

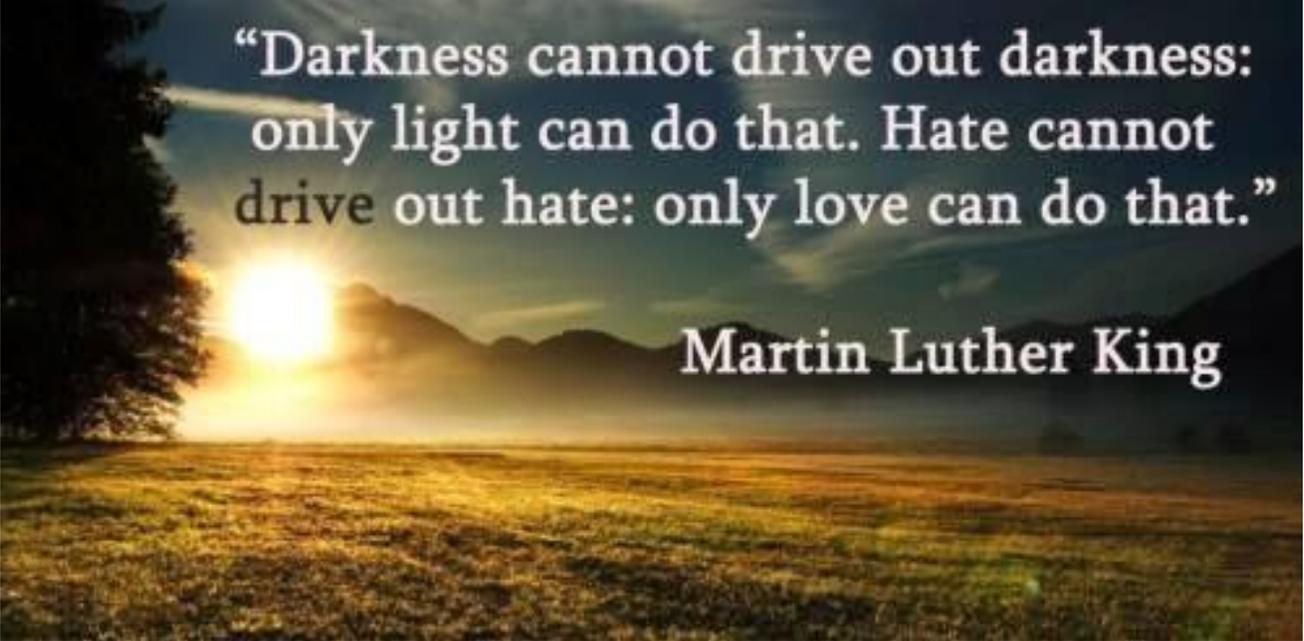
2016 Annual Report

First Baptist Church of Mansfield

Annual Meeting - January 29, 2017



**Celebrating our Second Hour Program
January 15, 2017**

A landscape photograph showing a bright sun rising over a field of grass. In the background, there are mountains and a dark sky. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow over the field. The sky is dark with some light clouds. The overall scene is peaceful and hopeful.

**“Darkness cannot drive out darkness:
only light can do that. Hate cannot
drive out hate: only love can do that.”**

Martin Luther King

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AGENDA

First Baptist Church of Mansfield Annual Meeting January 29, 2017

Convene Business meeting 12:45

Open with prayer – Pastor Ron

Announcements

REPORTS:

- Pastor
- Clerk
- Financial Secretary, Report on Pledges, Special Fund Balances, Treasurer, Financial Officer for Missions
- Executive, Board of Deacons, Board of Christian Education, Board of Trustees

STANDING COMMITTEES:

- Nominating Committee
- Music Committee
- *Financial Examining (Regular Spring Meeting only)*
- Ushering Committee
- Communications Committee
- Flower Committee
- Missions Committee
- Memorial Gifts Committee
- Pastoral Relations Committee
- Stewardship Committee
- Church Heritage Committee
- Social Committee
- Safe Church Committee

OTHER COMMITTEES AND GROUPS:

- Youth Group and Mission Trip Report
- Youth Choir Report
- Ladies Aid Society
- Emma Gardiner Missionary Society
- Windham Area Interfaith Ministry
- Covenant Soup Kitchen
- ABCCONN Delegates
- Pierce Memorial Baptist Home and Creamery Brook
- Northeast Association Delegates
- ABCCONN History Committee

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING

(none)

NEW BUSINESS:

- Motion from Nominating Committee
- Presentation of the 2017 Proposed Budget
- Motion from Board of Trustees regarding Storrs Chinese Community Church

READING AND APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING

ADJOURNMENT:

PASTOR'S REPORT

In Philippians 3: 12 – 14 Paul writes “Not that I have already obtained this, or have already been made perfect but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Sisters and brothers I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do. Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

This Christian life is not easy for any of us. But we must press on together. One of the ways we do that is through prayer. I need your prayers. I promise to uphold you in mine. We will also serve together in our common ministry at the First Baptist Church of Mansfield. We will press on together toward the goal of Jesus.

I enjoy looking back over the year at all the things we accomplished together. There has been a lot of water to flow under the bridge, or over the dam this year. As I reflect on the events of weddings and funerals and worship services and meetings, I ask myself, “Have I changed?” “Have we the church changed?” I believe the answer to those questions is yes, because we are alive. Life is change. If we are to be alive and growing then we are changing. This applies to people, and it applies to the body we call the church. If the church is to be alive and growing, then it is changing, because life means change.

I think the clearest example of this is our second hour program this past year. I am so proud that this church was willing to change even the start time of our worship service to try something new. Our Christian Ed program with Sunday School before church was not connecting with people. I know the Second Hour program also has issues to be worked on, but we are at least trying to do something new. I think the signs in the front church yard are great. (I also really like our new church sign). The signs are an attempt to let people know we are trying a Second Hour program. Has anyone been driving by, seen the signs, turned their car around to attend the Second Hour classes? No. Not yet anyways. I didn't expect that they would produce that kind of reaction. But the signs are an attempt to open our doors and reach out to friends we have not yet met. It also shows the world that we are a vital, part of the Kingdom of God with exciting things happening. The signs are one small way we are looking beyond our walls to the community around us. That is something we need to keep doing.

In the class I took this Fall at Hartford Seminary on growing churches, the teacher challenged us to think about how welcoming our churches really are. He said that in some cases, when we say we are a *welcoming church*, what we really mean is...

You are welcome if you are persistent enough to find the church and find the service times, and then come to it;

You are welcome if you can figure out what door to come in and then how to find your way through the maze of halls and doors that lead to the sanctuary;

You are welcome if you know the insider language we use in our bulletins and prayers;

You are welcome if you are extroverted enough to make your way to the place we all disappear to for coffee and cookies after church;

He challenged us to think about what our church looks like to a first time visitor, and to remember that these visitors are our greatest source of potential growth.

I am excited about our next year together. I hope to see us renew our commitment to WAIM and find ways to be involved in our greater community. I also hope that we can become involved with the Quiet Corner Refugee Resettlement Organization. This organization is sponsoring one Syrian family with more to come. I would also like our church to go through an intentional process to identify our core values and come up with a mission statement. One more thing I am looking forward to is growing in our relationship with Storrs Chinese Christian Church.

One other thing that I learned in my class was that a church should expect that they, (and their pastor) will make mistakes. Some ideas will work and others will not, and that is OK. It is better to be trying new things and failing than not trying anything new. So here is to mistakes we make, and our successes - together - in 2017.

Pastor Ron

CLERK'S REPORT

Minutes taken (appendix 1 of Annual Report):

**Year in Review 2016
Presented January 29, 2017**

Minutes taken

Minutes were taken at each of the regular and special business meetings held this past year;

- Annual Meeting held January 31, 2016
- Special business meeting held on February 28, 2016 regarding replacing carpet in the sanctuary
- Regular Spring meeting held April 24, 2016
- Regular Fall meeting held October 30, 2016

Deaths

The church experienced the loss of:

Charles Woody – February 18, 2016

Millie Larkins – March 19, 2016

Florence Palmer – July 20, 2016

Arthur Stearns – August 13, 2016

Jan Barry – October 20, 2016

Baptisms

There were no baptisms during the year 2016

Membership transfers

No members transferred their membership during the year 2016

New Members

There were no new members joining the church during the year 2016

Membership List

See attached list of members with 160 names listed.

