

**Northwest Ohio Association, UCC
Cabinet Meeting February 18, 2012**

Present: Susan Bishop, Moderator; Robin LaBolt, Vice Moderator; Karen Miller, Secretary; Jim Henry, Treasurer; Rev. Dan Busch, Association Minister; David Culp, Doug Ricci, Mary Court, Joel Fetter, and Becky Erb Strang.

Call to Order & Devotions

Susan Bishop called the meeting to order and Doug Ricci led devotions based on words of his own and also those of Anthony B. Robinson about writing our own next chapter. He closed with prayer.

Minutes

The minutes of the Executive Board conference call were accepted and the minutes of the October 8 Cabinet meeting were approved as presented upon motion by David Culp which was seconded by Doug Ricci.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Jim Henry reviewed the 2011 financial statement, the 2012 Final Budget and also the Goal Budget for 2013 which will be adopted at the Spring Association meeting. At their meeting, the Finance and Budget Committee recommended increasing the retention rate by 2% to 55%. In the discussion figures were presented listing the retention rates of other associations in the state. After discussion Doug Ricci made a motion to increase the retention rate for the NWOA to 57% which will send 43% to the Conference. Motion was seconded by Karen Miller. Motion carried. The 2013 goal budget was discussed. The same retention rate will apply in 2013 and expenses will show a 3% increase. This is the first increase in several years and the staff was commended for consistently under-spending the budget and keeping expenses down. Cathy Lawrence made a motion to recommend this goal budget for action at the Spring Association meeting. Seconded by David Culp. The motion carried. Jim also noted that this is the year for an audit and it is set to begin next week. He also gave a report on the response to the OCWM commitment letters and the Trinity Dollars report. It was noted that the commitment letters were pretty flat.

Update on Litigation

Robin, Cathy and Rev. Dan reported on the meeting with the legal mediator. They were not impressed with his handling of the meeting. It was noted that a trial date has been set for July 9 and 10 and the outcome could go either way.

The Village

A conference call was held with Cheri Holdridge of The Village church in the Toledo area. She gave an excellent report on attendance, activities, financial status and goals. She asked the association for an additional \$5,000.00 for this year.

Committee Reports:

The ad hoc restructuring committee headed by David Plant has not met as yet.

The Lay School Committee has not met as yet.

The Personnel Committee has met and has another meeting scheduled and they will have a report by the Association meeting.

Rev. Dan reported that the **Nominating Committee** is in process and things are going very well on that front.

Robin LaBolt gave a report from the **ad hoc Church Growth and Transformation committee**. At this point they need names of persons to serve on the official committee. They are hoping for a lay person and a clergy from each of the regions and one cabinet member to serve as chairperson and liaison with the cabinet. Jim Oates would be asked to act as a consultant to the committee. The committee will be an ad hoc committee under the cabinet and will be charged with developing an application form, describing the application process, and also the evaluation of the completed project. They will be able to grant up to \$200.00 for projects but larger amounts of grants would need the approval of the cabinet. A motion to form the committee with the above listed membership and duties was made by Cathy Lawrence and Seconded by Becky Erb Strang. Motion carried.

After discussion, a motion to commit \$2500.00 to The Village from the Covenant Fund with the challenging hope that the Association's churches will match or exceed this amount. Motion was made by Becky Erb Strang and second was given by Doug Ricci. Motion carried. It was also suggested that Susan Bishop write a letter to Cheri with the recommendation of the cabinet and to outline the cabinet's expectations of her part in this challenge.

Ministry Team Reports

Church and Ministry report was given by David Culp. He announced a Clergy Professional Day coming up in October at Heidelberg as well as reports of ordinations and installations both past and coming up. He also noted that we have 8 in care students at the present time. A motion to approve the appointment of Dale Schmidt to Church and Ministry was made by Dave Culp and seconded by Becky Erb Strang. Motion carried.

The Stewardship & Caring Team report was given by Doug Ricci. The group is developing new guidelines and is looking more deeply into the "caring" aspects of their charge. They are also working on doing a Budgeting Workshop at the Association office. Their next meeting is scheduled for March 20.

