

## MINUTES

### Michigan Conference United Church of Christ ~ Board of Directors

#### *Conference Office*

March 17, 2018

Present: Dennis Green, Greg Briggs, Cheryl Burke (Associate Conference Minister), Ralph Sims, George Bozanich, Vaughn Peterson, Bob Heisler (Business Manager), Akua Budu-Watkins, Karen Wheeler, Ivana Barrows, Judy Furman, Coni Simons, Campbell Lovett, Judith Booker, Dan Spaulding, Ruth Moerdyk

Absences: None

Judith Booker, president, asked Greg Briggs, vice-president, to conduct meeting due to feeling under the weather.

#### *Board Development Reflection*

- Spiritual Gifts Inventory: Greg Briggs had a survey prepared for Board members from a spiritual gifts inventory from *50 Complete Multisensory Services for Youth*. Conversation followed.

*Opening Prayer.* Offered by Greg Briggs.

#### *Adoption of Consent Agenda*

- Moved and seconded to adopt consent agenda. Passed.

#### *Approval of January 20, 2018 Minutes*

- Moved and seconded to approve minutes. Passed.

#### *Financial Report*

- Bob Heisler reviewed previously distributed end-of-year numbers for 2017. Discussion of finances and factors Finance Committee is taking into account while developing an investment policy that will come to Board.
- OCWM Certificates and Letters
  - Bob Heisler said that information and thanks you have been sent out to churches that contributed to OCWM in 2017. Packets included appropriate certificates, giving statements, and encouragement re: 2018 OCWM giving. Discussion followed re: building relationships with congregations and what approaches are taken to congregations Suggestion to continue discussion at next Board meeting.
- January/February Review
  - Bob reviewed year-to-date numbers
- Pohl Fund for Christian College in Philippines
  - Campbell said that Roger Pohl died recently and that the family is willing to match up to \$10,000 in a special fundraising effort for Christian College in the Philippines. Finance Committee received affirmation of special effort to approve fundraising to take advantage of match.
- Immanuel Scholarship Request from Budget & Finance
  - Finance Committee and Faith Formation MAT plan to develop proposal expanding parameters of Immanuel Fund be expanded. Being changed by

multiple paths conversation. To support more students for ministry. FF asks to come up with recommendations to expand parameters.

#### *Conference Property Update and Options*

- Bob Heisler reviewed a previously distributed notes re: physical property. Discussion. Bob will bring building upkeep expenses to next meeting along with recommendations re: priorities for repairs.

#### *New Business*

- Prophetic Integrity MAT. No report.
- Vital Growth MAT
  - Looking at Bertha Dayton Grant applications
- Faith Formation MAT
  - Attention drawn to Regional Youth Event and to Racial Justice Training
- Compassionate Growth MAT
  - Attention drawn to examination of Associations' technical capabilities and to May 19 workshop on church stewardship. Also 2019 program from Lake Institute for Philanthropy and Giving will be scheduled.
- Other announcements shared

#### *Conference Minister Update (and the wider United Church of Christ)*

- Campbell Lovett reviewed previously distributed report
- Added thoughts about need, according to UCC General Counsel, to retain clergy files (including deceased clergy) forever. Exploring possibilities for scanning and backing up files to save space.
- Conversation followed about the relationships of Associations to Conference and assessing effectiveness of programs and relationship-building with congregations

#### *Adjournment*

*Next Meeting: May 19, 2018 – Pilgrim UCC, Lansing*