Respectfully Submitted

Dana Yanaway

Clerk

MEMBERSHIP LIST

Membership List Year ending 2016
Published in Annual Report, January 29, 2017

Betsy Albright	Martha Davis Cummins	William Hocking
Jean Alcorn	Michael Davis	Jon Jay
Charles Anderson	Mary Dean	Denise Keane
Ed Austin	Karleen Donato	Mark Kelsey
Faith Austin	Ruth Downing	Martha Kinsman
Laura Austin	Joy Erickson	David Kloss
Warren Austin	Robert Erickson	Keith Knauerhase
Morgan Baker	Thomas Erickson	Todd Knauerhase
Olivia Baker	Angela Espitia	Leslie Kurz
Ronald Baker	Edna Farmer	Allyson Austin Lalumiere
Tricia Baker	Angel Figueroa	Bill Lannon
Kendall Barry	Samantha Figueroa	Karen Lannon
Lena Barry	Susan Figueroa	James Larson
Douglas Basset	Patric Fihaley	Mee Lee
Robert Bauer	Sheri Fihaley	Seung Hyun Lee
Susan Bauer	Sara Flower	Meredith Lindsey
Chris Beaulieu	Erin Flynn	Eric Lowe
Kristin Beaulieu	Nancy Flynn	Germaine Mama
Norma Betchter	Ethan Fulton	Rahim Mama
Carol Bigl	Evan Fulton	Raman Mama
Judy Bigl	Stacey Fulton	Martha McCoy
Wil Bigl	Mark Gagne	Meradith McMunn
Amanda Blackburn	Michelle Gagne	Arthur Moore
Bethany Blackburn	Kristin Gardiner	Barbara Moore
Gail Blackburn	Elizabeth Geissler	Susan Mostowy
Justin Blackburn	Kristin Geissler	Virgina Conland-Murdoch
Jennifer Bradshaw	Lawrence Geissler Jr.	Frances Nichols
Peter Bradshaw	Patty Geissler	Matthew O'Rourke
Klayton Brewer	Margery Gerard	Jean Ostrander
Kristin Brewer	Dottie Rose Gilliam	Walter Palmer
Shirley Brookes	Randy Gilliam	Rebecca Austin Parton
Bonnie Buscaglia	Wendy Edwards Green	Amanda Keane Pawelski
Peter Cheng	Beverly Hamel	Karen Peters
Wendy Cheng	Charlotte Hebert	Allison Erickson Pettengill
Mary Jo Chisler	Elsie Herrick	Bill Riesen
Judy Conland	Ernest Herrick	Grace Riesen
Shirley Corcoran	Elizabeth Hocking	John Riesen
Bertha Cowles	Karen Hocking	Billie Jean Robarge
Ellen Crandall	Matthew Hocking	Tom Robarge
Kenyon Davis	Sarah Hocking	Ginger Rogalski

Sandy Ronan
William Rood
Hazel Rubins
Elizabeth Sawyer
Caitlyn Setterberg
Kim Setterberg
Nils Setterberg
Mary Ann Sheehan
Ginny Shepardson
Rachel Sherman
Richard Sherman
Ruth Shively
Thomas Shively
Linda Smith

Richard Smith
Alice Spencer
Prescott Spencer
Wunderley Stauder
Kate Stearns
David Stevens
Sandy Zerio Stevens
Laurie String
Cynthia Teed
Eleanor Trainer
Cliff Ward
Jeff Ward
Lisa Ward
Robert Warfield

Karen Watson
Colin Whitehead
Emily Whitehead
Kyle Whitehead
Kyra Whitehead
Laurie Whitehead
Doug Whittemore
Robin Whittemore
Dana Yanaway
Terry Yanaway
Wanli Zhang
Zemei Zhang

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT - 2016

Listing by fund to be credited

Fund	General	Fund	General
General - Env.	\$ 104,199.50	Youth Choir - Bench*	\$ 75.00
Plate	\$ 2,455.91	Musical Instrument*	\$ 672.00
General	\$ 3,325.60	Sunday School - G*	\$ 8.50
Env.	\$ 75.00	Youth Mission Trip*	\$ 452.56
Southern	\$ 66.50	Youth Group - Cans*	\$ 20.65
Lord Abbett	\$ 724.80	Sabbatical Fund	\$ 456.79
American Funds - Combined	\$ 5,062.14	Sound System*	\$ 125.00
Memorial Gifts Fund*	\$ 398.00	Capital Expense*	\$ 3,190.00
Memorial Investments*	\$ 398.00	Camperships*	\$ 500.00
Memorial Distribution	\$ -1,990.00	Easter Flowers*	\$ 424.00
Memorial - General	\$ 1,194.00	Refund - General Acct	\$ 709.92
Memorial Donations*	\$ 1,990.00	Fund	Mission
Mem - Harriet Hall	\$ 172.28	Mission - Env.	\$ 7,702.00
Mem - Eckley Storrs	\$ 101.65	AFC*	\$ 534.08
Mem - Marion Storrs	\$ 101.65	One Great Hour*	\$ 542.68
Building Use	\$ 925.00	R M&M*	\$ 703.00
New Church Sign*	\$ 100.00	World Mission*	\$ 315.00
Amazon Smiles	\$ 28.55	Love Gift - E. Gardiner*	\$ 76.50
Larkin Maint. Fund,-Int.*	\$ 680.90	Love Gift - Plate*	\$ 163.88
Beebe Maint. Fund,-Int.*	\$ 5,266.99	WAIM Tag Sale*	\$ 264.50
CEEA (Campership)-Gift*	\$ 1,800.00	Mercy & Rick Barnes Fund*	\$ 550.00

*= Designated fund

	General	Mission	Total
Total Undesignated	\$ 117,609.29	\$ 7,702.00	\$ 125,311.29
Total Designated	\$ 16,101.60	\$ 3,149.64	\$ 19,251.24
Total Income	\$ 133,710.89	\$ 10,851.64	\$ 144,562.53

Number of Sundays: 52
 Average weekly giving: \$2,261.72

Respectfully submitted,
 John Riesen

REPORT ON PLEDGES FOR 2017

Pledges for 2017

Year	2017	2016	2015	2014
Number of Names with pledge	29	24	26	32
General - Env.	\$69,336.00	\$49,980.00	\$65,152.00	\$77,376.00
Mission - Env.	\$7,290.00	\$4,188.00	\$6,516.00	\$12,634.00
CEEA (Campership)-Gift	\$0.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,460.00
Musical Instrument	\$672.00	\$672.00	\$672.00	\$2,012.00
Sanctuary Maintenance	\$1,040.00	\$1,640.00	\$2,012.00	\$660.00
Total Pledges for General Fund Deposit	\$71,048.00	\$54,092.00	\$69,336.00	\$80,508.00
Total Pledges for Mission Fund Deposit	\$7,290.00	\$4,188.00	\$6,516.00	\$12,634.00
Total Pledge	\$78,338.00	\$58,280.00	\$75,852.00	\$94,142.00

Respectfully submitted,
John Riesen

SPECIAL FUND BALANCES

Report on funds able to carry over a balance as of 1/1/2017

Funds which do not accrue interest to the fund

Fund	Starting Balance	Donations	Interest Earned	Expense	Ending Balance
Memorial Gifts Fund*	\$838.09	398.00	NA	\$0.00	\$1,236.09
Musical Instruments Fund	\$12,346.00	\$672.00	NA	\$0.00	\$13,018.00
Sound System Fund	\$1,535.90	\$125.00	NA	\$0.00	\$1,660.90
Sunday School Offering	\$1,783.20	\$8.50	NA	\$0.00	\$1,791.70
Youth Mission Trip Fund	\$1,531.75	\$473.21	NA	\$0.00	\$2,004.96
BYF	\$565.00	0.00	NA	\$0.00	\$565.00
Capital Expense Fund	\$7,239.71	\$3,190.00	NA	\$15,069.54	\$-4,639.83

Funds which accrue interest to the fund

Fund	Starting Balance	Donations	Interest Earned	Expense	Ending Balance
Sabbatical Leave Fund	\$689.73	0.00	\$456.79	\$0.00	\$1,146.52
Gifford Fund	\$5,554.83	0.00	***	\$0.00	\$5,554.83***
CEEA	\$7,545.05	\$1,800.00	***	\$625.00	\$8,720.05***
Beebe Fund	\$111,083.13	0.00	\$5,266.99	\$5,266.99**	\$111,083.13

*Does not include money donated to specific memorial funds.

**Interest from the Beebe Fund applied toward the sanctuary maintenance.

***This Fund is part of a group of Funds and interest earned will be calculated and presented at the spring business meeting.

