

EGCC Council Minutes
March 15, 2010, 7:15 p.m.

In attendance: Sara Worcester, Jeanne Daggett, Karen Pestana, Kristen Hardendorf, Ruthie Holton, Brad Wolfe, Michael Bush, Lewis Vissia, Bryant Waller, Kevin McCloskey, and Jim Pestana

Jim began the meeting with an opening prayer, followed by a Bible Reflection lead by Michael.

- **Health Updates from Ministries (Joys and Concerns)**
- **Seeking New Life (What New Things are We Being Called to Consider)**
- **Continuing the Way (Previous Items that Need our Attention)**

(Prayer and reflection after each report)

Jeanne - Jeanne shared information about of the Lenten programs around the theme of Healing (Sears Island, Pot Luck, Music, Personal Healing stories and the healing service). Average attendance for each of the programs was 25-30 people. She also reported the continuation of the Healing Prayer group after church.

Michael - Michael gave updates about people on the prayer list. He also mentioned that emergency clergy back up while he is away on sabbatical will be covered by the co-pastors at First Congregational Church in Granby. (Daniel Schroeder and Bonnie Stagg). The Wednesday Morning Bible Study has signed up to do greeting and hospitality once a month. The Thursday morning Bible Study continues to do music at Meadowbrook.

Sara - Sara mentioned that the Tuesday Bible Study will be ending and the Women of God Study will be starting April. The Saturday Women's Day Retreat was attended by 33 people. The Visitation Team is continuing it's ministry on a regular schedule for about 25 people. She will also be starting a new study "Simple Generosity" on April 25th.

Lewis - (for Confirmation and Abundant Life Ministry) - Lewis reported on the Confirmation Overnight. They had 4 sessions which explored prayer. Lewis brought up a question regarding the proposed 2011 Budget process and the possibility of moving the process up so a draft budget could be presented as part of the Jubilee package. There was general agreement that this is something we do. The timetable for this process will be discussed at the April council meeting.

Brad (for Human Resources Ministry) - Brad mentioned that is was very difficult for the HR Ministry to prepare contracts in light of the budget issues and increases in the cost of health benefits. He indicated that the members of the HR Ministry needed more guidance about salaries and benefits prior to moving forward with next year's contracts. Brad also reported that the search team for the 3 staff positions (Pastor for Caring Ministry, Director for Discipleship and Coordinator for Youth Ministries) was moving forward,. He also mentioned that the Ministry has revised the employee manual.

Kevin (Physical Resources Ministry) - Kevin stated that based on input from the members of Physical Resources Ministry and EGCC members at large, there is a high level of support for moving forward with the Kitchen Renovation and Upgrade (full state certification as submitted by the KR Ministry Team) He proposed that we propose to finance the project through a congregational-wide capital campaign. Discussion followed this proposal and a decision was made to bring this to an all-

church meeting for review and approval. The meeting will be held on April 11th. Members of the KR team will prepare a presentation for the meeting.

Kevin also noted several other things currently being reviewed by the Ministry. One item was a review of the EGCC use of the Trust funds. This discussion is also including should there be a separate Board of Trustees" with oversight of the trust funds, and are the current uses of the Trust fund proceeds appropriate. Other action items of the ministry: Complete 2009 Audit (Sandy Boardman agreed to be one of the people for the 2009 audit); Wireless internet for CEC is underway, obtaining quotes for Roof replacements for the Parsonage and Fellowship Hall porticos, and the assessment of the phone system.

Karen (Worship and Caring Ministry) - Things are going well with the ministry. Hospitality continues to happen, Lilies for Easter have been ordered, and things seem to be falling in place for Holy week and Easter. She mentioned that the tech group that operates the sound system and recording of services is looking for additional members.

Kris - (Mission and Outreach Ministry) - Kris reported that the CROP Walk will be held this spring. Encouragement cards are continuing to be made available. Regarding earth quake relief in Haiti, many of the organizations supported by the Mission and Outreach budget are providing assistance on the ground. So rather than doing a separate donation from the M/O budget, they were encouraging people to make direct donations to organizations supported by M/O or other charities providing assistance.

Ruthie - (Spiritual Formation Ministry) - Ruthie asked for prayers and help with ministering to parents to help them their ability to make Sunday's a priority for worship.

Bryant (Abundant Life Ministry) - Bryant reported that there are 2 ministry positions open and that a new member class is scheduled to start on March 27th.

Jim - Emmaus - There was discussion about the upcoming Emmaus Weekend Ministry including discussion some of the logistics around Sunday worship, fellowship and coffee. Jim also reported on the meeting with the Search Team and representatives from the HR Ministry on March 11th.

Closing Prayer - Meeting ended 9:30 p.m.