**Reports**

**Moderator:** Tom noted his pride in the Church Council’s decision to sign an amicus brief in support of marriage equality in the Virginia Bostic vs. Schaefer appeal. He also expressed his thanks to Ron and Hank for their pastoral leadership during Holy Week and Lent. Council members are invited to participate in the Potomac Association meeting, May 3, at Hope UCC and the Central Atlantic Conference, June 13-15 at the University of Delaware. Anne Holmes will chair the Safe Church Committee. John Mingus and Robyn Petrusiak will also serve on the committee.

**Stewardship:** This year’s theme will be, “Gifts from Loving Hearts.” Carolyn Labbe has agreed to join the committee leaving two vacancies.

**Transitional Pastor for Faith Formation:** Now that Lent and Holy Week are past, Hank is busy planning the summer activities.

**Interim Senior Pastor:** Ron expressed his appreciation for the assistance of the Deacon’s Worship Committee in planning and leading services and events during Holy Week and Lent. He continues to focus on pastoral needs of the congregation.

**Action/Discussion Items**

**Minutes:** It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the March 10th Council Meeting, the March 23th Special Congregational Meeting, and the April 13th Special Council Meeting. Motion past.

**Treasurer’s report:** Pledge income is running behind; the only month that exceeded projections was March which was a month with 5 Sundays. Pledge income at this point is $146,507 while it was projected to be $155,086. Expense lines that are running above budget include child care due to frequent need for substitute child care providers, office operations, and utilities and grounds maintenance due to the harsh winter weather.
A complete budget review is planned for June. Contributed principle in the Endowment Fund is now $191,000. Each of the United Church Fund accounts received a dividend of 0.4% in March. Dave will be working with Lynnhurst UCC regarding David Lindsey’s transition to LRUCC payroll. Tom thanked Dave for the budget workshop he provided.

**Budget process for 2015:** Tom stated his goal is to have a small group develop a budget process for 2015. After discussion Jill and Joe agreed to work with Rob Peters, Stewardship Chair, to develop such a process.

**Communications Advisory Team:** Heather reported Communications is working on a plan to keep the congregation informed and excited about David Lindsey’s arrival the end of June. They want to make sure David is welcomed to the church and community. It was noted that usually the Search Committee plans welcoming events. Ron and Hank advised giving time for David to settle in. Tom will speak with Kathleen regarding plans for David’s arrival. It was suggested this is a good time to reach out to members and friends who have fallen away during the transition years.

**Office Review:** In light of the church office being understaffed, Tom requested approval from the Council to hire a consultant to assess the church’s needs and resources and to recommend the skill set needed to operate the office effectively. He noted volunteers (i.e. treasurer, communications chair) are doing more than can be expected and there is still work that is not getting done. Ron stated he feels we need more help in the office. Tom estimated the cost of a consultant to be between $4,000 and $5,000 which could be paid with transitional contingency funds. He also suggested Professionals for Non-profits or Kelly Services could do the assessment or find a candidate to fill the position.

After an extended discussion during which hiring a consultant was questioned, there was no consensus. The discussion will be continued.

Hank offered a closing prayer.

The next Council meeting will be Wednesday May 14th at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Lingo, Clerk