

Session Meeting Minutes  
January 10, 2012

<b>Stated Meeting of Session</b>	The January 10, 2012 stated meeting of the Ogden Dunes Community Church was called to order by Moderator, Rev. Phil Smith at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall
<b>Quorum Present</b>	Moderator Rev. Phil Smith, Ruth Dyerly, Bruce Klimek, Julia Hoham, David Harbaugh, Mark Lecy, Ken Engel, John Skafish, Paul Rake, Jayne Mann, Dave Larson, Jane Dickey and Judy Selund. Also attending Tom Cornwell, Chuck Smothermon, Jeri Kris and Bill Bailey
<b>Absent and Excused</b>	None
<b>Prayer</b>	Rev. Smith opened the meeting with prayer.
<b>Approval of the Agenda</b>	<b>Motion</b> made to approve the proposed agenda; <b>seconded</b> ; amendment to add 2012 Corporation Trustees to new business made; <b>passed as amended</b> . A <b>motion</b> to adjourn at 9:0 made; <b>seconded and passed</b> .
<b>Privilege of Voice</b>	Bill Bailey was given privilege of voice to comment on the Town Hall meeting that the Presbytery held at the Church on January 8 <sup>th</sup> . He believes that the Reconciliation Team report is not worthy of the time Congregation members took to participate. The content does not warrant the amount of time it took to provide it to the congregation. Moreover, the Presbytery's stated reason for not approving Rev. Morrison's extension rings hollow given that the administrative failings were never brought to the attention Session which would have provided remedies. He felt the Presbytery delegation came across as very disingenuous. In the general discussion which followed, the consensus opinion was consistent with Bill's view.
<b>Approval of the Minutes</b>	<b>Motion</b> made to approve the minutes of the December 13, 2011 stated Session Meeting; <b>seconded and passed</b> .
<b>Clerk of the Session Report</b>	The following items were read into the record: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thank-you cards from Libby Larson and Brenda Sprengel expressing their appreciation for the Christmas bonus they received from the Congregation</li> <li>• The written "Reconciliation Team" report provided by the Presbytery on January 8<sup>th</sup>. (attached)</li> </ul>
<b>Board of Deacons</b>	No Report (Written report attached)
<b>Moderator's Report</b>	No report
<b>Old Business</b>	<b>Interim pastor search</b> – Continuing disappointment that Presbytery, which knew in August 2011 that Rev. Morrison's interim contract would not be renewed by it and which is preventing formation of a Pastor Nominating Committee until an interim is in place, has to date provided only one candidate for the position - on January 8 <sup>th</sup> . A <b>motion was made and seconded</b> that Session convey the following to the General Presbyter, Frank Vardeman: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submittal of only one potential candidate for the interim position is inadequate</li> <li>• When can we expect more?</li> <li>• Is there a problem? If so, please provide clarification.</li> </ul> <b>Motion passed unanimously</b>

	<p><b>Congregational Petition</b> - Discussion concerning the January 24<sup>th</sup> Presbytery Council meeting lead to agreement that a delegation of Chuck Smothermon, Jayne Mann, Bob Hartman (if available and willing) and Bruce Klimek would represent the Church. The consensus was that notwithstanding the e-mail received from the Presbytery Stated Clerk that the Council could do nothing about the petition, it was important to make our case before as much of the Presbytery as possible. The Book of Order judicial path which was part of the motion from the December meeting is still under consideration.</p>
<p><b>New Business</b></p>	<p><b>Committee Changes and Assignments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christian Education – Jane Dickey, Mark Lecy and Chuck Smothermon</li> <li>• Stewardship and Mission – Ruth Dyerly, Chuck Smothermon, Mark Lecy and Karen Compton (Stewardship Committee combined with Mission Committee and finance functions removed)</li> <li>• Worship – Jayne Mann, Jeri Kris and Julia Hoham</li> <li>• Evangelism and Hospitality – Jeri Kris and Dave Harbaugh</li> <li>• Property – Dave Harbaugh and Tom Cornwell</li> <li>• Finance and Endowment – Tom Cornwell and Paul Rake (Committee added)</li> <li>• Personnel – Paul Rake and Karen Compton</li> <li>• Technology – Karen Compton and Julia Hoham</li> <li>• Clerk of Session – Bruce Klimek</li> </ul> <p><b>Corporate Trustee Slate:</b> The following Corporate Trustee slate will be presented for a vote at the annual Congregational meeting January 22<sup>nd</sup>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bill Bailey, Tom Cornwell, Alan Johnson and Paul Rake</li> </ul> <p><b>Nominating Committee Slate:</b> The following Nominating Committee Slate will be presented for a vote at the annual Congregation meeting January 22<sup>nd</sup>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mark Lecy, Dave Harbaugh and Dave Larson</li> </ul> <p><b>Memorial Garden Trustees:</b> No action required. Trustees are Jane Dickey, Cheryl Engel, Ken Engel and Bob Hartman.</p>
<p><b>Motion to Extend Time</b></p>	<p>Motion to extend time to 9:30 made, seconded and passed.</p>
<p><b><u>Committee Reports/Actions</u></b></p>	
<p>Christian Education (Jane Dickey)</p>	<p>Youth Director’s report attached. Change for Change Mission Project was described and Session support was requested and received.</p>
<p>Property (Dave Harbaugh)</p>	<p>Building Usage <b>Motion:</b> March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1 – 3 PM in Fellowship Hall, Ogden Dunes Book Club meeting, <b>passed</b></p>
<p>Stewardship (Ken Engle)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report attached</li> </ul>
<p>Worship (Jayne</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>109</b> received communion in December</li> </ul>