Mary Court reported for the **Witness and Proclamation Team** with information from their fall meeting including Green Articles, the Patton award, and the El Salvador trip. Rev. Dan and Catherine Lawrence also shared experiences from that mission trip to El Salvador. The regular meeting in January had to be cancelled because of the weather and their next meeting will be March 15.

The Faith Formation Team report was given by Catherine Lawrence who was very excited about the number of hits the Lenten Blog created by the team has received. It will be noted that David Culp actually looked at the blog! The committee will be meeting again in March and one of the plans is to work on ideas for a blog for the summer.

Regional Coordinating Teams

Sandusky Valley Region

Joel Fetter represented Sandusky Valley. He noted that the first newsletter was very well received and they may be working on another issue. They have not met lately but one of the projects under discussion was a disaster relief kit work day.

Lakeshore Region

The Lakeshore region was not represented but Rev. Dan reported on their upcoming choir concert which he is directing. He also gave a brief report on the Small Church Cluster choir fest held recently in McCutchenville.

Auglaize Valley Region

Becky Erb Strang from the Auglaize region reported that they were having their Leadership Empowerment Day on March 18 which will also focus on music. The editor of the new praise hymnal will lead the program. She also noted that their clergy meets every other month for lunch and the other months there is a program.

Annual Spring Meeting

Susan reported that the committee would be traveling to Elliston in the coming week to meet with their committee. Plans are being finalized with Alice Hunt, President of the Chicago Theological Seminary as the featured speaker. It was decided to have the offering go to our commitment to The Village. It is also hoped that committees would have some informational displays with space for sign-up sheets for interested persons. Several forums have already been set and it was decided to ask Cheri Holdridge to have one to inform people about The Village.

Office Business

A motion was made by Becky Strang to report the medical reimbursement for Rev. Dan at \$0.00. The second was made by Cathy Lawrence. Motion carried.

Upon a recommendation from the executive committee, a motion was made by Cathy Lawrence to give \$500.00 for the United Church of Christ Support Staff Network. Seconded by Robin LaBolt. Motion carried. The Associations of Ohio will host this year's meeting in Cleveland and Joan Davidson is the chair.

It was noted that Joan has done some research on copiers and the office would save approximately \$80.00 a month by changing copiers. Motion to approve the change was made by Doug Ricci and seconded by David Culp. Motion carried.

It was noted that money needs to be moved from capital needs fund to cover the cost of striping the parking lot which was done last summer. Motion to make this change was made by David Culp and seconded by Doug Ricci. Motion carried.

Rev. Dan's Report

Rev. Dan gave a more complete report on the El Salvador trip by sharing experiences and meetings with the people that they talked with and met. Everyone was so impressed and moved by the entire experience.

Upcoming Dates

The regularly scheduled Cabinet meeting on March 10 has been moved back a week to March 17 and the executive committee conference call will be March 7. The All Team meeting has been set for August 25 at Findlay and the summer Cabinet meeting is tentatively set for July 21. The Cabinet meeting will be May 19th and Becky Erb Strang will have devotions. Executive Committee Conference call will take place on May 16.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Karen Miller
Secretary

Northwest Ohio Association – UCC

Cabinet Meeting March 17, 2012

Present: David Culp, Catherine Lawrence, Doug Ricci, Mary Court, Eric Rummel, Becky Erb Strang, Karen Miller, Jim Henry (via telephone), Robin LaBolt, Susan Bishop, Rev. Dan Busch, and Gerald Reichert, representing Reichert & Associates, CPAs

Moderator, Susan Bishop called the meeting to order and Rev. Dan introduced Mr. Gerald Reichert who represented Reichert & Associates, CPAs who just finished this year's audit. Mr. Reichert went over the draft of the report and answered questions from the group. Jim Henry made a motion to accept the audit report as presented. Seconded by Cathy Lawrence. Motion carried. Susan Bishop voiced thanks to Carolyn Pennington for her work taking care of the financial duties of the NWOA office. Mr. Reichert was excused and Jim Henry gave the financial statement for January which is good. He also highlighted the final 2012 budget and the 2013 proposed budget. Jim made a motion to accept the budgets as presented. Seconded by Doug Ricci, the motion carried. Jim Henry was excused from the meeting.

Devotions and prayer were offered by Karen Miller and the meeting continued with a motion to approve the minutes of the February 18th cabinet meeting, with corrections and to accept the minutes of the March 7th Executive Committee conference call. Motion was made by David Culp and seconded by Becky Strang. Motion carried.