Meradith McMunn, Treasurer
John Riesen, Financial Secretary

TREASURER'S 2016 REPORT AND PROPOSED 2017 BUDGET

29 January 2017

	Expenses Jan-Dec 2016	Expenses as % of Program	Approved 2016 Program of Ministry	Proposed 2017 Program of Ministry
Beginning checkbook balance 1 January 2016	60,832.73			
Ending checkbook balance 31 December 2016 (balances include some designated funds)	59,558.24			
Combined General & Missions Programs			167,130.00	167,610.00
General Account Expenses	116,979.00	79.6%	146,455.00	146,935.00
A. Pastoral Ministry	79,410.47	90.1%	88,160.00	88,165.00
Pastor's Salary, Housing, & Benefits	76,759.11	90.5%	84,810.00	84,815.00
1. Salary and Housing	55,508.50	99.8%	55,600.00	55,600.00
2. Health Insurance Premiums	7,050.24	47.0%	15,000.00	15,000.00
3. Retirement (Ministers & Missionaries Benefit Board)	9,617.12	99.9%	9,630.00	9,630.00
4. Social Security Offset	4,583.25	100.0%	4,580.00	4,585.00
5. Contribution to Pastor's Sabbatical Leave Fund	200.00	100.0%	200.00	200.00
Reimbursed Expenses	2,651.36	79.1%	3,350.00	3,350.00
5. Automobile	1,822.50	72.9%	2,500.00	2,500.00
6. Conference (used in 2016 for Continuing Ed.)	50.00	100.0%	50.00	50.00
7. Continuing Education	500.00	100.0%	500.00	500.00
8. Hospitality (\$13.97 used in 2016 for Continuing Ed.)	178.86	89.4%	200.00	200.00
9. Professional Memberships (used in 2016 for Continuing Ed.)	100.00	100.0%	100.00	100.00
B. Church Home	26,649.17	69.4%	37,925.00	38,400.00
1. Church Transportation Service	0.00	0.0%	100.00	100.00
2. Electricity	3,493.27	63.5%	5,500.00	5,500.00
3. Heating Fuel	2,873.33	52.2%	5,500.00	5,500.00
4. Insurance	6,559.00	96.5%	6,800.00	6,800.00
5. Janitor & Supplies	7,695.00	90.5%	8,500.00	8,500.00
6. Maintenance	1,580.03	35.1%	4,500.00	4,500.00
7. Mowing	1,690.00	99.4%	1,200.00	1,700.00
8. Phone & Internet	1,179.54	90.7%	1,300.00	1,300.00
9. Plow Snow	1,150.00	28.8%	4,000.00	4,000.00
10. Trash Removal	429.00	85.8%	525.00	500.00
C. Deacons	621.50	56.5%	1,100.00	1,100.00
1. Deacons' Supplies	44.00	14.7%	300.00	300.00
2. Pulpit Supply	550.00	73.3%	750.00	750.00
3. Secret Place Devotionals	27.50	55.0%	50.00	50.00
D. Music	5,612.38	78.5%	7,150.00	7,150.00
1. Choir Director	5,174.37	94.1%	5,500.00	5,500.00
2. Church Copyright License Service (CCLI)	103.20	51.6%	200.00	200.00
3. Handbells & Instrumental Ensemble	0.00	0.0%	0.00	0.00
4. Music	0.00	0.0%	300.00	300.00
5. Organist/Pianist Supply	0.00	0.0%	400.00	400.00
6. Piano & Organ Maintenance (includes \$100 designated donation)	180.00	45.0%	400.00	400.00
7. Youth Choir	154.81	44.2%	350.00	350.00
E. Christian Education	1,443.82	28.6%	5,050.00	5,050.00
1. BYF	0.00	0.0%	100.00	100.00
2. Camperships	625.00	31.3%	2,000.00	2,000.00
3. Christian Ed. and Youth Group Supplies & Resources	0.00	0.0%	400.00	400.00
4. Curriculum (used for lawn signs advertising 2nd Hour program)	190.00	38.0%	500.00	500.00
5. Church Family Events	0.00	0.0%	100.00	100.00
6. Leadership Training	0.00	0.0%	50.00	50.00
7. Nursery Attendants	628.82	37.0%	1,700.00	1,700.00
8. Vacation Bible School	0.00	0.0%	200.00	200.00

TREASURER'S 2016 REPORT AND PROPOSED 2017 BUDGET CON'T

F. Committees	170.22	24.3%	700.00	700.00
1. Church Heritage	0.00	0.0%	50.00	50.00
2. Communications	145.78	72.9%	200.00	200.00
3. Flowers (see I.3 In/Out flowers and wreaths)	0.00	0.0%	150.00	150.00
4. Social	24.44	12.2%	200.00	200.00
5. Stewardship	0.00	0.0%	100.00	100.00
G. Church Office	2,607.44	45.3%	5,750.00	5,750.00
1. Church Secretary	58.75	2.6%	2,250.00	2,250.00
2. Office Equipment	1,648.82	82.4%	2,000.00	2,000.00
3. Office Supplies, Postage & Printing	899.87	60.0%	1,500.00	1,500.00
H. General Services	464.00	74.8%	620.00	620.00
1. Accountant Fees	300.00	75.0%	400.00	400.00
2. Convention Expenses	0.00	0.0%	50.00	50.00
3. Northeast Association Dues	164.00	96.5%	170.00	170.00
I. In/Out (not included in budgeted expenses)	27,502.23	n/a	n/a	n/a
1. Sanctuary refurbishing in 2016 (designated funds)	20,336.53	n/a	n/a	n/a
2. Sanctuary refurbishing in 2015 (designated funds)	6,198.20	n/a	n/a	n/a
3. Easter flowers and Christmas wreaths (designated contributions)	342.50	n/a	n/a	n/a
4. Camperships (from CEEA fund)	625.00	n/a	n/a	n/a

Respectfully submitted,
Meradith T. McMunn, Treasurer

TREASURER'S 2016 REPORT AND PROPOSED 2017 BUDGET CON'T

	See separate Missions Expenses Report	Approved 2016 Missions Program	Proposed 2017 Missions Program
Missions Program Total		20,675.00	20,675.00
American Baptist Missions			
1. ABC United Missions		8,000.00	8,000.00
2. Camp Wightman		1,200.00	1,200.00
3. Emma Gardiner Missionary Society		175.00	175.00
4. Pierce Baptist Home		850.00	850.00
5. Youth Mission Trip		2,000.00	2,000.00
Other Mission Items			
6. Covenant Soup Kitchen		250.00	250.00
7. Heifer Project International		100.00	100.00
8. Holy Family Home & Shelter		250.00	250.00
9. Radio K-Love (Christian Music 106.9 FM)		100.00	100.00
10. Windham Area Interfaith Ministry (WAIM)		1,750.00	1,750.00
Special Offering Goals			
11. America for Christ		1,500.00	1,500.00
12. Love Gift		n/a	n/a
13. One Great Hour of Sharing		1,500.00	1,500.00
14. Retired Ministers & Missionaries		1,500.00	1,500.00
15. World Mission		1,500.00	1,500.00

FINANCIAL OFFICER FOR MISSIONS

Mission Contributions and Expense Report

	2016 Contributions	2016 Budget	2016 Expenses
General Mission	\$ 7,702.00	\$ -	\$ -
United Mission	-	8,000.00	4,861.22
Love Gift	240.38	-	240.38
Retired Ministers and Missionaries	703.00	1,500.00	703.00
World Mission Offering	315.00	1,500.00	315.00
Camp Wightman	-	1,200.00	729.18
Pierce Baptist Home	-	850.00	516.50
America For Christ	534.08	1,500.00	534.08
One Great Hour of Sharing	542.68	1,500.00	542.68
Windham Area Interfaith Ministry	264.50	1,750.00	1,327.89
Heifer Project	-	100.00	60.77
Youth Mission Trip	(A)	2,000.00	(A)
Holy Family Home and Shelter	-	250.00	151.91
Covenant Soup Kitchen	-	250.00	151.91
Emma Gardiner Missionary Society	-	175.00	106.34
Radio K-Love	-	100.00	60.77
Mercy & Rick Barnes Fund	550.00	-	550.00
Correction per Financial Secretary	-	-	-
	<u>\$ 10,851.64</u>	<u>\$ 20,675.00</u>	<u>10,851.64</u>

A - Youth Mission Trip was paid from fund raising.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen L. Watson
Financial Officer for Missions

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Annual Report
Year in Review 2016
Submitted at Annual meeting January 29, 2017

The members of the Executive Board for 2016 were Ron Baker (Pastor), Jennifer Bradshaw (Deacons), Peter Bradshaw (Christian Education), Dana Yanaway (Trustees) and Terry Yanaway (Moderator). The Executive Board has met to support communication between the boards of the church and to coordinate church programs. Discussions have included implementation of the second hour program, sanctuary maintenance and support for collaborating and negotiating to share building space with the Storrs Chinese Christian Fellowship. Under the leadership of incoming Moderator, Peter Bradshaw, the board will continue to facilitate communication between the boards of the church to support the ministry at FBCM. Please feel free to bring and questions, concerns or suggestions to any member of the Executive Board.

Respectfully submitted,
Terry Yanaway

BOARD OF DEACONS

The Board of Deacons for 2016 were comprised of: Patty Geissler (Treasurer), Bill Hocking, Susan Figueroa (Safe Church Committee Representative), Judy Conland, Karen Watson (Stewardship Representative, Co-Secretary), Sandy Stevens, Germaine Mama, Laura Austin (Co-Secretary), Pastor Ron Baker (ex-officio) and Jennifer Bradshaw (Chairperson).

The Board has met monthly over the past year. We continue to coordinate communion on the first Sunday of each month as well as fellowship hour. The Board has also had the opportunity to assist in every part of the Sunday service as may be required from time to time. Pulpit supply during the pastor's absence was provided by Laura Austin, Rev. Dr. Peter Aduba, and Rev. Michael Wu. We also tried something new this year, a pulpit swap with Rev. Mary Apicella. We are looking to repeat that event again this year with another church. Thank you to those that provided the message and to the Deacons for coordinating and filling in where needed.

Deacons meetings were moved to Tuesday evenings due to the scheduling change of choir as well as to accommodate some changing schedules.

Home communion visits have continued with the pastor serving communion with help from the Deacons, as needed.

Patty Geissler continues to coordinate our fellowship hour on communion Sunday, with contributions from all the Deacons. Patty has done an excellent job – thank you Patty!

The Deacons would also like to thank Sandy Stevens for baking the bread, both the small loaf and that which is provided in the plate, for communion each month. Thank you, Sandy, for providing this service to the church.

Lena Barry has continued to serve as our “Card Service” coordinator, also now known as Lena's Card Service. Each month she sends out cards to people within our congregation that we have designated, be it an important event in their lives has taken place (i.e wedding, birth, new job) or just because we want someone to know we are thinking of them. Thank you, Lena, for your caring soul to be able to provide such a service to God's love.

This year the fellowship offering has been used to buy grocery/gas cards at the Pastors discretion; support of the WAIM fuel fund; helped WAIM establish the “Mattress” Fund (to buy new mattresses for those folks in need); Rev. Hanna Massad and his mission work in the Gaza Strip; Assistance to the Storrs Family; and a Donation to Dave and Sandy Stevens for their mission trip to the Dominican Republic. It is the support of our generous congregation that we can provide services to support those in our community and around the world. We could not provide this assistance without your continued support.

