

Truax News

Volume 44, Issue 6

Website: www.truaxucc.org

June 2022

Heeey from Pastor Les

I have almost one month under my belt being your Pastor and what a joy it has been so far!!

Had my first council meeting and we sure have a lot of great stuff planned for the next 3 months. At least once a month we will have a big event for our church and the community.

This is a very exciting time in the life of Truax church and I am soooooo blessed to be apart of it.

I do want to say a Huge thank you to all the congregation members that came to meat raffle and helped out at the Banana Split sale. At the meat raffle we made \$2000 to help Sadick with his college education. God is Good!!! See you in church – Pastor Les

Truax Congregational UCC Quarterly Council Meeting Minutes Sunday, May 22, 2022

Present: Pam Johnson, Louie Lee, Jan Miland, Cheri Case, Glenn Ambelang, Chris Ambelang, Diana Stenner, Don Halvorsen, Janet Lee, Tom Sulzer, Roxann Brixen, Craig Schultz, Pastor Les Munnik

Council President Chris Ambelang called the meeting to order at 10:20 AM. **Minutes** of the meeting were sent with the agenda, so were not read aloud. Pam Johnson moved to accept the minutes as printed. Craig Schultz seconded the motion. Motion carried on a voice vote. Pam gave the **Treasurer's Report**. Louie Lee moved to accept the report as given. Jan Miland seconded. Motion carried. Pastor Les gave the **Opening Devotions** - "Fire in the Hold". **Old Business** - Review donation of percentage of merchandise sales: currently, 2% of these sales is donated to each of the following: St. Francis Food Pantry, Community Table, Feed My People Food bank. After some discussion, Cheri Case moved to continue "as is" for the next quarter. Craig seconded. Motion carried. Guidelines for use of church for private events: We still don't have a final version of the form and guidelines that members and non-members will need to complete to request to use the church for private events. A couple recently requested to use the church for their wedding ceremony, so we will need to finish the forms soon. Trustee "repair and replace" projects: the concrete by the front door needs to be removed and replaced, because the threshold there sticks up and is a tripping hazard. After the replacement, there will no longer be rubber mats in the area. Advanced Concrete & Repairs from Mondovi provided a bid for removing and replacing the concrete, including the use of rebar vs mesh, for \$1860. After some discussion, Pam moved, Craig seconded, to accept the bid. Motion carried. Roof repairs or reshingling: The trustees have been looking into replacing the shingles on the entire church roof. There was some storm