Committee Reports – The Ad hoc restructuring committee has not met due to time constraints. There was some talk of a possible survey of people's thoughts at the Annual meeting. It was decided instead upon motion by Mary Court that David Plant, committee chair person, does a presentation at the August All Team meeting, including any survey results. Seconded by David Culp. Motion carried.

The Lay School committee will meet after Easter. The members are Sam Buehler, David Ferguson, Cathy Lawrence and Rev. Dan.

The Church Growth Committee is at the stage of looking for members.

Ministry Team Reports – Church & Ministry was reported by David Culp who reported on meeting with two prospective ordinands, listed upcoming dates for programs and meetings including an October 30 Professional Day at Heidelberg.

Witness & Proclamation – The report was presented in written form and highlighted by Mary Court. (A copy is included with the minutes.)

Stewardship & Caring – Doug Ricci is that committee representative. They have not met since the last cabinet meeting.

Faith Formation - Cathy Lawrence reported for this committee with news of updates to the blog for the Easter season and also for the summer. They are working on adding resources and she specifically mentioned Text Week and Working Preacher as good ones for persons to know about.

Regional Coordinating Team Reports - Sandusky Valley has a meeting set but no report for the present time. The Lakeshore team sent a written report from Jennifer Jackson. It is included. Eric Rummel reported on the upcoming (tomorrow, in fact) Leadership Empowerment Day in the Auglaize region. They are also looking to meet at Defiance College in the fall.

Ohio Conference Board Representative – Becky Erb Strang reported on the recent board meeting which Rev. Dan also attended. She reported that the Annual Gathering this year will consist of two days, one in Columbus with the focus on worship and a short business meeting in June and the other a family picnic /hog roast at the camp in September. There was some discussion of the financial state of the conference and the association’s concern of same. A motion was made by David Culp and seconded by Doug Ricci that the Moderator, Vice Moderator and Cathy Lawrence formulate and forward a letter on behalf of the association regarding our coventential financial concerns with the conference to the conference office. Motion carried.

Rev. Dan gave his report. He talked about the Pastoral Excellence program. Part of the program is asking churches to find their niche in the community and to ask the question: Would your church be missed in your community if it were to close? He mentioned to good work being done in the associations by Jim Oates and in a related comment included work for Healthy Congregations and Healthy Church programs being done by Cathy Lawrence and others.

The Association’s spring meeting at Trinity UCC in Elliston on April 28th was discussed. It was noted to add The Village as one of the Forums. The theme is: “Do Ask, Do Tell” and the featured speaker is Alice Hunt. The offering is to go to The Village and another musical group The Swiss Singers will entertain from 12:30 to 1:00 p.m. Reminder post cards will be sent instead of the packets to help save on postage.

The following dates were listed: May 16 Executive Committee Conference Call

May 19 Cabinet meeting – Beck Erb Strang, devotions

July 21 Cabinet meeting (after trial)

August 22 Executive Committee Conference call

August 25 All Team Meeting, First UCC Findlay – Cathy Lawrence, devotions

Meeting was adjourned at 11:40 p.m.

Karen Miller, Secretary

Northwest Ohio Association--- UCC

Cabinet Meeting May 19, 2012

Present: David Culp, Catherine Lawrence, Doug Ricci, Becky Erb Strang, Jim Henry, Robin LaBolt, Susan Bishop, Jennifer Jackson, David Plant, Dan Busch

Moderator: Susan Bishop called the meeting to order. Becky Erb Strang gave the opening devotions. A motion was made to approve the minutes of March 17, 2012 as corrected. Motion made by David Plant and seconded by Catherine Lawrence. Motion carried. The report of the May 16 Executive Committee were accepted.

Treasurer's Report: Jim Henry gave the treasurer's report. He announced that the total assets of the NWOA are \$300,839.43 and the Liability is \$23,963.83. Jim said the cash flow for the association has been reasonable. We have not had to take money out of reserves. The OCWM receipts are still turning downward and this causes concern. He suggested that it was a good thing that we had changed the retention rate. In the January through March report the treasurer said that we were short \$16,305 versus the budget. Jim also gave a NWOA fund report. The treasurer's report was accepted by cabinet.