The Deacons wanted to assist the homeless in the area by providing a hygiene bag. With the help of some of our young people, Christian Education and Deacons, we assembled about 35-40 bags which included toothpaste, toothbrush, comb, soap, socks, face cloth, razor, protein bar and other items. Some of these bags were taken by members of our congregation to give out at their discretion and several bags were given to the No Freeze Shelter so they could hand them out.

In conjunction with Christian Education, the Deacons sponsored a fellowship luncheon and Christian Ed provided the program to introduce the concept of “2nd Hour” to take the place of our standard Sunday School program. The Deacons have worked with Christian Ed to provide ideas, program content and feedback. We look forward to continuing this partnership in the coming year.

The Deacons completed the video series “My One Word”. As we finished, each Deacon chose their one word to strive towards. We found this series very thoughtful and gave us some food for thought on how to better serve our congregation. We would like to share this video series with the rest of the congregation as part of our 2nd hour program.

Something new for the Deacons this year, we sponsored a team for the annual Steeplechase event. We hope to make this an annual event, so if anyone is interested please let a Deacon know as we would love to sponsor another team in 2017!

Transportation has been an ongoing topic of discussion for the Deacons. And we finally have a plan in place to assist those that may need transportation to and from church. Those individuals have been given a calling list of folks that have graciously agreed to be a part of this ministry. We truly thank you for your commitment. Should anyone else like to take part in this service either as a driver or a rider, please do not hesitate to contact Pastor Ron or any Deacon.

December showcased our annual Advent season with beautiful song, familiar hymns, gifts of music and bible passages. Each Sunday the candles of the advent wreath were lit, with the Christ candle being lit on Christmas Eve. What a beautiful season of light to celebrate the birth of Christ.

Some events that we are working on for the future are a visioning workshop for the entire congregation to come up with a mission statement for our church. We are also considering a fun activity of kite flying in the spring at Mansfield Hollow – this event is for the young and the young at heart!

As we embark on major changes for our country in the coming months, may the church provide some peace of mind.

With open hearts and peaceful minds we continue to serve God and our church!

Respectively Submitted,
Jennifer L. Bradshaw
Chairperson

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Last year this time, we were preparing for another season of Sunday School prior to church, but attendance through February was so low that we suspended Sunday School for the Spring season and started to look at options for Christian Education. We wanted to improve program for the youth and children and offer a different option for adults. Also, we wanted the ability to have longer presentations for guest speakers, because often a church service is not the best time for a discussion. We determined that swapping times of church and Sunday School would lend itself to two things: 1.) perhaps attendance would rise because people would BE HERE and decide to stay for Sunday School, and 2.) if we were to have a special event or speaker, we would not be confined to the limits of the service. Since this was a major change, we worked with the Deacons (in charge of the service) and discussed with the Pastor and the Executive Board to move forward with a trial. We decided to use the summer start time of 10:00 as a good, logical place to start, and we would start promoting it as "Second Hour."

At the end of the Spring, we tried to prepare the church with some examples of Second Hour. We had 4 weeks in a row with samples of "regular" Sundays and Sundays where we'd have a Speaker or a Presentation. There were a few scheduling issues but most of the feedback was positive. We took feedback (published schedules) and began to prepare for Fall.

For VBS we did Cave Quest where the campers did missions with spelunking themes guiding them through lessons in the bible. We had lots of help and we even had lots of participation with campers from the Chinese Church. The Chinese Church has already indicated they would like to help with next year as they had such a good time, they anticipate more participation through word of mouth reviews.

This fall we kicked off Second Hour with gusto...we left the summer hours in place and started church at 10:00 and then had a typical "coffee hour" time directly following the service. At a point about 10-15 minutes after the service we've rung the bell to head to our Second Hour program. For "regular" Sundays we have Age Appropriate Programming. We offered a program for K-3 called Deep Blue that has some season appropriate lessons. The 4th-8th graders worked on Bible stories using Narnia and Legos as a common thread. The Youth worked on the Sticky Faith lesson series, and the Adults had two choices: Bible Study (Romans, 1 John) and A Women of Faith Series (A Joy Filled Life). Thanks to Rebecca Figeroa, Charlotte Hebert, Terry and Dana Yanaway, Ron Baker, Pete Bradshaw, John Riesen, and Joy Erickson for leading classes and discussions. Since November, we've seen growing interest from the Chinese Church to come to classes and several have attended. The Second Hour program was not implemented with the Chinese Church in mind, but the move of additional Christian Education classes to after the service will lend itself to crossover study them.

We had several guest speakers including Hanna Massad, a missionary from Lebanon who led an interesting discussion about refugees, Sandy and David Stevens talking about their mission to Dominican Republic, and Leigh Duffy and her work at the No Freeze Shelter in Willimantic.

Our annual Advent Event was again a success. It keeps growing in attendance. And again, we had a lot of opportunity to fellowship with our congregation and the Chinese Church congregation. Thanks to the Social Committee for providing food for the event, and thanks to all our helpers who ran crafts and decorating activities.

The Second Hour program seems to be working (attendance has increased at least two fold), but we want your feedback. What can we do better? What have we offered that interests you? We've distributed a survey to get your opinions because we want to know how we get even more interest in our Second Hour program and it's potential. Note that there is a front and back. The front has some multiple choice questions and the back allows for more free form responses. I know that there are questions about meeting times and other events that typically happen after church; and as this is a learning process, we are learning what timing works. The end of the service is a moving target, and therefore the start time for Second Hour classes/programs becomes a moving target. As we gain experience with it, we hope to become more consistent. Please let us know on the survey any other concerns you might have.

This upcoming season the youngest class will continue Deep Blue, working towards Easter studies. The middle school kids will continue Legos and Narnia. The Youth Group will be working on their Sticky Faith bible studies, the adult bible study will be working on the book of Job, and the other adult class is "The War Room" study on prayer. We encourage anyone who might be interested to grab a cup of coffee or a snack after the service, and come join a Second Hour program to acquaint yourself with continuing Christian Education (and fellowship!) offerings available to you.

Again, I want to thank all of our regular Second Hour teachers mentioned above and also thank all of our guest speakers. I also want to thank Denise Keane for reaching out to colleagues and arranging several of the guest speakers. And a very special thanks goes to Nancy Flynn for providing up to date schedules and for tackling the cleaning of the Christian Ed classrooms downstairs and organizing the supply closet.

Thank you all for your patience and feedback as we strive to make our Christian Education program grow, both in attendance but also, most important in relevance, usefulness, and application.

Yours in Christ,
Peter A. Bradshaw

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The board of Trustees met regularly throughout the year 2016 and worked on or discussed the following items;

- Approving facility use requests.
- Monitoring the financial status of the church
- Monitoring the electric rates
- Monitoring of water testing
- Monitoring of Radon testing
- Discussing secretary position. We are leveraging volunteers at this time to alleviate the cost
- Replacing the carpet in the Sanctuary
- Replaced the numbers for the Hymn board at the front of the Sanctuary
- Commencing research on replacing the lights in the CE Wing.
- We have investigated repairs to the stained glass windows in the sanctuary and to replacing the storm windows
- Met with Fire Marshall for inspection

In addition to the above during the summer of this past year we discussed ways to increase revenue for the church, including efforts to increase membership or inviting another church to share our facility. This discussion coincided with a request from the Storrs Chinese Community Church (SCCC) for space. There have been several meetings with the SCCC over the course of the fall. They have held some trial runs within our facility and things appear to be progressing well. We expect, pending approval from the church body, to enter into a formal agreement to share space with SCCC commencing sometime in the spring of 2017.

Respectfully submitted,
Dana Yanaway, Chair

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

All Boards and Committees are encouraged to meet as soon as possible after the slate is approved at the January business meeting. Each committee is expected to elect a chairperson at their first meeting and record the person's name on the list posted on the bulletin board in the conference room.

We thank everyone for agreeing to serve in 2017 and wish you a very good and productive year.

Your Nominating Committee,
Terry Yanaway, John Riesen, Karen Hocking

NOMINATING SLATE 2017

Boards and Committees 2017

Church Officers (1 year terms)

Moderator	Peter Bradshaw
Clerk	Dana Yanaway
Treasurer	Meradith McMunn
Assistant Treasurer	David Stevens
Financial Secretary	John Riesen
Assistant Financial Secretary	Dana Yanaway
Financial Officers for Missions	Karen Watson

Church Boards

Board of Christian Education – 7 positions (3 year terms)

Joy Erickson (2017)*	John Riesen (2019)*
Morgan Baker (2017)	Susan Figueroa (2019)
Nancy Flynn (2018)	Vacancy (2019)
Karen Hocking (2018)	

(Morgan Baker is replacing Olivia Baker for the last year of her term)

(Karen Hocking is filling the second year of a vacant term)

Board of Deacons – 9 positions (3 year terms)

Jen Bradshaw (2017)*	Karen Watson (2018)
Sandy Stevens (2017)	Bill Hocking (2019)*
Laura Austin (2017)	Germaine Mama (2019)
Patty Geissler (2018)*	Terry Yanaway (2019)
Judy Conland (2018)	

Board of Trustees – 6 positions (3 year terms)

Dana Yanaway (2017)*	David Stevens (2018)
Matthew Hocking (2017)	Bob Bauer (2019)*
Bob Erickson (2018)	Denise Keane (2019)

*denotes second full term

Church Committees

Nominating Committee (3 year terms)

John Riesen (2017), Karen Hocking (2018), Sandy Stevens (2019)

Committees and Delegates (1 year terms)

Music Committee: Grace Riesen, Pete Bradshaw, Tricia Baker, Sierra Yanaway, Justin Blackburn, Karen Hocking, Melissa Rood (ex-officio)

Financial Examining Committee: Denise Keane, Bill Hocking

Ushering Committee: Bill Hocking, Ed Austin, Bob Erickson, Phil Anderson, Guy Myette

Communications Committee: Carol Bigl, Nancy Flynn, Patty Geissler, John Riesen, Ryan Bergeron

Flower Committee: Charlotte Hebert, Lena Barry, Sue Bauer

Missions Committee: Tricia Baker, Laura Austin, Karen Watson, (Christian Ed. rep.), (Emma Gardiner rep.)