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damage in recent months, and the shingles are the original ones from building the church addition about 23 years ago. Trustees have checked into putting on a metal roof, which would be very costly. There was quite a bit of discussion about the different types of shingles, warranties on shingles, who to seek bids from (including “the Amish”.) Pam moved/Glenn seconded/motion carried to continue to get more information about who, what, and how much. Don will check with “the Amish”. [It was unclear to the Clerk who specifically this would be.] Other Old Business: The Council previously discussed raising the rent for the parsonage, but the idea was tabled until after our new minister was chosen, in the event that the minister might want to use the parsonage. This is not the case. Rent for the parsonage is currently \$650 per month. There was considerable discussion regarding current rent prices in the Eau Claire area, and what might be reasonable rent for the parsonage. Pam moved to increase rent for the parsonage to \$750 per month effective August 1. Don seconded the motion. Motion carried. We will need to inform the tenants of the change by June 1. Flower garden around the church sign: Cheri Case reported that the garden needs replanting. She contacted Rhonda Cooke, who is willing to design the new planting and contribute some of her perennials to the bed. Rhonda did request help with the planting and purchasing some annuals to “supplement” the plants she will provide. Memory Garden - Tom Sulzer reported that, once again, the mulch in the Memory Garden is very weedy. He requested suggestions for how to deal with this. In the past, people have tried burning the weeds, pulling them by hand, etc., with poor results. The weed seeds may have come along with the mulch that was put on the garden. Tom suggested removing the old mulch and putting on new “rubberized” material for mulch. He will look into this further. Garbage service - Now that we are having church (and refreshments) every week, do we need to sign up for garbage service again? The consensus, without a formal vote, was “no”, but that we should make sure that the “refreshment hosts” are aware that they will be responsible for removing the trash from the premises each Sunday. Are we going to have a Pie and Ice Cream Social this year? After some discussion, Roxann Brixen, Pam Johnson, and Louie Lee volunteered to organize this event. The social will be held Wednesday, July 13th. How about a church picnic, since it’s been a while since we had one. That idea was greeted with enthusiasm. Time and date were set for Sunday, August 14, starting with the worship service at 11 AM. Potluck meal will follow -- Pastor Les said he would provide meat and buns. We’ll finish up with Bingo, organized by Pam Johnson. We’ll have “white elephant” prizes contributed by participants. Other new business - **Pastor Les** shared some ideas and news. **1)** He’d like to facilitate getting some shirts for identifying church members when we participate in fund raising activities for the church and its missions either at the church or out in the community. **2)** He will be traveling to Ghana in June. He will leave June 19 and return June 30. before he leaves for Ghana, he usually sets up a “giving tree” with tags on it, indicating items the “boys” in Ghana could really use. Take a tag, purchase the item or items on the tag and bring them to church before Pastor Les leaves on his trip. While he’s gone, Julie Garber will fill in for the worship service on June 19, and Patty Stevens will fill in June 26. **3)** The band Two Rivers, with Sue Orfield and others, will play during the worship service on September 18. The band does not charge a fee, but we will collect a free will offering for them. We’ll have our “usual” refreshments that day, but will have 2 people sign up to donate them, because there are likely to be a lot more people in church that day. **4)** Pastor Les is also working on getting some “special music” at worship services provided by young people he knows. This would be an addition to the usual worship service. Dates for this are not set yet. [Louie Lee needed to leave the meeting and was excused at 11:20 AM. Fall Auction is another thing we haven’t done for a while. Tentative date is October 1st or 8th, depending on Rod Cooke’s availability. **5)** Pastor Les has a need for a 3-hole punch and a paper cutter for his church office. Diana Stenner offered to provide the punch. **Our Church’s Wider Mission (OCWM)** Pam reported that, in the past, Truax received a letter specifying an amount for our OCWM contribution. This year, the church is to decide for itself. Last year, our OCWM contribution was \$1680. Glenn moved, Roxann seconded, motion carried to give \$1680 again this year. **Donation to Ukraine** - Truax received a letter from the Wisconsin Conference noting the need for donations to help those affected by the war in Ukraine. Tom moved/Don seconded, motion carried to donate \$350 through the conference. **Per capita fee** is money paid per member by each church toward expenses of the Conference. This year the fee is \$4.50 per member. Truax is considered to have 61 members. The clerk has not changed the number of members in the UCC data for several years due to the possible effect of the COVID pandemic on attendance and offering. According to Truax bylaws, anyone who has not attended, or given to, the church is inactivated from the membership rolls. Members who passed away during that time were removed from the rolls. Clerk’s best estimate of current membership is approximately 50. Based on this information, Tom moved, Jan seconded, motion carried to pay \$225 (50 members at \$4.50). There was no **Other New Business**. Committee and other

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June at Truax

P	P	X	K	B	O	U	A	R	T	E	Ñ	H	G	F	S	O	A	X	W	E	F	I
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M	Z	P	L	O	O	O	R	T	O	O	F	E	R	A	B	N	L	U	O	R	T	H
H	Y	A	I	L	A	I	Z	O	R	G	A	N	I	Z	E	R	P	F	A	S	G	B
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Ñ	V	E	N	Q	H	T	P	Y	E	C	A	M	U	A	Z	S	A	X	L	W	A	N
F	U	P	L	A	N	T	I	N	G	S	O	V	M	M	L	L	G	L	I	S	N	C
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X	E	W	C	Ñ	S	Z	N	O	I	T	A	G	E	R	G	N	O	C	B	B	A	C
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ATTENDANCE	PENTECOST
AUCTION	PERCENTAGE
BANANA	PLANTING
BAREFOOT	PUZZLE
BLESSED	RUBBERIZED
COLLEGE	SUNGLASSES
COMMUNITY	TABLED
CONGREGATION	TENTATIVE
DEVOTIONS	
EXPENSES	
FLAMINGO	
GUIDELINES	
HANDSHAKE	
INCOME	
JUGGLING	
OFFERINGS	
ORGANIZE	
PARSONAGE	