Mann)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pulpit supply is covered thru 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in February</li> </ul>
Mission/Evangelism/ Hospitality (Ruth Dyerly)	Final budget balance of mission money dispersed.
Personnel (John Skafish)	Paul Rake shall coordinate the exit interview with Rev. Morrison.
Technology (Julia Hoham)	No report
<b>Prayer and Adjournment</b>	By <b>Motion</b> the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 with prayer. The next Stated Meeting of Session is scheduled for February 13, 2012 @ 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall
Respectfully Submitted: Bruce Klimek	See Attachments below

## Reconciliation Report

### Report from the listening sessions

This report is not in the nature of findings of fact related to the issues and concerns of the Ogden Dunes Community Church, nor does it contain opinions of members of the reconciliation team. This is simply a summary of what we heard from the roughly 60 members of the congregation that we listened to. Having said that, I will offer one opinion of the committee members, and that is we were struck with the deep love for God and for this church that was evident in all the people that we spoke with. All of us on the committee have lived in this area for some time and are very aware of the rich history of this congregation and the wonderful ways God has worked with them and through them and all the folks we talked to are anxious for this to continue. We are confident that this passion will enable Ogden Dunes Community Church to continue their tradition of being a vibrant community of disciples of Jesus Christ.

The roughly 61% of the congregation was very positive about the ministry of Rev. Morrison. They talked about Derek as being “a breath of fresh air” and revitalizing the congregation. They liked his preaching, which they felt was clear and biblical. They also appreciated his leadership, his pastoral care and involvement in all areas of church life and they felt that he was very intentional in making clear that they were in the process of preparing for a new called pastor. In addition, because Rev. Morrison’s contract was not renewed, they feel that they are back to square one in the process of having a called pastor and there is a great deal of anxiety about the future of the church.

They also felt blindsided when COM had not renewed Rev. Morrison’s contract, especially right before the Advent/Christmas season, and were very frustrated by that action. They felt that COM was being influenced by a handful of members, some of whom no longer regularly participated in the life of the church.

Another group, about 25% of the people we spoke to, were not supportive of Rev. Morrison and were relieved when COM did not renew his contract. They felt that the theology expressed in his sermons was too conservative and not inclusive enough. They believed that he ministered to those who agreed with him and had little to do with those who didn’t, especially if they were women.

They also felt disenfranchised by Rev. Morrison’s theology and leadership style, and that his conservative theology would not be welcoming to many people in the community. They believed that they were “out of the loop” in terms of important information about what the session was doing and what was going on with the presbytery. A number of the people in this group felt so uncomfortable that they no longer regularly attended Ogden Dunes Community Church and some were becoming active in other congregations.

The rest of the people we talked to, about 14%, were not as positive as the first group about Rev. Morrison, but, in spite of some disagreements with his theology, felt comfortable under his leadership. One of these people who identified themselves as a liberal enjoyed talking with Rev. Morrison about the points they disagreed on. They were dedicated to being a part of the congregation and were able to work with people they disagreed with, which they felt was an important part of the way Ogden Dunes Community Church had functioned in the past.

**One final note on communication. Both the first and last groups felt that they had no clear idea on why Rev. Morrison's contract had not been renewed and that the presbytery should have done a better job of clarifying why they took this action. There were also people in all groups, about 45% of the total, who felt that the Session did not pass on to the congregation all the information that they should about their actions and presbytery's action, that what information was passed on was filtered too heavily. They spoke of important decisions the Session had made, such as becoming a Confessing Church, that no one in the congregation knew about.**

Deacon's Meeting Minutes

Deacon's Meeting Minutes

ODCC BOARD OF DEACONS MEETING

December 20, 2011

**Members Present**

Chris Alkema      Nancy Hallman      Patty Harbaugh      Carol Huber      Sean  
Kilroy  
Cheryl Engel      Mardee Newton      Jill Wirth      Mary Louise Rieger

**Not Present**

Jacque Nagy      Carol Smith      Barb Smotherman

Opened meeting with prayer at 7:15

November minutes approved

**Committee Reports**

\***Shut-ins** - No visits were made

\***Cards** - Nancy sent cards to: Connie Collins, Roger Winsor, Gordon Johnson, Anne Meeks, Michelle Skaggs, Brad Wood, Libby, Kenny, Nancy Johnson, Carolyn Ribordy, Mike Webber & Mike Smith. A card was give to Mary Louise for Rob. Nancy will send a card to Dean Squire.