NWOA Annual Meeting- Cabinet was given the unapproved minutes of the last annual meeting. The evaluations of the meeting suggested that people liked the meeting.

Committee reports:

1. The Ad hoc restructuring committee will design a survey to be done at the all team meeting.
2. The past Lay School Board did some work on this project. Discussion was held on the many facets of Lay School. There is a need for more people on the Lay School Board. The following names were mentioned for service on that board. They are Sam Buehrer, Cliff Munger, Dave Ferguson, Dan Busch, Robin LaBolt, Becky Lust, and Marian Plant. Their role would be to define the role of Lay School and come back to cabinet with that information.
3. NWOA Church Growth and Transformation Team: They are looking for more people to serve on this team. Right now the following are serving on the team: Eric Rummel (Convener), David Jones, Karen Miller, and Gary Proietti. They are still searching for a lay person from both Auglaize and Lakeshore Regions. They plan to meet sometime prior to the All-team meeting.
4. Ministry Team Reports: Church and Ministry reported that they have had exit interviews with a couple ministers and announced the various dates of upcoming events. Oct 30th is a Professional Day to be held at Heidelberg University. Witness and Proclamation reported on their re-organization and announced their meeting dates. The El Salvador partnership was reported on. Such things as Lakeshore Choir Fest, Disaster kit assembly and a Toledo area clean-up project that might happen were mentioned in their report. Stewardship and Caring needs to re-schedule their meeting. They felt that the workshop they provided at the annual meeting went well. Faith Formation talked about their Blog and how well it is received and the great information that it provides

Regional Coordinating Team Reports: Sandusky Valley reported that they are working on their newsletter. Lakeshore announced that the choir fest went quite well. They are talking about other goals. Auglaize Valley is sponsoring a regional youth event on October 21 at Defiance College.

Ohio Conference Board Representative- Becky Erb Strang reported on the Ohio Conference Board. Their next meeting will be on June 1. In discussion about the Ohio Conference the Cabinet offered their concern about the financial problems of the Ohio Conference. It was decided that a letter will be presented at the June 1 meeting on behalf of the NWOA Cabinet showing our concern over the financial condition of the Conference. Catherine Lawrence, Becky Erb Strang, and Susan Bishop will put together that letter.

Association Minister Report: Dan Busch... Rev. Busch suggested that it has been a busy time for the Association. He is the representative from the Ohio Conference to the Mid-West Ministries Board. He is also on the United Church Homes Board.

Old Business/New Business: Video conferencing was discussed. Mark Bishop will talk to us about this. Discussion was held on the future phone conferences for the Executive Committee. It was decided to try to meet one hour before the cabinet meeting.

Meeting Dates: July 21 Cabinet (after trial)

August 25 All Team Meeting

Meeting was adjourned at Noon.

For the Secretary: David M. Culp

CABINET MEETING
United Church of Christ - Northwest Ohio Association
July 21, 2012

PRESENT: Susan Bishop, Dan Busch, David Culp, Sharon Flickinger, Jim Henry, Robin LaBolt, Eric Rummel, Rebecca Erb Strang, David Voll

ABSENT: Mary Court, Joel Fetter, Jennifer Jackson, Catherine Lawrence, David Plant, Doug Ricci

Meeting called to order by Susan Bishop, Moderator

DEVOTIONS: Dan Busch

MINUTES: *Motion by Jim Henry to accept the minutes of May 19, 2012 as printed. 2nd by Rebecca Strang. Motion carried.*

TREASURER'S REPORT: Jim Henry

Finance Committee met in June and after reviewing the finances decided to stay the course. This Committee also agreed it was a good decision to change the retention rate regarding monies sent to Ohio Conference. As OCWM receipts are still down, at their next meeting they will compose a letter to be sent in September to all Northwest Ohio churches regarding OCWM giving.

Jim reported total assets of \$302,764.81 with total liabilities of \$23,963.83 through June 2012. The January through June report shows (\$22,044.62).

Mention was made of the Trinity Dollar receipts – showing \$510.00; to date total of \$2865; goal is \$10,000 (\$3.00 per church member in Northwest).