May Treasurer's Report

Truax Congregational UCC

May 2022

MONTHLY INCOME	
Item	Amount
Non Offering	\$362.50
General Fund	\$2,650.01
OCWM	\$140.00
Feed My People	\$25.00
Community Table	\$0.00
Interest	\$64.53
Rent-May	\$650.00
Lunch	\$57.00
TOTAL	\$3,949.04

Checking	\$11,736.72
Savings	\$49,563.69

Monthly Deposits	Monthly Expenses
\$3,949.04	\$3,003.37

DATE / ATTENDANCE	OFFERINGS	MISSIONS	FOOD PANTRY	COMMUNITY TABLE	FEED MY PEOPLE
5/1/2022 26	\$465.00				
5/8/2022 20	\$370.01				\$25.00
5/15/2022 26	\$795.00	\$140.00			
5/22/2022 27	\$520.00				
5/29/2022 21	\$500.00				

MONTHLY EXPENSES	
Item	Amount
Pastoral Support	\$1,530.00
Xcel Energy	\$165.54
West WiTelcom	\$136.62
Feed My People	\$33.00
OCWM	\$140.00
St. Francis/CommTab	\$16.00
Cleaning	\$200.00
Pianist	\$250.00
Office	\$236.05
Oxford Doc. Mgmt.	\$175.00
Misc	\$46.16
Fusion	\$75.00
TOTAL	\$3,003.37








Summary

\$3,949.04	Deposits
\$3,003.37	Expenses
\$11,736.72	Checking
\$49,563.49	Savings
\$52,114.15	CD
\$113,414.36	TOTAL





2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		National Go Barefoot Day 	1 	2 Anniv: Craig Schultz & Meg McCabe-Schultz	3 	4
5 Pentecost 9:30 Worship	6  National Yo-Yo Day	7	8	9  HAPPY DONALD DUCK DAY	10	11 Worldwide knit & crochet In public day! 
12 9:30 Worship	13 B'day: Tom Sulzer	14  Flag Day	15	16  national FUDGE day	17	18  World Juggling Day
19 Father's Day/ Juneteenth 9:30 Worship	20	21	22	23  National Pink Flamingo Day	24	25
26 9:30 Worship	27 June 27th National Sunglasses Day 	28 Anniv: Dave & Denise Lester	29	30  NATIONAL Handshake DAY		

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Eau Claire, WI 54703

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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The Editor welcomes contributions for the newsletter including news, thank you notes, inspirational thoughts, quotations, or humor.

(Deadline for the **July** newsletter is Sunday, **June 26th.**)

Website: www.truaxucc.org
Sunday Service - **9:30 AM**
Council President: Chris Ambelang
715-835-7165
Newsletter Editor: Diana Stenner
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Celebration of Life
Rev. David J. Stratton

Former pastor and friend
Saturday, June 25 at 2 PM
at
Lake Street
United Methodist Church
337 Lake Street
Eau Claire

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reports: Trustees: Old ceiling tiles in the basement need to be removed. This is a multi-person job. We'll have a work day on September 10, to take care of this job. "Stay tuned" for working time! There were no **Other Reports** to be shared. **Next meeting:** Wednesday, August 17, at **6 PM**. (Note change of time.) Pam moved to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 11:40 AM with the Lord's Prayer.

-- Submitted by Diana Stenner, Clerk