

Greensboro United Church of Christ
Minutes of the Annual Meeting
August 16, 2009

Paul Fixx welcomed everyone to the meeting and read the warning. He called the meeting to order at 11:25. Paul commented that the annual report reflected the fact that our church is a very active place. Even though we continually worry about the expense of running a busy facility, he reminded us that we should be happy about all the activity and, in fact, should invite our friends and acquaintances to join us in sharing in our busy church life.

Ken Johnston spoke on behalf of the deacons. He expressed thanks to church members for pitching in and helping with the many activities of the church. He reported that one of the major goals of the deacons is to encourage better attendance at Sunday services and suggested that the congregation could be helpful in this regard by encouraging friends and family to attend.

Ed Stehle made a motion to accept the minutes as presented in the annual report. John Hewett seconded and the motion passed.

Janet Long made the motion to accept all board and committee reports as presented in the annual report. John Hewett seconded. The motion passed.

Andy Dales spoke briefly on the budget report, noting that the summary on page 15 in the annual report gave a comprehensive overview of our financial position. He also noted that he was presenting the budget for 2010, not 2009 as was stated in the warning for this meeting. The year 2009 was, and is, a tumultuous financial time and Andy was pleased to report that the church survived better than expected. He pointed out that our solid financial position was due in large part to the wise decisions made by past and present investment committees and he thanked them for their good management. We expect to meet the 2009 budget which has been revised to take economic circumstances into account. In 2010, salary increases will continue at 3.5%. We expect energy costs to increase from their present levels, but our prices for the coming winter are locked in already. The rest of our expenses are within normal bounds and Andy noted that the new piano is not coming out of general funds. The target for contributions for next year was raised by \$5000 and we therefore request the congregation's continued generous support. Rental income seems to have decreased and that will be looked at in the coming year.

Andy Dales made the motion to accept the budget as written. Ed Stehle seconded. The motion passed.

Paul Fixx noted that the minutes of the Meeting of Associate Members were not included in the Annual Report because the meeting took place last Sunday and the report was already in the works. Look for the minutes in the newsletter or online.

Person nominated for various boards were read as follows:

Deacons: Judy Dales and Mike Coffey (term to end 2012)
Trustees: Brian Gilmartin (2012)
Christian Education: Cara Hill (2012)
Mission Board: Clive Gray (2012)
Conference Delegates: Marion Babbie, Sonia Dunbar (2010)
NE Association Delegates: Karen and John Miller (2010)

Church Council, At Large: Andy Dales

Trish Alley made a motion that the Clerk casts one vote to accept the nominations. Ed Stehle seconded and the nominations were accepted..

Tony's report indicated that he agreed with Paul's assessment that it has been a very active year. We have some new folks who have become active on various boards. Cara Hill and Tony are working to create a youth group. This is the next logical step after having had such a successful confirmation class. The youth group hopefully will be in conjunction with three other churches from Craftsbury, E Craftsbury and Hardwick. Tony designated the formation of this group as a very high priority in the coming year.

The GUCC Website is up and running (www.guccvt.org). Tony suggested it was a good way for associate members to keep in touch during the winter. The church calendar is on the site and there are many designated spots on the site that await information from boards and members. Feel free to send pertinent information to Cass or Tony.

Alan Lukens suggested our annual appeal to Associate Members come earlier in the year, when associate members are here in Greensboro. Currently it happens in the fall.

Glea Kreider said she had read about the February Cabin Fever Follies in the newsletter for years and wondered if a similar event could be organized for the summer months. After a loud groan from the winter people subsided, a discussion ensued and it was agreed that some kind of light, entertaining event might be a good idea. However, it was pointed out that most year-round folks are flat out in July and August, because every town organization increases the level of activity during the summer. It was pointed out that an event like the Follies might attract some of the younger people, which is one of our goals. Glea agreed to look into the idea.

Andy Dales noted we owe a big "thank you" to retiring board members.

Andy made a motion to adjourn. John Hewett seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy B. Dales
Clerk