

**Minutes for October 5, 2021
CCUMC Council Meeting**

UMC Mission : Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. A disciple is one who knows Christ, is growing in Christ, serving Christ and sharing Christ.

CCUMC Mission : A Bible centered community growing our faith and sharing the love of Jesus Christ with our neighbors.

Attending : Keith and Nancy Luscombe, Pastor John Lucy, Garnet Olson, Martha Burbridge, Marsha Mason, Gary Picard, Kevin Hunt

Keith Luscombe called the meeting to order at 6:33.

Opening Devotions by Nancy Luscombe from "Our Daily Bread" titled "Yes, But..."

The minutes of the September meeting were reviewed. Gary Picard, made a motion to accept as written. Martha Burbridge seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

Committee Reports were sent out ahead of the meeting.
Reports and Updates given at the meeting :

Pastor's Report: Laity Sunday is October 17th. Six people will be taken in as new members. Two or three will share their faith stories. Marsha Mason asked when the prayer partners for the new members should contact them. Pastor John said anytime.

Right Start: reports from Marilyn Gerrard and Robin McFee were reviewed. We will keep the current church COVID Plan in place.

Treasurer: Martha Burbridge stated that we have a balance of \$33,000 in the Cornerstone Bank. She has transferred \$10,000 from the Country Bank to the New England Foundation. Currently, the church seems to be doing well financially.

SPRC: Garnet Olson had no report since the committee had not met since our last meeting. They will be meeting October 14. She did inform us that the committee has made their recommendation for the Pastor's salary for 2022 to the Finance Committee. Our Church Conference will be Thursday, December 2, via ZOOM. John updated us on the Human Sexuality work we have been doing. The change in not finishing up this year was a result of feedback from church leaders. It will be included in a study he is planning on doing in 2022. Ways of restarting some of our various ministries are being explored. For instance perhaps the Community Cafe can be changed to Drive-in Chat and Pray.

Trustees: Gary Picard says there has been evidence of a 4-wheeler on our hill. A trail cam will be installed to see if they can find out who it is. He has also asked for increased police presence. A security assessment is in the works.

UMW: New president, Nancy Luscombe reported on the September meeting. The in-person meeting drew fewer people than the ZOOM meetings as was expected. After a discussion about how this unit does things in contrast with Nancy's previous units a reflecting and coloring time

ended the meeting. A few of us will attend the Conference Annual meeting on October 23 virtually. At the October meeting we will hold a Pledge to Mission program.

Ministry Team: Marsha Mason reported that the refreshments for the Bishop's Day in the district on October 21 that our church is hosting are all set. The 3:00 movie matinee was not very well attended. Garnet Olson then brought up something we talked about last meeting-the young adults not attending church, waiting to find out the church's stance on homosexuality. Nancy, who brought it up last month, said she was told that is not the reason. They just have a lot "on their plates" right now. Pastor John said really only 3 people from the praise band gave the Human Sexuality outcome as a reason. He says they continue to come to the YABS Bible study on Thursday evenings. In fact, they studied homelessness recently and are presenting a program to the church on October 24.

Website: There was no report but Gary Picard brought up doing "Why We Come to CCUMC" spots for the site. Pastor John said some were in "the works." Gary offered to do one and to record others.

Old Business:

The neighborhood groups-moved to the parking lot.

The internet is better since we upgraded.

The Bishop's visit-updated earlier.

Stewardship Workshop "Financial Ministry Time Line" presented by David Abbott from the New England Foundation on November 7, after church. Bring a bag lunch. Pastor John asked people to write down what they know so as to speed up the process on that day.

New member classes are going great!

New Business:

2022 Budget

Contracts for the staff start January 1, 2022. In light of that, it was agreed that there should be a temporary contract with organist, Jim Perry, through the end of the year to include the extra time he will be putting in for choir rehearsals on Thursday evenings. It was questioned if our Mission Shares (amount to Conference) was too high. Since we have been getting "relief" it was expected to go up 20% but it appeared it went higher. Pastor John will check on this. This week he expects to have the paperwork for 2022 relief filled out and submitted.

Pastor John also plans to have the paperwork filled out this week for Equitable Salary Compensation. We have been receiving this help already.

A motion was made by Garnet Olson and seconded by Gary Picard to accept the budget with the understanding that it need to be approved by the Church Council. It passed unanimously.

Church Credit Card?

With the update of the internet the church had to have a fourth phone line, so a cell phone was added at the cost of \$19/month. The cell phone bill however does not appear on the regular bill and must be paid by credit card. Currently Kris Gerrard is paying it and we are reimbursing him. A motion was made by Gary Picard and seconded by Marsha Mason to pursue a credit card for the church to pay this bill. The card will be locked in the church safe. It passed unanimously. Martha Burbridge will speak with our bank.

Stipend for Speaker

Pastor John asked for a stipend of \$300 for Matthew Works, the homeless man who will be speaking to the church on October 24, presented by YABS. It was decided by consensus to have a free-will offering and the church would make up any difference up to \$300.

Coffee Hour to Restart?

Since we decided to keep the current COVID policies in place it was decided that coffee hour could not be restarted yet. This brought up a concern about how to serve food for the Bishop's Day. Nancy Luscombe volunteered to check with churches that previously hosted to see how they handled it.

Church Fair

It will be virtual again this year the week of November 29 - December 4. Danielle Lucy has volunteered to be the coordinator, There will also be some things to make the week festive. Some ideas are a Blue Holiday Worship and a hymn sing.

Thrift Shop

There are some cards to handout in the Thrift Shop so people know how the money that comes in is used.

It was suggested that a tithe to a specific mission be done from the money made. It was also suggested that all fund raisers be tithed. A motion was made by Gary Picard and seconded by Marsha Mason to that affect and let the outreach committee decide on those missions. It passed unanimously.

After a closing prayer from "Daily Prayers for Busy People" by William J. O'Malley read by Nancy Luscombe, the meeting was adjourned by Keith Luscombe.

Respectfully submitted: Nancy Luscombe (in the absence of Gaelle McLoud)

Next meeting: November 2, 2021, 6:30 p.m. at the church.