Memorial Gifts Committee: Charlotte Hebert, Jennifer Bradshaw

Pastoral Relations Committee (selected by the Pastor):

Stewardship Committee: Joy Erickson, Sandy Stevens, (Deacon rep.), (Trustee rep.), (Christian Ed. rep.)

Church Heritage Committee: Bill McMunn, Meradith McMunn

Social Committee: Karen Hocking, Sandy Stevens, Virginia Conland-Murdock, Jill Stedman-Myette, Alice Spencer, Prescott Spencer, Laura Bergeron, Charlotte Hebert, Matthew Hocking

Safe Church: Tricia Baker, Charlotte Hebert, Nancy Flynn, Kathy Anderson

Emma Gardiner Representative: Grace Riesen

Delegates to ABCCONN: Laura Austin

Delegates to NE Association: Meradith McMunn, Bill McMunn

Delegates to WAIM: Ron Baker (ex-officio), Jill Stedman-Myette

MUSIC COMMITTEE

The music committee has tackled 2 issues this year:

1. New Hymnals – We have selected the updated version of the same hymnal we already have. Now we have to figure out how to pay for it.
2. Supplementary Song books – We decided to put together our own, adding music as we go. We plan to use notebook covers (inexpensive at Staples) to hold the music. The goal is to go beyond the words (which will continue to be projected) but to offer music (notes) for those who find that helpful. In order to do this, we have increased our level of CCLI (Christian Copyright Licensing International), the license that gives us legal right to music that is copyrighted.

The Music committee would like to express our gratitude for those in our church family who participate and offer their musical gifts to bless us in worship and in the life of our church. Thanks go to Grace Riesen first of all for her wonderful gift of playing piano/organ and for always being ready for whatever is asked of her! It is a gift that is easy to take for granted because we become so used to it, but we know it takes time to prepare to make it LOOK effortless!

We extend our thanks to the musicians (vocal and instrumental) in both choirs, to those who sing or play individually for special music or other events/occasions, and to those who jump in to help “round out the sound” for performances or programs. Special thanks to Ally LaLumiere, and Joyce and Grace Nieh for assisting regularly with playing the piano for Worship. We are also thankful for our Choir directors, Melissa Rood and Grace Riesen for keeping everyone organized and for harnessing all the musical energy. We ask God to bless you all abundantly – “pressed down, shaken together and running over!”

May we all keep a song in our hearts,

Respectfully Submitted,
Tricia Baker

FINANCIAL EXAMINING COMMITTEE

Financial Examining Committee
March 11, 2016

The members of the Financial Examining Committee this year were Denise Keane and David Stevens. The committee met Friday, March 11, 2016 to examine the financial records of the church for the calendar year 2015. The committee checked to determine that expenditures were authorized as well as checking the accurateness and completeness of the church’s financial records. This examination determined that expenditures were authorized and the financial records were in satisfactory order, accurate and complete.

Respectfully submitted,
David Stevens and Denise Keane

USHERING COMMITTEE

The Ushering Committee met as needed this past year. The committee consisted of Bill Hocking (Chair), Ed Austin, Phil Anderson, Bob Erickson, and Guy Myette. It is the responsibility of the committee to provide the church with ushers for worship services throughout the year. The ushers prepare the church sanctuary for services by setting the lights, and ventilation, setting the proper hymn numbers on the hymn board, setting the communion table with Bible, candles and brass collection plates (except on Communion Sundays), distribute bulletins, light the candles, and ring the church bell. The committee recruits additional ushers as needed throughout the year. The committee wishes to express a special thanks to all members of our church family who ushered with us this past year.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Hocking, Chairman

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Committee Members:

The 2016 members were Carol Bigl, Nancy Flynn, John Riesen, and Patty Geissler with Carol as chair.

It was decided at the annual business meeting on 1/31/2016 that going forward, the Communications Committee would include projection and computer related matters. There isn't a budget for projection and the computer related expenses come out of the church office budget.

The combined activities for the year included:

- Maintaining church Facebook page (facebook.com/firstbaptistmansfieldct)
- Maintaining church website (fbcmansfieldct.com)
- Scheduling projectionists and programming weekly content
- Making updates to the online church directory
- Keeping computer equipment updated
- Updating the church bulletin boards
- Photographing events

Thank you to our projectionists: Bill Hocking, Ryan Bergeron, John Riesen, Dana Yanaway, Amanda Figueroa, and Bob Erickson.

We welcome and encourage boards and committees to submit content to be posted on the Facebook page and website. If you have an event or photos to share please e-mail them to the church office.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carol Bigl (Chair)

FLOWER COMMITTEE

Members of the Flower Committee are Lena Barry, Sue and Bob Bauer, and Charlotte Hebert

The Flower Committee wishes to thank all who have provided flowers for the Sanctuary on behalf of loved ones or in celebration of an event for our Sunday services.

1. Lena & Phil Barry provided a beautiful red poinsettia for our Christmas display in the Sanctuary over the holiday season.
2. 2 wreaths were purchased and placed on the doors at the main entrance.
3. The Bowers provided seasonal plantings throughout the year in the planters by the entrance.
4. The 2017 sign-up sheet has been posted on bulletin board in the hall.
5. No other events are planned until Easter.

Respectfully Submitted,
Charlotte Hebert

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Members: Grace Riesen, Joy Erickson, and Laura Austin

In 2016 special offerings were promoted for ABC-USA including America for Christ, One Great Hour of Sharing, World Mission, and Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering. These offerings helped American Baptists spread the love of God throughout the United States and abroad. Mission outreach has always been an important component in living out our faith and continues to be a way to impact the society where we live and around the world.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laura Austin

MEMORIAL GIFTS COMMITTEE

Members of the Memorial Gifts Committee are Charlotte Hebert, Judy Bigl

In 2016 we received monetary gifts to the church in memory of Charles Woody, Millie Larkins, Robert Gardiner, Dr. David Phillips and Leonard Cohen. All appropriate family members were notified of these gifts as well as notes of appreciation sent to each donor.

A complete list of memorial gifts are on file in the church office.

Respectfully Submitted,
Charlotte Hebert

PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The Pastoral Relations Committee this year consisted of Susan Figueroa, Laura Austin and Judy Conland. We met with the Pastor and were available to the pastor and congregation throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Figueroa, Chair

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

The theme for this year's Stewardship campaign was "Live Simply" our Scripture for this theme was:

^{11b}I have learned to be content, whatever the circumstances. ¹²I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want ¹³I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

Philippians 4: 11^b-13

We experience change at a rapid rate. Along with change comes the pressure to upgrade our homes, cars, technology, possessions, education, vocations. At the same time we are encouraged to economize, or perhaps we are forced to consider doing so because of our circumstances. In this dichotomy, we long for a simpler way and a less demanding life.

God can help us with all this! We hear lots of talk, but we also want to hear God talk. Over the next few weeks as we present this "Live simply" stewardship emphasis, listen for God's voice above the clutter. We offered 4 weeks of worship focus with Pastor Ron also coordinating with Similar themes to his sermons culminating with a simple meal of Stewardship Stew and commitment Sunday on November 20th. The emphasis had four subthemes:

Live simply: Follow Jesus on October 30th Nancy Flynn did this Sunday which included the announcement of the Stewardship Stew event with a sign-up sheet for donations

Live simply: Face the Truth on November 5th was led by Karen Watson and letters with the budget and pledge cards were distributed

Live simply: Act Together on November 13th was led by Joy Erickson.

Live simply: Share Enough on November 20th Skit for Stewardship moment "Crowding Out Thanksgiving."

Solomon – Joy Erickson

Chris -Christmas – Nancy Flynn

Hal- Halloween – Dana Yanaway

Than- Thanksgiving –Karen Watson

Friday- Black Friday – Samantha Figueroa

This was followed by the dedication of the pledge cards. After the service we all enjoyed the Stewardship Stew and then the walk for warmth.

Joy Erickson wrote the letter and made pledge cards. Karen Watson made copies and stuffed the letters after getting the budget from the fall business meeting.

To date we have received 29 pledges with a total pledge amount of \$78,338.00

Joy Erickson for the Stewardship Committee: Karen Watson from the Board of Deacons, Nancy Flynn from the Board of Christian Education, Dana Yanaway from the Board of Trustees and Pastor Ron Baker

Respectfully Submitted,
Joy Erickson – Chairperson

CHURCH HERITAGE COMMITTEE

During 2016, the Church Heritage Committee collected additional materials for the history of the First Baptist Church of Mansfield. Work continued identifying and arranging the generous donation of artifacts, research notes, and photographs from Ethel Larkin through her daughters Margery Gerard and Elizabeth Sawyer. Ethel and her daughters also gave other items for the Mansfield and Windham Historical Societies, the Mansfield Grange, and the ABCCONN Historical Archives, including items with Pierce Home connections. We continue work toward a formal history of FBCM and during 2017 we plan to resume collecting oral histories in video recordings of interviews with members and friends of the Church. We are also developing plans for a cabinet to display historical artifacts in the Church.