Motion by Dave Voll to accept the Treasurer's Report ending June 2012 as printed. 2nd by Dave Culp. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

NOTE: Sharon asked if Committee Chairs/Representatives would please give her written highlights of their reports to aid in recording the minutes. Thank you!

Ad hoc Restructuring Committee: David Plant not being present, Susan reported she thought David was working toward preparing a questionnaire to be handed out at the All-Team meeting in August to see how everyone was thinking regarding present structure. It was voiced that any structure change by Conference would not be a quick process because change would have to go before all Associations for a vote. Dave Culp voiced he would like to see the proposed questionnaire before it is distributed. There was discussion during this part of the meeting regarding the Ohio Conf. and budget deficit of roughly \$85,000 being passed at their Annual Meeting with no question or discussion. Jim Henry is on a newly formed committee (no name yet) to discuss this deficit and has no idea of direction that may come from this Committee. They are to meet sometime in August. Some voice as to what does the Conf. do now other than camps? Is a feel of connection lacking?

Lay School Board: didn't meet – but questions were brought forth from Susan (see agenda of the July 21st Cabinet Meeting for these questions)

Church Growth and Transformation: Eric Rummel reported trying not to oversell this Committee – attempting to go with fewer committed members (rather than member numbers who might not have the passion) and then see what this committee might become.

Personnel Committee: next meeting October 25, 2012. Reported they are working on ways of tweaking evaluations – maybe more goal oriented instead of check-marks!

MINISTRY TEAM REPORTS

Church and Ministry: Dave Culp reported new Licensure of Dave Ferguson to Memorial UCC in Toledo and renewal of 3 others. Renewal of 5 In-Care Students and a new In-Care Student, Bill Kerr. There have been two exit interviews: Brian Knoderer and Jamie Kent. Jeff Davis was welcomed as new pastor at Wapakoneta.

Witness and Proclamation: Dan Busch reported they are working on mission in the church and will be working in connection with Stewardship and Caring Committee and El Salvador and will meet on the same day to better coordinate working relationships.

Stewardship and Caring: See immediate above

Faith Formation: no meeting. Will meet at All-Team Meeting on August 25th.

REGIONAL COORDINATING TEAM REPORTS

Sandusky Valley: have not met

Lakeshore: Dave Voll reported they have not met but will be working on an event similar to last winter's event.

Auglaize Valley: Eric Rummel - Leadership Forum – September 11th @ Ohio Northern University – 10 to 3
November 13th @ Ohio Northern University – 10 to 3
Auglaize Valley Youth Event – Sunday, October 21 @ Defiance College 1:30 to 6
Pizza party and CSI event. Registration packets will be sent out to churches no later than August 15th.

Ohio Conference Board Representative : Rebecca Erb Strang – will meet in September

Association Minister Report: Dan Busch reported the trial delayed yet again because of a surprise witness. The case will now be continued on November 26.....

Dan recently was called to SONKA as their Association Minister had retired and they were involved in a fitness review. He has also taken some vacation time.

Starting to update office computers – and beginning info gathering on new server.

OLD BUSINESS

Investigating future video conferencing/remote access.

NEW BUSINESS

All –Team Meeting – Saturday, August 25th at First UCC Findlay 9:30 to 2:30. Dan Busch devotions. Will work on agenda for the day. Committees will probably meet for one hour as this will replace their normal meeting times. This will not replace C & M monthly meeting.

Future dates of Cabinet Meetings: October 13th – Robin LaBolt devotions
January 26th – Rebecca Erb Strang devotions
March 9th - Susan Bishop devotions
May 18th - Sharon Flickinger devotions

Executive Committee will meet immediately BEFORE the Cabinet Meetings unless otherwise noted.

Northwest Ohio Annual Meeting – April 26, 2014 @St. Paul's UCC, St. Mary's

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Flickinger
Association Secretary

CABINET MEETING
United Church of Christ - Northwest Ohio Association
Saturday, October 13, 2012

PRESENT: Susan Bishop, Dan Busch, Sharon Flickinger, Jim Henry, Jennifer Jackson, Catherine Lawrence

ABSENT: Mary Court, David Culp, Joel Fetter, Robin LaBolt, David Plant, Doug Ricci, Rebecca Erb Strang

Meeting called to order by Susan Bishop, Moderator

DEVOTIONS: Dan Busch

MINUTES: *Motion by Jim Henry to accept the Executive Meeting and Cabinet Meeting minutes of July 21, 2012 as printed. 2nd by Catherine Lawrence. Motion carried.*

TREASURER'S REPORT Jim Henry

Jim stated the letter to be composed by the Finance Committee and sent in September to all Northwest Ohio churches regarding OCWM giving has been delayed and will now be sent, hopefully, by the end of October.

