

Final

**Executive Council
Minutes from Meeting of February 1, 2010**

Members present: Dave Ackerman (At Large), Aldene Ault (Deacons), Tom Ault (Trustees and Search Committee), Trish Esposito (Past Moderator), Tom Gustafson (Clerk), Marilyn Hall (Stewardship), Rosemarie Kelley (CE), Greg Muncell (Financial Secretary), Pete Mcleod (Outreach & Engagement), Dan Pence (Treasurer), Marsha Spieth (At Large), Jackie Walters (Communications Officer), Tim White (Moderator), Carolyn West-Gipson (Church Life), Cyndy Wright-Johnson (Moderator-elect).

Others present: The Reverend Susan Henderson (Interim Senior Minister), Nae Pearson (Director of Music), Anne Weissenborn (interim staff), John Enagonio from the Board of Social Witness

Moderator Tim White convened the meeting at 7:37 PM.

Tim started the meeting by inviting **appreciation** and comments on **the Reverend David Schoen's sermon** on January 24. The Rev. Schoen is team leader of the UCC Congregational Vitality and Discipleship Ministry Team. The thrust of his sermon was to remind us not just to minister internally. Members noted his message that we should minister to the community, the unchurched, and those who are seeking, as well as those around the world. We should recognize that people are less interested in organizational affiliations than previously. Tim raised the question of how we create a sense of ministry within our structure. Tom Ault observed that people are more likely to become involved in a ministry, rather than to seek out a board or committee.

Minutes for the meeting of January 4 were approved with minor corrections.

John Enagonio from the Board of Social Witness discussed community activities surrounding **the 2010 Census**. Silver Spring is considered hard to count because it has a large population of minorities, immigrants, and those with low income. Forms will be mailed out in March; April 1 is "Census Day"; visits by census takers will follow to attempt to enumerate everyone. The Board sought the approval of the Executive Council of a resolution to affirm the Board's leadership of and CCC's involvement in these activities. The activities are non-partisan and aimed at achieving as full a count as possible; allocation of various government funding and other activities depends in part on the recognized size of local populations, so a full count is advantageous to the area.

It was moved and seconded that "The CCC Executive Council affirms that John Enagonio and the Board of Social Witness shall represent CCC on the Montgomery County Complete Count Committee providing education and outreach to our community about the 2010 Census. This activity is a meaningful outgrowth of our congregation's Mission Covenants because it symbolizes our effort to be an inclusive church that hopes for greater community involvement by the many minority groups living in Silver Spring and Takoma Park. CCC will support efforts to distribute appropriate literature to CCC

members and others using our facilities, and other community outreach efforts encouraging full participation in the Census.” The motion passed unanimously.

Tom Gustafson and Dave Ackerman, as a committee charged for the purpose of proposing immediately needed **changes in the church constitution** and by-laws, presented a list of such changes. The proposed changes were largely in two areas: personnel and governance of financial affairs. In the personnel area, the changes aimed at providing a means to terminate a called minister, should that ever prove necessary, and at providing a foundation for employment of interim ministers. They also clarified that authority to *select* the Director of Music and interim ministers would lie with the Executive Council while these individuals, as other non-called employees, would be *appointed* to their posts by the Board of Trustees. In the financial area, the changes would update the language describing the duties of Treasurer and clarify the relations of the Trustees to the Treasurer and Financial Secretary, as well as the relations of each of these officers to their assistants. Several changes relating to committees were also included. Extensive discussion followed. Some changes were called for, particularly in the article on ministers. The committee agreed to revisit the proposals and bring a revised set to the next meeting for action.

Tim noted that he expected to bring to the March meeting the question of establishing the Music Committee and the Parish-Pastoral Relations Committee as standing committees.

Tim, at the request of the **Nominating Committee**, reported that Thom Hirsch had agreed to accept election to the Planned Giving Committee, filling the remainder of the term of Tom Ault, whose resignation had been necessitated by his other responsibilities. A motion was made and seconded to elect Tom Hirsh to the Planned Giving Committee. The motion carried unanimously. Tim noted that the Boards of Social Witness and Christian Education had yet to name representatives to the Nominating Committee.

Anne Weissenborn reported on several events relating to **social witness**. The service on Feb. 21 will address the Anti-Racism Covenant, and the Board plans to focus on the Just Peace Covenant at three services in the Spring. The Social Action and Missions Committee of the Potomac Association will hold a fair Feb. 28 at Little River UCC.

Tom Ault reported that the **Search Committee** was moving through second round interviews, together with a couple of first round interviews with candidates whose profiles had straggled in late. The Committee has reviewed about 70 candidate profiles. The process is generally on schedule, though Lent and Easter will slow progress somewhat. Tom suggested several possible weekends for a visit and sermon by the Committee’s proposed candidate, to be followed by a congregational meeting to consider a call: May 1 - 2; May 22 - 23; and June 12 - 13.

After a prayer led by Susan Henderson, Tim adjourned the meeting at 9:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Gustafson, Church Clerk

Approved March 1, 2010