

Emanuel United Church of Christ  
Consistory Minutes  
October 13, 2020

Present: Brad Kurtz, Helen Tritt, Andrea Sammons, Nick Kindel, Janel Baughman, Glenn Lynn, Val Cordray, Harriet Neiser, Ernie Lyons, Pastor Gaye Santoro.

Absent: Betsy Rawlins, Alexandra Sammons

The consistory meeting was called to order at 7:04pm by President Brad Kurtz through Zoom.

Pastor Gaye Santoro opened the meeting with prayer.

Correspondence: none

**Secretary's report:** Minutes were approved via e-mail by consistory after the September meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** The offering is running \$5,000.00 behind each month. The balance in the checking account is running lower than normal. Andrea will keep an eye on the checking account balance. Ernie made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and Glenn seconded it. Motion carried.

**Pastor's Report:**

- attended 4 meetings
- had 3 special events- Pet Blessing at the park, movie drive in and World Communion Sunday drive-in worship service
- learning the new streaming system.
- Put the books back in her office after the offices were painted and got new carpeting.
- Question was raised from a consistory member if Pastor Gaye is planning to finish the Confirmation work that was missed in April. She is working on getting together with the youth and finishing the three sessions left.
- Ernie made a motion to accept the Pastor's report and Harriet seconded it. The motion carried.

**Old Business:**

- New Worship Committee Formation: The lady who was planning to run the worship is taking a job in New England. The committee is on hold.
- New Church Website update: The committee is looking at two website providers- Wix and Constant contact. They are checking prices.
- New Church Video Program Update: Pastor Gaye is training on the software Easy Worship. The camera will need to be connected to Easy Worship software. The sound people will still run the sound and a second person will run the video and camera.

**New Business:**

- Pastor's Jury Duty - Summit County from October 19-October 23.
- All Saint's day service (Nov. 1) will be a drive -in. We will have people speaking about the church members who passed away in this past year. Afterwards, families can go in the church to watch the slide show and light candles.
- Pastor's Vacation - Pastor Gaye is taking a week's vacation from November 2-7. Veteran's Day service (November 8) will be through zoom with Rev. John Schluep, who

works with the Warriors' Journey Home, as the guest preacher.

- Church to open November 29th- First Sunday in Advent
  - Discussion was held about the opening of church. Brad asked consistory members their thoughts and concerns. Some members felt we should open and others had concerns about being in crowds.
  - There was a question about singing. There will be no singing. We need to adhere to the CDC guidelines. Some felt it would be okay to sing with masks. Humming is acceptable. Pastor Gaye suggested learning hand signs for the doxology.
  - There was a question about the capacity of the church which is possibly 50.
  - Procedures were discussed for a safe return. People will be ushered out one row at a time. Masks will be worn at all times and pews will be roped off to maintain social distancing. Hymnals and pew Bibles will be removed and large print bulletins will be placed on pews. People can bring their own bible each week. A person will be taking temperature of members entering church. Nick volunteered to compile a list of guidelines which will be printed in the weekly broadcast.
  - There will be two services for Christmas Eve people will need to sign up for the service they want to attend.
  - Janel made a motion to open the church on November 29<sup>th</sup> with a list of guidelines to follow and Val seconded the motion. The vote was 7 for the motion and 2 against the motion. The motion carried.

## **Standing Committees:**

### Christian Education:

- Sunday School on zoom is going well.
- The movie Coco will be shown outside on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. At 7:00.
- Trunk or Treat will be on October 25<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 We have 12 members participating in passing out treats. Everyone will be wearing masks.
- The Sunday school has bought advent wreath for families to have at home this advent season.
- The children's Christmas program will be an outdoor program/ live Nativity Scene. We will be acting out/singing the song "The Friendly Beast".

### Property

- Painted the offices & new carpeting
- tore out the small wall by the elevator
- moved the light to be in line with the other lights.
- Starting to paint the Narthex

Elders: see report

Safety and Security: \$309.00 for AED batteries and adult and children's pads.

Pastoral relations, Mission, Technology, Music: did not meet

A motion to adjourn was made by Nick. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Helen Tritt, Secretary