

**Bethlehem United Church of Christ
Congregational Meeting
Minutes, June 17, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by President John Samford.

An opening prayer was offered by Pastor John Kennedy.

Pastor John –

- Reiterated the congregation voted several years ago to stay in the building with improvements
- Thanked all who have helped with upgrades to make the church building more welcoming
- Mentioned we have already approved renovation of a restroom across from the office
- Expressed appreciation for Lois Heaussler's contribution toward air conditioning the Sanctuary
- Noted that when the a/c goes in, it will go through the ceiling of the basement

Ron Dechert –

- Noted a 2016 list of needed renovations included the fellowship hall and adjacent restrooms
- Reported Facilities recommended improvements to the fellowship hall and a/c in the sanctuary
- Presented concept drawings for fellowship hall by Phoenix - a vision of what it could be
- Detailed estimated cost: Sanctuary a/c \$185,000, Fellowship Hall improvements, including ADA compliant restrooms, \$360,000 for a total package estimate of \$545,000.
The estimate does not include enclosing/hiding pipes and radiators.
Also not included are unknowns: possible electrical issues, hazardous material removal, etc.
- Phoenix would be in charge of overseeing the entire project.
- Leadership Council is requesting endorsement to go forward to get more accurate costs.

Jeff Wortman –

Provided some financial options for paying for these projects:

1. Borrow from existing building related funds and have a capital campaign with full or partial payback
2. Wait until a capital campaign is completed
3. Secure a bank loan

Suggestions from the floor included issuing church bonds and borrowing from UCC's Cornerstone Fund.

The following motion was made and passed:

The congregation endorses moving forward with sanctuary air conditioning and fellowship hall renovation.

The meeting was closed with Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Karen Samford (for Sue Wortman, Secretary)