

Caton United Methodist Church Council Mtg.
Oct. 15, 2009

Attendees: Kathy Force, Jim & Myrna Hawbaker, Bob Lord, Emma Mosch and Rev. Fred Kelsey. Also attending were Ross Wilson and Butch Snyder.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. Kelsey. In Joan's absence Myrna chaired the mtg. Minutes submitted the minutes from Sept; they were read and approved.

Emma Mosch agreed to be the recording secretary.

Ross Wilson addressed the Council first. He had been approached about becoming the new Church Historian. He respectfully declined, but after having done research about some of Caton UMC's history, offered an outline/structure that could be used by whoever agreed to take over the job. (See attachment)

Bob Lord asked Butch Snyder to address the group about the Mobile Food Pantry (operated by the Food Bank of the S.T.), and the possibility of having it stop at Caton UMC at scheduled times, perhaps 1x/month. Butch commented that if it was seen in more localities, the State (NY) may see the need for it to come to the area more often. How it works:

-no need for the Church to be open.

-it would require a minimum of 6 volunteers each time to help out, including putting up the attached awnings, setting up 4-5 tables, and sorting food for each order, as people come through the line.

-It serves anyone who shows up (though records are kept per visit)

-for Caton, it would probably need to be the 3rd Thursday, from about 1-2:30pm, once a month, year round, arriving at noon. This would mean a 3-hr. commitment for the volunteers (12-3pm).

- The last visit to Lindley-Presho, 327 people showed up, though the norm has been 85-100. Anything left (non-perishables) is left for the Pantry of Angels.

-Bob Lord will draft a proposal for the next Council meeting in Nov., and a sign-up sheet for the congregation to assess interest/# of people willing to volunteer.

(1) Outreach- Bob Lord

1. Salvation Army lasagna dinner on Sept. 19 served 68-70 people; there was plenty of lasagna, and some left to donate for the after-school program. Well done! It proves to also be a good growth experience for our youth, to see the poverty and help relieve it. Bob asked for Sept. 26, 2010 for the CUMC date to serve next year.

2. Bell-ringing for Salvation Army this year:

- Sat., Dec. 5 at Centerway Sq. 10am-noon. (day of Sparkle)

-Sat., Dec. 12 at Walmart-Painted Post, 10am-noon (grocery entrance)

-Sat., Dec. 19 at Walmart--Painted Post, 6-8pm, for the youth, only.

Sign-ups will be for every half-hour.

3. ARC Blood Drive was Oct. 5. The goal was 43 pts., and 47 were collected. Next drive is Mon., May 10, 2010. Didn't know if the summer drive would happen; people at this drive had long waits to donate.

(2) Nurture and SPRC - Kathy Force

1. 45 people attended the Family Night Supper in late Sept.
2. Snacks at coffee time between the two services will only be served on the first Sunday, mostly due to lack of volunteers for snacks.
3. SPRC submitted salary package for Beth and recommended a 2% raise in pay for Diane, Sherry, Eric and Cheryl (\$313.72 increase for budget).
4. The CPP Premium will be covered by the conference for the first half of 2010, meaning we only need to budget for \$799.79 for the second half. Fred mentioned that we may get additional bill in June when the new conference is set to begin.

(3) Lay Leader – Myrna Hawbaker

1. No report, but encouraged everyone to keep up with the Shepherding Program, Our goal is to make some sort of contact with each person/family on our list, at least once per month, whether it is greeting them at church, a phone call, post card, or other contact.
2. Highlighted “Violet’s Garden”, a program which gives grants for special children’s programs.
3. The Church Conference is next Wed., Oct. 21 at 8 pm. Joan e-mailed me that Marcia Ritter will have a Safe Sanctuaries report ready for our Church Conf. next week. Joan volunteered to provide cider and doughnuts for Conf. evening.
4. Beth e-mailed “ I will not be attending the Council Mtg. this month. I keep you all in prayer and once again thank you for the opportunity to serve in Nigeria! Thanks also for keeping everything going at the church. I pray that you continue to be filled with the joy of the Lord as you journey together.”

(4) Trustees – Brad (presented by Myrna)

1. The driveway repair bill can come out of the Brace Maintenance Fund
2. Trustees are still pursuing donations to cover the cost of the Music Room project.

(5) UMW- Emma Mosch

1. Last mtg. was Oct. 12
2. Tues. Oct. 20, they are gathering to clean and prepare basement for the Harvest Dinner on Sat., Oct. 24. Can we get men to come and help mop the floor? Also, they will gather Fri., Oct. 23 to set up tables and prep potatoes.
3. Next mtg. will be Nov. 9.

(6) Finance – Jim

1. Balance and P&L sheets distributed
2. The General Fund is in good shape; however, with the recession impacting our investments, we have not pulled money out of them for months, and the second checking account (used to pay Eric, and special projects, and containing UMW and memorial monies, is about depleted. A request will be made to the United Methodist Foundation for withdraw from the Brace Fund and the Welch (youth) fund this week to replenish the account.
3. Jim will use a pie chart to illustrate spending for Stewardship Sunday, this coming Sunday.
4. Suggested raising money first for all special projects. Bob made a motion, Kathy seconded, that “due to depleting funds, expenditures from the Brace Fund, that are not normal maintenance, be approved by the Church Council to insure sufficient funds are available”. Motion carried.

(7) Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

(8) Mort – Missions, (presented by Pastor Fred)

1. A Harvest Coffee House is planned for Fri., Nov. 6 from 7-10pm. In past years, the proceeds were targeted for missions. The purpose of this event is to raise funds, via love offerings, for the purchase of church-owned music and sound equipment, used primarily in the ministry efforts of the Prayer and Praise Service. The evening will consist of musical presentations by multiple music groups, harvest-type desserts and treats. Face painting, balloon art, caricatures and the possibility of Celtic dancers and a silent auction.
One event will not support the updating and purchase of new equipment to replace that currently owned by individuals. The obvious reality is that, other events will need to be considered to support this effort. After Christmas, a dinner concert is one venue currently being considered.
2. Bob made a motion, Jim seconded, to fully support the coffee house and its purpose. Motion carried.

(9) Pastor Fred

1. Multiple orders of communion cups were accidentally placed, but (frugal) Fred was able to sell the extras to other congregations.
2. Discussed having communion at the rail; consensus was to go ahead this month, 11/11/09.
3. Fred will continue to kneel at the rail about 10:25 am to allow congregation meditation time.
4. Our Guest sign-in book was inadvertently given to Gene Tobey after Helen's memorial.
5. Mark Robinson will present a Power Point presentation at both services on Nov. 8 to honor Veteran's Day vets.
6. Fred suggested that we should raise the mileage allowance for the pastor; even if Beth does not use it, it should be in place for whoever comes after her, or it could create a hardship for that pastor if they choose to use it and it is under funded. He suggested \$3000 per year.
7. Do we have more liturgists in Nov.? Contact Edie to see who is lined up for Nov. (Fred).
8. Church Conf. next Wed., Oct. 21 at 8pm. Myrna set to give Lay report; Fred will present lay speakers that we are recommending. We are also set to recommend Kim Snyder for LLP school, and a secret ballot vote will be taken.
9. Nominations: mostly waiting for Beth's return; it only has to be turned in to the district by the year's end. However, we will need to vote on Trustees, as mandated by the state of New York. Bob Blanchard and Jared Powers have agreed to be nominated for a three-year term on the Trustees committee; (Beth OK'd).

(10) Next Mtg: Thursday, Nov. 12 at 7pm.

(11) Meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.