Meradith and Bill McMunn
Church Heritage Committee

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

During 2016, the Social Committee continued to support the work of our church by providing refreshments for the church family at a variety of events. The committee members provided a light lunch for the spring and fall church business meetings, desserts and drinks for the annual meeting, and assisted with coffee hours for guest ministers. We assisted with Family Fun Night, providing dessert, drinks and helping with set up and clean up, and helped with the meal for Advent Event. Members generously contribute food, time and energy to make church events enjoyable. Official committee members this year were: Karen Hocking, chairman, Sandy Stevens, Virginia Conland-Murdoch, Jill Stedman-Myette, Alice Spencer and Ellie Trainor, however, we were assisted by many other church friends and members and we thank them all very much for their help.

Respectfully Submitted,
Karen Hocking, Chair

SAFE CHURCH COMMITTEE

The Safe Church committee is available to hear concerns of our church family and will address each concern as quickly as possible.

The plan for this year is to consult with the Chinese Church to make sure they have policies and procedures that meet the needs of their growing congregation, keeping all ages safe able to enjoy the fellowship of God's people and to grow in grace and love.

Respectfully submitted,
Tricia Baker

YOUTH GROUP AND MISSION TRIP REPORT

The youth group has not met since last spring. It became more and more difficult to coordinate schedules of our busy youth. It also became more and more difficult to continue an every – other Friday night schedule. I would be open to trying it again.

We did not have a youth mission trip last summer, but we are planning one for this summer.

It will be Sunday June 25 through Friday June 30. We will be going to York Pennsylvania where we went a few years ago. We will be doing different kinds of community service there. It will not be a construction kind of mission trip. We will be doing some fundraisers beginning soon.

Respectfully submitted,
Pastor Ron

YOUTH CHOIR

A special thank you to our young people who share their musical talents with us. You are wonderful and so much appreciated!

This past year, we have had rehearsals at various times on Sunday mornings – sometimes at 9:00 AM and other times, following the second hour program. Thank you to Laura Austin, Susan Figueroa and Melissa Rood who have joined us in singing, and to Ally Lalumiere, for her accompaniment on the piano. Thanks also to our wonderful parents who help to make our Youth Choir program a success. We couldn't do it without your kind cooperation, and thanks to Karen Hocking and the social committee for help in our various events and to Nancy Flynn for opening her home to help with our progressive supper. Lastly, a huge thank you to John Riesen for his support and helping hand in whatever needs to be done.

Highlights of the Year's activities include:

- Sunday, January 10, 2016 Breakfast and Planning Session
- Friday, February 26, 2016 – Church Family Fun Night preceded by a Potluck Supper. Mission theme - Hungary
- Sunday, March 13, 2016 – “This Little Light of Mine” – Jeff Bigl, guitar; Greg Watson, banjo
- Sunday, March 27, 2016 – Easter – “Bring You Praise”
- Sunday, May 15, 2016 – Music Ministries Sunday – “You Are the Bread” –Ally Lalumiere, piano; Justin Blackburn, percussion
- Friday April 22, 2016 – Progressive Supper and songs – 6:00 PM appetizer – Flynn’s home; 7:00 PM main dish – church; 8:00 PM dessert – Riesen’s home
- June, July, August – Summer Music
- Sunday, September 11, 2016 – Pancake Breakfast and Planning Meeting
- Saturday, November 5, 2016 – Intergenerational Choral Workshop – sponsored by the American Guild of Organists, led by Tom Brand, Founder and Artistic Director of the Elm City (New Haven) Girls’ Choir
- Sunday, November 20, 2016 – Thanksgiving Sunday - Combined anthem Youth Choir and Adult Choir “Make a Joyful Noise”
- Sunday December 18, 2016 – Special Christmas Music – combined anthem Youth Choir with Adult Choir – “The Snow Lay on the Ground” – special coffee hour and Christmas caroling to homes and Mansfield Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation, followed by refreshments at Riesen’s home.

Future Dates:

- Friday March 3, 2017 – Church Family Fun Night; March 10, (snow date) (Dates yet to be finalized)
- Sunday April 9, 2017 – Palm Sunday
- Sunday April 16, 2017 – Easter Sunday
- Sunday May 21, 2017 – Music Ministries Sunday (Date yet to be finalized)

Instrumentalists who have helped our Youth Choir during the year:

Ally Lalumiere	Jeffrey Bigl	Guy Myette
Justin Blackburn	Greg Watson	

Let’s continue to “Make a Joyful Noise to the Lord”

Grace Riesen, Director

LADIES AID SOCIETY

The Ladies Aid has been very busy in 2016. In January twenty new padded folding chairs from Adirondack direct arrived, these chairs are in addition to the 40 chairs purchased in 2011. We also purchased 4 armed chairs from the UConn Surplus store.

For Valentine's Day 2016 the Ladies Aid baked cupcakes to show our appreciation of your support. The cupcakes were available to all who attended the morning worship service. It was a difficult that morning to travel so we also made a few "special deliveries" to those who did not venture out in the bad weather.

The Ladies Aid organized the Easter Breakfast on March 27th. We made 4 breakfast casseroles and muffins and breads that were enjoyed by members from the United Church of Christ and First Baptist Mansfield. Members from the Board of Christian Education also helped us prepare and serve on Easter morning.

The Ladies Aid donated \$300.00 to the Steeplechase Bike Tour, these funds go towards supporting WAIM, Perception House and the No-freeze Shelter. This level of support allowed our church name to be on the Steeple Chase web-site and printed on the 25th Annual Steeple Chase tee shirt.

In May the Northeast Health District did the annual inspection of the church kitchen it was discovered that the dishwasher was not shutting down completely and the rinse water was not up to 180 degrees. The Ladies Aid contacted A-Tech Service to repair the dishwasher and test the water temperature. We replaced the water solenoid and determined that the immersion heater was good. The hot water to rinse comes from the gas hot water heater and it is not heating up to 180 degrees necessary to sanitize the dishes. Dishes will need to be rinsed in a bleach solution to meet the requirements of the Northeast Health District for serving to the public.

Over the spring and summer we worked with the town of Mansfield to gain approval from the Historical District Commission and the Zoning Agent to replace the church sign. In August the church sign was replaced by Signs of All Kinds from Manchester, CT. We also replaced the memorial plaque for Lawrence Larkin and placed it on the post facing the church. For those of you who did not know Larry Larkin, he and his wife Ethel were energetic supports of our church for many, many years. Larry was an independent electrician who donated his services to the church.

We held two fund raisers this fall to replace our depleted funds. Our annual Butter Braid sale held in October was very successful we had over 100 orders! In November we hosted a Paint Afternoon with Paint Social Art. Twenty-two members and friends took up their paint brushes and created a masterpiece to take home. It was a lovely afternoon of fellowship and discovering a new skill. These two fundraisers brought in over \$1,000.

Our fund raising efforts this year have been so successful that we were able to purchase 8 new Lifetime tables for the Fellowship Hall/Conference Room. These tables are made out of a lighter weight material and are much easier to handle.

Please help us to take good care of the resources that we have been able to supply with your generous support. We ask that the new white Lifetime tables be used indoors only and that the older dark melamine tables be used for messy projects that may stain or damage the tables. The dark melamine tables can also be used outside. There are more dark melamine tables stored downstairs and in the shed. We also ask that the padded folding chairs be used indoors only. The hard plastic chairs are stored downstairs and are available for outside use and there are metal folding chairs in the shed.

In the past, individuals have borrowed chairs and kitchen items from the church, the Ladies Aid is happy to share what we have but in consideration for all please sign items out and sign them in when you return them. There is a Ladies Aid Inventory and Sign-Out book located in the church kitchen for this use. If there is something that you would like to borrow that is not listed please speak with the president of the Ladies Aid before you borrow it.

Thank you to all who have supported the Ladies Aid, you have been very generous! This year we have been able to provide so many items that make a difference to our church family. The new sign, the tables and chairs give our church a fresh, clean look that is inviting to all.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Flynn, President

EMMA GARDINER MISSIONARY SOCIETY - ABW

The 2016-2017 Mission Focus for American Baptist Women's Ministries is "See ... the Suffering: Drug Addiction" and the geographical part of the world chosen for in-depth study is Hungary.

Spring 2016 – A delicious luncheon at the Lakeview Restaurant in Coventry, Connecticut was enjoyed by members. We were fortunate to have some friends join us. We gave our best wishes to Ellie Trainor, who moved down south to be closer to her son.

This year, as last year, local groups were given the opportunity of selecting items for our overland White Cross recipient – South Providence Neighborhood Matters (note change in name). This is an ecumenical multi-service neighborhood center, serving families, the elderly, and the disabled for over 25 years, providing service and opportunities that encourage self-worth and build a safe and just community of caring, respect and cooperation. Because of our Church's generous help, we were able to give many Christmas items including dolls, cars, other toys and clothing such as scarves, ties and also disposable diapers. Thanks to Lena Barry, Sue Bauer, Grace and John Riesen for packing up these items and thanks to Meradith and Bill McMunn for delivering them to South Providence. Thanks to our Church's generosity, we were able to send \$125.00 to our overseas recipient this year, the Palestine Christian Mission to Gaza. This mission supports the relief work of Dr. Hanna Massad, International Missionary who visited our church this past year. Christian Mission to Gaza provides food and medicine to Palestinian refugees suffering from malnutrition and poverty.