Jim reported total assets of \$305,611.92 with total liabilities of \$23,963.83 through September 2012. The January through September report shows total actual expense of \$269,822.33 vs. income of \$249,993.56 for a deficit of (\$19,828.77).

Dan stated there have been significant numbers of in-care persons/pastors needing to attend the Midwest Career Center and asked that additional monies be considered in next year's budget as it is being prepared. At the present time cost for attending Midwest is split three ways: home church, NWOA and person attending.

Susan questioned the line item in the budget of "Cabinet Funds" and asked what those funds are..... Jim will check.

RESIGNATION/APPOINTMENT

Due to the fact that Auglaize Valley Convener Eric Rummel has accepted a church in the Eastern Ohio Association a *motion was made by Jenny Jackson to accept Kristi Brown as Convener of Auglaize Valley, 2nd by Catherine Lawrence. Motion carried.*

All-Team Event

Voices present this date thought meeting was good and interaction by all present. Discussions continued regarding dates for event be considered for May, June, or September.

Office Business

Housing Declaration, Tax Shelter: *Motion by Jim Henry for budget line items of \$24,000 housing allowance and \$6,000 tax shelter for Rev. Dan Busch, Association Minister. 2nd by Jenny Jackson. Motion carried.*

Medical Reimbursement: *Motion by Jim Henry to pay Office Manager, Joan Davidson's health care deductible under her husband's health plan of 2012. 2nd by Catherine Lawrence. Motion carried.*

Staff Gifts: *Motion by Jim Henry to give Rev. Dan Busch a \$375 Christmas cash gift and Joan Davidson and Carolyn Pennington each \$250 Christmas cash gifts. 2nd by Jenny Jackson. Motion carried.*

Annual Meeting April 27, 2013 – Trinity, Tiffin

Dan reported the theme of "Child of Blessing, Child of Promise" with guest speaker Ronald S. Cole-Turner. Committees are all set and the plans are coming along nicely. Thinking of a Professional Day (the day before the meeting).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

REMINDER NOTE: Please continue to give Sharon a written report of your Committee/Team for the minutes. Thank You!

Ad hoc Restructuring Committee: David Plant sent written report detailing conclusions arrived from All-Team Event:
for 2013

- Monthly bulletin inserts provided to each church for communication –(sent electronically)
Today's suggestion: make them book-mark size so people might keep them
- Institute Fall meeting
Today's suggestion(s): make it special – 2013 is 50 year reason to celebrate; could make it an enlarged All Team Meeting – “Joy Continues”; could be OCWM focus with finance letter distributed; Susan and Catherine will start planning and seek help as needed. Dan asked to make sure not too much help will be needed from the NW Office Staff since so much is needed for the spring meeting.
- Dedicated room at NW and communication plan for social media
Today's suggestion(s): FIND tech savvy people. One suggestion, Luke Linden
- Ordination Experience with C & M
Today's discussion: no C & M person present this day. Per Dan, will continue to look it over.
- Regional Teams
Today's discussion: some regions are more alive than others. Maybe training at a fall meeting.

There was a question raised as to churches within regions, should there be some re-distribution for closer relationships?

Church Growth and Transformation

Cast the net to see who might be REALLY interested in being a leader for this Team – Dan casting and interviewing!

Lay School Board

Will meet October 30 and report to Cabinet.

MINISTRY TEAM REPORTS

Church and Ministry – Dan Busch reporting

Holiday Church Workers Event was held at Fairhaven on October 2nd with 72 persons in attendance. Reported Sam Buehrer leaving Galion for Sylvania; Berlin Heights has new pastor to start November 1; Ron Kline retiring at Crestline; Emanuel, Bluffton has opening; Gomer, Don Rock, interim; St. John's, Kenton –present pastor from Wisconsin was under fitness review. 3 of the 4 charges against him were sustained and he has left the UCC denomination. Kenton has voted to retain him as their pastor.....