\* **Flowers** – Mary Louise delivered flowers to Eleanor Taddei. Jill will take flowers after Christmas.

\* **Session Liason** -Sean attended the Session meeting. Much the same information given as at the congregational meeting regarding the Pastoral search.

**Old Business**

**Coat Drive** -Cheryl dropped off the coats and sweaters collected to the Portage Re-sale shop.

**Angel Tree**- Jill delivered 20 gift pkgs. to the Bonner Sr. Center for the Angel Tree project.

**Cards for Linda Crouch** – Brenda is trying to get an address so these can be sent.

**Pumpkin Run** – Mary Louise was not at last meeting but reported that \$1,101.84 was raised for Heifer Int'l after expenses. She will talk with Brenda to see if check has been sent or if we can designate where the money should go. Mary Louise will follow-up on this.

**New Business** Looking ahead for projects for 2012.

Sidewalk Art/ Ice Cream Social – Mardee N. will look into this

Sweater/Blanket Drive – Chris A. brought up the need for these items at nursing homes.

Possibly do a drive in mid-January. On-going need in nursing homes.

January - sweater/blanket drive

February – Super Bowl / Chili Dump / Movie Night

March

April – Easter Brunch

May – Mother's Day Brunch

June – Father's Day Pies

July/ August – RailCats Game

September/ October – Pumpkin Run-Heifer Project

November – Food Drive / Talent Show

December – Angel Tree

Jill closed with prayer at 8:00.  
Next meeting January 17, 2012

Respectfully submitted,  
Cheryl Engel

## Youth Ministries Report

I have truly enjoyed the past few months as I have begun my ministry here at ODCC. I have met many wonderful and committed people, and I have seen God working in the life of the church. I thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Our after school program, "Thursdays with Kenny" has seen growth and has given me a better assessment of the needs of the younger kids. Since its beginning a few short months ago, we have gone from 0 kids to between 5 and 9 kids each week. This after school program has evolved to a point where I am able to put some more clear definitions on it. First, "Thursdays with Kenny" is geared toward kids in kindergarten through elementary school, or 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Second, now that an age level has been established, I have made a more structured program, consisting of Bible stories, crafts, snacks, games, and prayer. I am pleased with the progress that this ministry has made thus far.

The work with the older kids is still a work in progress. We continue to have events each month, including a trip to Six Flags, a couple themed parties, and participation in the November talent show. Some of these events have been fruitful, others not. This should not, however be a discouragement. We know that youth ministries, especially teen ministries, do not happen overnight. I am still working to bring in more teens on a more consistent basis. One event that I hope will bring the older youth together is the upcoming ski trip. I will have an opportunity to get to know the youth a little better and find more creative ways to get them involved at ODCC. Also, we have started a high school bible study on the Sundays when I am at ODCC. Another concept which I intend to use to get more involvement from the teens is "Change for Change."

My average weekly delegation of hours:

3 hours for publicity- facebook, emails, calls, correspondence, outreach

5 hours for planning- brainstorming, research, discussions with peers, outreach

5 hours in the office- prep for afterschool program, meetings, "Thursdays with Kenny," curriculum selection, scheduling

2 hours for participating in other church ministries- choir, hand bell sub, preaching preparation

3 hours for personal professional time- Bible study, prayer, meditation, exercise, fellowship with other ministers



## Stewardship Minutes/Report January 10, 2012

The Stewardship Committee met on January 3 with Julia Hoham, Allen Johnson and Ken Engel in attendance.

The first matter of discussion was the year end comparison detail. The major points noted were as follows:

- Pledges collected were \$26,213 below budget at \$141,235
- Total expenses were \$13,860 over budget at \$225,101
- Total income was \$21,305 over budget at \$223,692
- Year-end total deficit was \$1,402

The 2012 preliminary budget required several updates, they are as follows:

- An increase in the general offering by \$5,000 to \$25,000
- An increase in the insurance and utility categories to the 2011 levels
- An increase in pledges to reflect several new pledges received

The total budget deficit for 2012 after the above changes were incorporated is \$26,393

Respectfully submitted,  
Ken Engel