tell the congregation, please do it at all three services so everyone gets informed.

Laura Hill motioned to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Unruh

Secretary