There will be an American Baptist Woman's Ministries Conference at Camp Canonicus in nearby Rhode Island Friday June 2 – Saturday June 3, 2017. I hope many from our Church will attend.

Our local Emma Gardiner Missionary Society is a very small, friendly group. Please come and join us to learn more about American Baptist Mission work around the world, and to help us keep this mission flowing to those in need.

Respectfully submitted,
Grace Riesen, President

WINDHAM AREA INTERFAITH MINISTRY (WAIM) DELEGATES

It has been a very great year for WAIM as it always is whenever the Kingdom of God is served by the compassionate outpouring of God's people. WAIM has welcomed 2 new employees this year; Merle Potchinsky a member at Temple B'nai Israel, is our new Case Manager and Kathy Desmaris is Victoria Nimerowski's part-time office assistant. We are grateful for both of these gifted women and their willingness to share those gifts with our "WAIM-World".

WAIM had 3 very successful fundraisers this year. The Steeplechase in August brought \$18,000 to WAIM as our share of the over \$50,000 raised and The Harvest of HOPE, our newest fundraiser, brought in over \$8000. We were thrilled to hear that the WALK FOR WARMTH netted \$42,355 for the Private Fuel Fund. Many thanks to Nancy Flynn for picking up the FBCM "Sneaker" and "running with it" by promoting "FILL OLIVIA'S SNEAKERS"! Because of Nancy's determination and creativity, FBCM has earned the GOLDEN SHOE Award in the small church category. This will be officially awarded to us in an upcoming worship service. The next fundraiser is the famous Grinder Sale spear headed by Ed Austin. There are lots of opportunities to help with this fun event.

WAIM has had a somewhat unofficial fiduciary responsibility with the Quiet Corner Refugee Resettlement Project. The QCRRP Steering Committee has asked to formalize WAIM's role. We have entered into a formal agreement to process donations, pay out expenses and provide regular reports. In turn they pay WAIM an administrative fee. We hope to have the formal plan in place by the end of January 2017. The Board of Directors feels this is an excellent use of WAIM's resources. The timing is good because the administrative role WAIM has provided for the Windham Homelessness Intervention Fund (WHIF) is being shifted to the Coordinated Access Network dedicated to housing the homeless and keeping people who are at risk of homelessness in their homes. As for the Refugee project, there is one Syrian family that has been brought to our community and the process has begun again for family #2.

WAIM continues to offer Material Goods (clothing, household goods, and furniture) for free. Donations have been heavy this Fall and for awhile WAIM was not taking furniture or clothing. There was just NO ROOM to put anything more! If you have things to donate, you might want to call before you pack your car, to find out what they are accepting.

As always, WAIM is in need of sheets (Twin or Queen), diapers, and socks.

Respectfully submitted,
Tricia Baker

COVENANT SOUP KITCHEN

The First Baptist Church of Mansfield continued their support this year at St. Paul's soup kitchen in Willimantic. Thank you volunteers! If you would like to volunteer, there is a sign-up sheet in the conference room. You can also contribute to this mission by signing up to provide a desert. FBCM is scheduled to volunteer at the soup kitchen on the third Friday of every month. Volunteers arrive between 4:00 and 4:30 to help chop vegetables and fruit for salads, wrap silverware, serve dinner and cleanup. Dinner is served between 5:30 and 6:00 and cleanup is usually done by 6:30.

Come be a part of the soup kitchen mission!

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Stedman-Myette

ABCCONN DELEGATES

The ABCCONN Annual Meeting was held Saturday April 30, 2016 at Second Baptist Church in Suffield. There were interesting workshops on a wide range of topics. Among the many music presenters were the Karen congregation from Central, Hartford. In September Rev Dr. Judy Allbee completed her years as Executive Minister and was gratefully acknowledged by several good bye events. Rev Ken Williams was called as Interim Minister while the search continues to find the new regional leader. Listening Sessions are being held in January and February 2017 across the state to allow input from as many people as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laura Austin

PIERCE MEMORIAL BAPTIST HOME AND CREAMERY BROOK

Pierce Memorial Baptist Home had a quiet unremarkable year in 2016. Investments performed well and we are looking forward to a successful 2017. We are hoping to schedule some facility improvements which will aid in a profitable future.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandy Stevens

NORTHEAST ASSOCIATION DELEGATES

The Northeast Baptist Association held its Annual Meeting at the First Baptist Church of Mansfield on Sunday, September 25, 2016. Rev. Ronald Baker, Association President, called the meeting to order and opened with prayer, followed by a Hymn Sing accompanied by Ally Lalumiere.

Attendees included representatives from the following Northeast Association churches:

Danielson Cornerstone Baptist Church	1
East Thompson Hill Baptist Church	1
Mansfield First Baptist Church	12
Putnam Baptist Church	3
South Woodstock Baptist Church	8
Stafford Baptist Church	1

Rev. Baker reported on activities at FBCM during the past year including the Youth Mission trip to York, Pennsylvania, and the beginning of discussions to share our facilities with the Storrs Chinese church.

Representatives of the South Woodstock Baptist church reported on their enlarged and refurbished church facilities.

Treasurer Jayne O'Toole submitted her resignation for reasons of health; Meradith McMunn was nominated to replace her as Association Treasurer. The other officers agreed to continue for another year. The following officers were elected for 2016-17:

Moderator	Rev. Ronald Baker, First Baptist Church of Mansfield
Vice-Moderator	Rev. Gil Bourquin, Putnam Baptist Church
Secretary	Susan Honeychurch, South Woodstock Baptist Church
Treasurer	Meradith McMunn, First Baptist Church of Mansfield

Designated contributions voted at the 2015 meeting were: \$400. to Camp Wightman, \$300. to missionary Mercedes Gonzales Barnes, and \$100. to the South Woodstock Baptist Church in memory of former Association Moderator Rev. Henry Douty to be used for new hymnals. This year the Association voted to donate \$600. to Camp Wightman and \$200. to missionary Mercedes Gonzales Barnes.

The Association voted to honor Hazel Froelich's faithful commitment to the Association for more than 60 years.

Visiting speaker Rev. Hanna Mossad delivered an interesting talk about his work as a pastor, Bible college teacher, and missionary in Gaza to the refugees from Iraq and Syria.

At the conclusion of the talk, we adjourned to a delicious light supper prepared by the Ladies Aid of the First Baptist Church of Mansfield.

Respectfully submitted,
Meradith and Bill McMunn
FBCM Delegates to the Northeast Association

ABCCONN HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

The ABCCONN Historical Committee meets regularly at the Central Baptist Church in Hartford. The purpose of the Committee is to maintain ABCCONN's records of the State and Regional Associations and the affiliated Connecticut Baptist churches, and to support the collection, archiving, and dissemination of information about all the Baptist churches in Connecticut. This year we continued the work of organizing and labeling the ABCCONN Historical Archives, now located in 4 rooms on the top floor of the Central Baptist Church. We have also prepared informative displays on Connecticut Baptist history for the ABCCONN Annual Gathering and other regional events.

The ABCCONN Historical Committee maintains a web site linked from the main ABCCONN site with interesting information about the history of the Baptist movement in Connecticut and across the nation. Members of the Committee also write and produce a historical page inserted into each of the periodic mailings from ABCCONN to all pastors and many Baptist lay-people in Connecticut. We are always happy to help church historians with their work of collecting and disseminating historical information and preparing for their periodic celebrations of significant anniversaries.

If you have any questions about Baptist history or know of any material relating to the history of our church or of other ABCCONN churches, please contact Bill McMunn — wcmunn@charter.net, 860-423-1581.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill McMunn
ABCCONN Historical Committee

APPENDIX 1

Appendix 1 contains the Church Clerk's minutes for the 2016 year.

Annual Meeting held January 31, 2016

Special business meeting held on February 28, 2016 regarding replacing carpet in the sanctuary

Regular Spring meeting held April 24, 2016

Regular Fall meeting held October 30, 2016

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF MANSFIELD
Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting
Sunday, January 31, 2016

OPENING WORSHIP:

Meeting Called to order at 12:45 pm by the moderator Terry Yanaway
Thank you to the social committee for desserts & WAIM for grinders provided
With 31 members present
Pastor opened with prayer

REPORTS:

- Pastor: By Pastor Ron Baker as amended.
- Clerk: As published
- Financial Secretary: As Published. Pledges amended to
- Report on Pledges: As published with the following adjustments
 - General 56460, Mission 6708, Sanctuary 2240
- Treasurer, As published
- Financial Officer for Missions: As published
- Executive Board: As published
- Board of Deacons: As published with thanks to members departing and welcomes to new additions.
- Board of Christian Education: As published
- Board of Trustees: As published
 - Report from Play area Committee: As published

STANDING COMMITTEES:

- Nominating Committee: As published with the following corrections
 - One vacancy in Christian Education
 - Nominating Committee strike Laura Austin update with Karen Hocking
 - Communication, Add John Riesen
 - Pastoral Relations add Laura Austin. (Murdoch)
- Music Committee: As published
- Financial Examining: As published
- Ushering Committee: As published
- Communications Committee: As published
- Flower Committee: As published (Lena)
- Missions Committee: As published
- Memorial Gifts Committee: As published with the note that some gifts may have been received directed to a particular area which would not go through the Memorial Gifts committee
- Pastoral Relations Committee: As published
- Stewardship Committee: As published (submitted by Karen Watson)
- Church Heritage Committee: As published

- Social Committee: As published: (Sandy Stevens name updated from Zerio)
- Safe Church Committee: As published

OTHER COMMITTEES AND GROUPS:

- ABCCONN Delegates: As published
- Northeast Association Delegates: As published
- Windham Area Interfaith Ministry: As published
 - Thanks to Olivia Baker for her continued efforts to raise resources for Walk For Warmth. WAIM Facebook page to view video.
- Computer and Projector Committee: As published
 - Will be merging into Communications
- Youth Group Report & Youth Mission Group Report: As published
- Youth Choir Report: As published
 - Thanks to participants.
 - Music Ministries was only on the 31st? Not the 15th.
- Emma Gardiner Missionary Society: As published
- Ladies Aid Society: As published
 - 31 fund raiser provided additional product for sale
- ABCCONN History Committee: As published
- Covenant Soup Kitchen: As published
- Pierce Memorial Baptist Home and Creamery Brook: As published
 - Current year will be focusing on financial management & governance for effective professional structure while focusing on Christian values.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING

(none)

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion from Nominating Committee made by Nancy Flynn to accept the slate of officers as corrected.

