

Gaylord United Church of Christ
2009 Annual Meeting
January 18, 2009

The Annual Meeting of the Gaylord United Church of Christ was opened with a prayer by Pastor Keith. President Sue Keithahn called the meeting to order.

Agenda Review: Motion was made by Pauline Marlinski and 2nd by Cal Schrupp to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Quorum – 10 % of congregation was met with a count of 33

Gail Estenson presented a new gavel to Sue.

Board and Committee reports and Minutes of last year's annual meeting were on hand to review. There were no questions.

Old Business:

1. 7th Street House – Sue Keithahn – is listed with Hebeisen Real Estate. Rachel Frauendienst had a 2nd showing today, otherwise has not been showing it much. Trustees and Troidahls are monitoring. Pauline received a list from Rachel on ways to make it more saleable – she suggested the Trustees work on this.
2. Search Committee – Mark Pauly – They continue to meet frequently. They have gone through numerous profiles, had numerous discussions with candidates. One candidate has come for a visit and they continue to have discussions with that candidate.

New Business:

1. Approval of Slate of Officers, Boards and Committees
Jim Peterson moved to cast a unanimous ballot for the Slate of Officers, Boards and Committees, and to accept the Committee Reports. 2nd by Harriet Troidahl. Motion carried
2. Budget Presentation – Phil Keithahn
Phil did an overview of all the funds of the church. He explained our cash dropped by approx. \$20,000. Our giving dropped by approx. \$12,000, and the house has cost us approx. \$11,000.
Women's Fellowship donated \$4000 to be used for furnace and/or lighting.
If there was a memorial designation by a family, the Council needs approval from that family to approve change of designation.
Thanks for Phil for his thorough explanation of the various funds.

2009 Budget: We have 60 pledging households, and he has received 28 pledges for the year.

We contribute 10% to OCWM – Gaylord is in the top 10% per capita in MN for giving to the special offerings
approx. \$70,000 of our budget is for minister and staff
approx \$23,000 is to keep building open
We are \$36,000 short in pledges
Search Committee should encourage prospective pastor to use house as parsonage
We could cover shortfall for this year, but what about 2010?
We need to find ways to get others, those who don't pledge, to give.

Motion was made by Arlen Sneltsjes and 2nd by Cal Schrupp to adopt the 2009 Budget.
Motion carried.

3. Renew the Church – Gail Estenson

Gail, Sue Keithahn, Aggie Schue and Pastor Purscell went to Mayflower UCC Church in Mpls to hear a presentation from Rev. Paul Nickerson.

His message was churches are becoming spiritually dead and have lost touch with the community, God and each other. Sue and Gail would like to start a small group to focus on spiritual renewal. There is a recommended book, “Unbinding the Gospel – Real Life Evangelism” by Martha Grace Reese. They will have a meeting sometime in February and would like the congregation to prayerfully think about attending.

4. Opportunity for Questions/Concerns.

Each member was given an opportunity to write down a question or concern for the council. These will be discussed at the next council meeting and the council will get back to the congregation at a later time.

Pastor Comments: Pastor Keith Purscell

He congratulated the congregation on the relationship that we have with the community. He invited anyone to share and/or visit with him at any time. He stressed that the relationship with the pastor is mutual. He suggested that we need to figure out a ministry to reach those who are now estranged from our or any church.

Passing of the Gavel, President's Comments: Sue thanked everyone for helping: especially the “unsung heroes,” and the Council. She was able to pass an actual gavel to Gail Estenson, who thanked the church for the opportunity to serve.

A motion was made by Jane Peterson and 2nd by Denise Tourtellott to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned.

Beth Wilson
Council Secretary