Faith Formation – Catherine Lawrence reporting

Luke Linden continues to do blogs and he is very good. Plans are underway for early spring advent things. Continue to connect with the Association on all levels.

Stewardship and Caring (written report – by Doug Ricci)

- Team guidelines are being developed
- Budgeting workshop is being planned
- Estate planning workshop is being planned
- Teleconference between this team and Margaret Mills is set for the November 15 meeting –on stewardship

Witness and Proclamation (written report – by Mary Court)

- El-Salvador – trip scheduled for March. Heidelberg may include students for trip. Total all not to exceed 15.
- No update on mission questionnaires.
- Paton Award – working on list of churches who have received the award.
- Terry Kohanski will continue to write for the Vine detailing the Green Project.
- Thoughts to continue to promote this Committee such as: a) Peace emphasis. b) Promote mission. c) Promote the Perrysburg Islamic Center Spring Dinner and Summer International Festival in an effort to encourage better relations between Christians and Muslims. d) Could promote better relations with the LGBT community as a step towards peace. e) Question as to WHO promotes CUE?

REGIONAL COORDINATING TEAM REPORTS

Auglaize Valley: Dan Busch Leadership Forum - November 13th @ Ohio Northern University – 10 to 3
Auglaize Valley Youth Event – Sunday, October 21 @ Defiance College 1:30 to 6
Pizza party and CSI event. Registration packets will be sent
to churches no later than August 15th.

Lakeshore: Jenny Jackson reported last meeting September 19. Excited! Two projects 1) Lenten Devotional written by clergy and laypersons. 2) 2nd Choir Festival on Sunday, February 10 @ 4p.m. St. John's Elmore. Still in need of linking person from Faith Formation Team. (also written report)

Sandusky Valley: no one present, no report

Village Report

Listed with our insurance coverage is a line item for Property Insurance for the Village at \$466 per year. . (it is listed as stained glass insurance but felt that was incorrectly listed from old Nu-Vizion coverage). At present the Village has office space plus they meet at a theatre in Maumee for worship service *Motion by Jim Henry to pay the \$466 this year for the coverage, 2nd by Jenny Jackson. Motion carried.*

Ohio Conference Board Representative - Dan Busch reporting

Dan reported Cleveland is hosting the General Synod Meeting in 2015. (He just learned this last Thursday) Apparently Baltimore was also in the running but they withdrew their name. The Ohio Conference must financially support this General Synod Meeting. The Tampa Conference spent around \$200,000 – and in Milwaukee approximately \$70,000 was needed. There are no funds at the present time, and, according to Sam Buehrer, the Conference could be broke by the end of 2013 if finances do not change. As of now, there is a deficit of \$200,000...and that could possibly be \$240,000 by the end of the year! Next meeting will be December 14th. Discussion at the last meeting was that "the money could be raised!" Question today was, "why do we still keep the camps?" Jim Henry, who is on the select committee looking into the Conference finances, reported they are working with all different things and it is very difficult – they have no authority, they are just to come up with a plan to take to the Ohio Conference, and then to the Associations.....

Association Minister Report

El Salvador – Salvadoran Lutheran Synod November 11-16. Letter from John Gilberg, Chair of the El Salvador Coordinating Team, asking for release of \$1000 from our funds to help pastors from very poor areas participate in this important meeting. *Motion by Catherine Lawrence to release the money. 2nd by Jim Henry. Motion carried.*

Personnel Committee – meeting October 25, 2012

Property Committee - okay

Litigation with Culligan - should be final November 26th 2012.

NEW BUSINESS

Future dates of Cabinet Meetings: January 26 @9:30a.m. - Rebecca Erb Strang devotions

March 9 @9:30a.m. - Susan Bishop devotions

May 18 @9:30a.m. - Sharon Flickinger devotions

Executive Committee will meet immediately BEFORE the Cabinet Meetings @9:00 a.m. unless otherwise noted.

Northwest Ohio Annual Spring Meeting – April 27, 2013 @Trinity UCC, Tiffin – 50th Anniversary

April 26, 2014 @St.Paul's UCC, St. Mary's

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Flickinger, Association Secretary