Seconded by Jen Bradshaw.

With the following adjustment

Bill Hocking's name on board of Deacons should not have an asterisk as this is his first full term.

- One vacancy in Christian Education
- Remove Laura Austin from Nominating Committee replace with Karen Hocking
- Communication, Add John Riesen
- Pastoral Relations add Laura Austin.
- Correct spelling on Virginia Conland-Murdoch

Motion Carried

Motion by Nancy Flynn to accept the 2016 budget as presented on pages 10-12 of the Annual Report

Seconded by Jen Bradshaw.

Motion was amended by Meradith McMunn, seconded by Jen Bradshaw to increase the Northeast Association dues by \$70 to \$170.00 (Carried)

Motion by Denise Keane, seconded by Jen Bradshaw to amend the budget by reducing the automobile reimbursement amount from 3000 to 2500 and transferring the amount by

Increase to Conference expense by 300 to 350 and

Increase sabbatical by 200

Motion Carried

Motion to accept budget as amended Carried.

READING AND APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING

Note that the Play Yard sub committee report was published

Motion to approve the minutes

Made By Jen Bradshaw, seconded By Laura Austin

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to Adjourn

Made By Jen Bradshaw

Seconded By Meradith McMunn

Motion Carried

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF MANSFIELD
Special Business Meeting
Sunday, February 28,, 2016

Meeting called to order by the moderator to hear a motion from the Board of Trustees.

"The Board of Trustees move that the church engage Smith Carpet to remove the existing carpet from the Sanctuary and replace it with new carpet. This work to be paid for from the Sanctuary Maintenance Fund"

Motion made by Dana Yanaway

Second Ed Austin

Motion Carried

Motion to Adjourn

Dana Yanaway

Second Laura Austin

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF MANSFIELD
Minutes of the Spring Business Meeting
Sunday, April 24, 2016

OPENING WORSHIP:

Order 1:00: 26 members present

Prayer:

Thanks to social & Matt Hocking

REPORTS:

- Pastor: Presented by: Ron Baker
 - Thanks to opening the church
 - Youth Mission trip (Steeple Chase)
 - Sabbatical
- Clerk: Presented by: Dana Yanaway
- Financial Secretary: Presented by: John Riesen
- Treasurer: Presented by: Meradith McMunn
- Financial Status (Spring meeting) : Presented by: Meradith McMunn & John Riesen
 - Special Funds page
 - Investment Funds
- Financial Officer for Missions: Presented by: Karen Watson
- Executive Board: Presented by: Terry Yanaway
- Board of Christian Education: Presented by: Written Report
 - Second Hour
 - VBS 21 – 24 June (Tuesday – Friday evening program)
- Board of Deacons: Presented by: Patty Geissler
- Board of Trustees: Presented by: Dana Yanaway

STANDING COMMITTEES:

- Nominating Committee: No Report
- Music Committee: Presented by: Tricia Baker
 - Replacing old hymnals
- Flower Committee: Presented by: Lena Barry on behalf of Charlotte Hebert
- Communications Committee: Presented by: Nancy Flynn
- Missions Committee : Presented by: Laura Austin
- Memorial Gifts Committee: Presented by: John Riesen on behalf of Charlotte Hebert
- Social Committee: Presented by: Karen Hocking
- Financial Examining : Presented by: David Stevens
- Pastoral Relations Committee : No Report
- Safe Church Committee: No Report
- Stewardship Committee: No Report
- Ushering Committee : No Report

- Church Heritage Committee: Presented by: Bill McMunn

OTHER COMMITTEES AND GROUPS:

- ABCCONN Delegates : Presented by: Laura Austin
 - Annual Gathering Saturday April 30
- Northeast Association Delegates: Presented by: Bill McMunn
- ABCCONN History Committee: Presented by: Bill McMunn
- Computer and Projector Committee: Presented by: (Update to Communications)
- Ladies Aid Society: Presented by: Nancy Flynn
 - Replacing sign in front of church
- Emma Gardiner Missionary Society: Presented by: Grace Riesen
- Windham Area Interfaith Ministry : No Report
- Youth Choir Report: Presented by: Grace Riesen
- Youth Group Report : No Report
- Youth Mission Group Report: Mentioned during Pastor's report
- Pierce Memorial Baptist Home and Creamery Brook: Presented by: Sandy Stevens
 - Memory care...

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING

(none)

NEW BUSINESS:

The board of Trustees move that the "Sanctuary Maintenance" fund be re-designated as the "Capital Expense" fund and that the Board of Trustees be authorized to transfer to that fund an amount at their discretion up to \$1000.00 from the regular maintenance fund each December if deemed appropriate."

Seconded by Laura Austin

Discussion;

Motion Carried

READING AND APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING

Laura Austin

Sue Figeroua

ADJOURNMENT:

Meradith McMunn

Laura Austin

Respectfully submitted,
Dana Yanaway, Clerk

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF MANSFIELD
Minutes of the Fall Business Meeting
Sunday, October 30, 2016

OPENING WORSHIP:

Call to order @ 11:50 am 31 members present by moderator Terry Yanaway
Open with prayer

REPORTS:

- Pastor: Presented by: Ron Baker
- Clerk: No Report
- Financial Secretary, : Presented by: John Riesen
- Treasurer, : Presented by: Meradith McMunn
- Financial Status (Spring meeting)
- Financial Officer for Missions: Presented by: Karen Watson
- Executive Board, : Presented by: Terry Yanaway
- Board of Christian Education, : Presented by: Peter Bradshaw
- Board of Deacons, : Presented by: Laura Austin on behalf of Jen Bradshaw
- Board of Trustees: Presented by: Dana Yanaway

STANDING COMMITTEES:

- Nominating Committee: Presented by: Terry Yanaway
- Music Committee: Presented by: Tricia Baker
- Flower Committee: Presented by: Charlotte Hebert
- Communications Committee: Presented by: Nancy Flynn (computer.... committee !!!)
 - Send thank you to Ally on providing hard copy of electronic communications....
- Missions Committee : Presented by: No report
- Memorial Gifts Committee: Presented by: Charlotte Hebert
- Social Committee: Presented by: Karen Hocking
- Pastoral Relations Committee : Presented by: Sue Figueroa
- Safe Church Committee: Presented by: No Report
- Stewardship Committee: Presented by: Joy Erickson
- Ushering Committee : Presented by: No Report
- Church Heritage Committee: Presented by: Bill McMunn

OTHER COMMITTEES AND GROUPS:

- ABCCONN Delegates : Presented by: Laura Austin
- Northeast Association Delegates: Presented by: Bill McMunn
- ABCCONN History Committee: Presented by: Bill McMunn
- Computer and Projector Committee: Presented by: (MOVE up to Communications....)
- Ladies Aid Society: Presented by: (Gas hot water heater...) Nancy Flynn
- Emma Gardiner Missionary Society: Presented by: Grace Riesen

- Windham Area Interfaith Ministry : Presented by: Nancy Flynn
- Youth Choir Report: Presented by: Grace Riesen
- Youth Group Report : Presented by: No Report
- Youth Mission Group Report: Presented by: Ron Baker
- Pierce Memorial Baptist Home and Creamery Brook: Presented by: Sandy Stevens

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING

(none)

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Dana Yanaway to review Presentation of 2017 budget; Second by Peter Bradshaw, Motion carried.

Discussion commenced.

(John, Sunday school wing downstairs is in need of help) Purple room has lights out.

Budget tabled.

Highlighted that the lights need attention

The Board of Trustees is authorized to enter into negotiations with the Storrs Community Chinese Church to rent space on a month by month basis for their use of the church facility. Details to be outlined and presented to the church prior to finalization.

Second by John Riesen

Janitorial costs, lock up, Safe church committee (How will they enforce the safe church principals.)

Enforcement / communicate concerns.

Consumables in the kitchen. Tables / chairs getting worn out.

Motion carried.

Board of Christian Education discussion regarding Second Hour programming.

READING AND APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING

Motion to accept by Pete Bradshaw

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn by Patty Geissler

Respectfully submitted,
Dana Yanaway, Clerk