



**PORTAGE
LAKE
UNITED
CHURCH**

PLUC

United Church of Christ & Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

1400 E. Houghton Avenue, Houghton, MI 49931-1208

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July 2022

Consistory Highlights

submitted by Beth Smock

OLD BUSINESS

Covid Protocols: The current covid protocols will be continued at this time.

Communion Servers: Elder Ann Campbell assisted with the June communion. Elder B. Brookhouse will assist with the July communion.

Building Use Policy Update: Consistory reviewed the policy draft submitted by the Building and Grounds Committee. It is hoped that the final policy will be ready for Consistory approval by their next meeting.

Afternoon on the Town: Elders A. Campbell and B. Brookhouse agreed to serve as leads in putting together cookies and activities to introduce PLUC to incoming MTU students in August. Office Manager Smock will complete the registration for PLUC involvement.

Worship Committee: The Committee is working with Pastor Peter on planning for an Outdoor Worship Service possibly in August or September. It might be possible to combine this service with the Church Picnic. The Committee will present their

plans to Consistory for approval at their next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Building and Grounds Committee:

1. The committee is exploring new parking signage for the front of the building and on the post at the entrance to the parking lot. They anticipate that this signage will cost +/- \$125. Consistory approved the expending of these funds for new parking signage.
2. Greg Campbell of the Building and Grounds Committee is exploring contracting for concrete repair of the curbs and sidewalks around the building which have been damaged due to weather and snow removal.
3. The committee has been discussing the need for security upgrades for the church building. Possible upgrades include a new door locking system, reinforcing the glass in the windows, and installing security cameras. Pastor Peter has been in discussion with local law enforcement for direction.

4. The committee recommends the writing of an official emergency plan. Office Manager Smock will provide committee member Greg Campbell with the information that has been included in past Usher Guidelines.

July meeting: Instead of having a “regular” Consistory meeting in July, members of Consistory will meet at Pastor Peter’s home for a planning retreat on Friday, July 29th from 6-9 pm.

Financial Report

Received in June

Pledge	\$4231.00
Unpledged	\$816.92
Loose Plate	\$2.00
Per Capita	\$464.00

In Other News

Building and Grounds Needs Your Input
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submitted by Greg Campbell

The PLUC Consistory has begun the process of reviewing our congregation’s Emergency Plan. This review will include a fresh look at the safety and security of our building and those who use it. We want to hear from you! Please share your thoughts and concerns with Pastor Peter or any Consistory member. We hope to complete our Safety and Security updates by December 2022.

Rummage Sale a Success

submitted by Bobbie Dalquist

Thank you to everyone who helped with, or donated items to, or purchased items from the rummage sale on June 11. We had fun. Often there was much more visiting than working going on and that was so nice to see.

Total sales:	\$995.00
Less:	<u>200.00</u> for the Angel Mission Remodeling fund
Net	\$795.00 for Fellowship Guild

Prior rummage sales have been closer to \$500. We had a really good crowd in the first 1 1/2 hours and then people trickled in for the last 2 1/2 hours.

We took a few items to Keweenaw Consignment so our total for Fellowship Guild will be over \$800.

Books were donated to a new used bookstore in Hancock. It was good to be able to support a new business. Lou Ellyn Helman filled the back of her car with items for Goodwill. Lois Jambekar took a couple boxes of items for a rummage sale that Alpha Sigma Tau (a teacher sorority) is holding soon. She also returned some items to Angel Mission that they had sent down to the sale.

In addition to those items that Angel Mission gave us to sell, proceeds from jewelry sales were given to Angel Mission. That included some beautiful beaded jewelry made by Sherry Middlemis-Brown.

Our Holiday Decorations Rummage Sale is scheduled for November 5. Remember that box of Christmas decorations that you didn't use last year? We'll be reminding you to dig it out of the closet this fall.

Angel Mission

submitted by Sherry Middlemis-Brown

Much of May at Angel Mission was dedicated to preparing for our move to our new location at 433 Fifth Street in Calumet. Within three weeks, the new store was ready to receive goods from the old location. Not everything was complete in the new store, but enough to start the move. The purchase and renovation process has caused us to delve into our operating funds, but we continue to solicit donations for the work and expect an uptick in donations this fall.



Mike and Terry closed the store and food pantry on the 15th of May to have time to pack. They set the moving day for the 26th. We attempted to get volunteers for moving day, but no extra helpers signed up. After a lot of praying that we would have assistance, on the day of the move, 14 volunteers arrived eager to work. Some of the volunteers told us that they appreciated the help we gave them in their time of need and wanted to repay us by helping with the move. The move took six hours and the Holiday Gas Station donated pizzas for the volunteers.

In June, we have been installing racks and shelving, unpacking goods, and doing additional finishing work with the intention to reopen in the new location by late-June. Jim Northey has contributed generously to getting the windows and doors trimmed. We are doing as much of the work as we can ourselves, but some must be done by contractors. We hope to be put on a contractor's schedule for a cellar entrance this summer. Although we did not receive a Portage Health Foundation grant to add an ADA ramp entry, we are exploring options to get this done. Hopefully, we will have a

new roof next year.

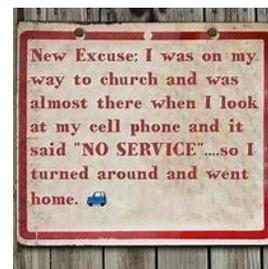
It continues to be a lot of work, but the work is well worth it to be out of our increasingly difficult rental situation. With its fresh paint, new ADA bathroom, and new flooring, the new space is very uplifting. Thank you to all of you, who have generously assisted us with this endeavor. We had over 700 hours of volunteer work done by our usual volunteers, several church members, and a few new volunteers. Oh, and just a reminder, you can find Copper Country Angel Mission on Facebook or visit our website, ccangelmission.org to keep up on our progress.

Helping Hands

submitted by Beth Smock

Another month has come and gone, and things continue to be difficult for those living in Houghton County (and everywhere else for that matter). As of the writing of this newsletter, I have given out 6 vouchers in June, all for gas. This is the same number of gas vouchers that I gave out all of last year.

Members and friends of PLUC have been more than generous with their gifts to our Helping Hands funds, allowing us to continue to offer assistance to those who contact us. Thank you for all you have done. Please keep this important mission in your prayers. And of course, donations are always needed.



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Volume 25, No 6; Published 11 times/year

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Pastor: Rev. Peter Norland

Office Manager: Beth Smock

General Office Hours:

8:00 AM – 11:00 AM – Mon.- Tues, Thurs-Fri

Pastor Office Hours:

9:30 AM - 12:00 Noon or by appointment

June Volunteer Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>Reader</u>	<u>Prayer Writer</u>	<u>Coffee Fellowship</u>
07/03	Jon & Brian	Beth	Carl	Sangja & Ann
07/10	Nancy & Dianne	Lois	Barb	Jon & Brian
07/17	Barb & Jon	Dianne	Terry	TBD
07/24	Lois	Nancy	Jim	Bobby & Judy
07/31	Liz & Harold	Jim	Lois	Liz & Harold