

SUMC Church Council Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2018

The following were present: Mary Weiss, Lisa Potts, Betty Tidquist, Paula Roberson, Peter Gante, Bonnie Johnson, Andrew Harper, Merle Epperson, Bonnie Bihary, Marcie Briley, Roger Fulp, Susan Fulp, Carol Ferry, Mel Guss, Adam Barth, Scott Dodson, Marie Hurst

Mary Weiss called the meeting to order and lit the Christ Candle. She also shared a short devotion entitled, "Object Lesson." The moral of the story was that we work better when we work together. Mary gave the opening prayer.

CELEBRATIONS

- All went well at Pilgrimage.
- The business loan that Carol applied for was accepted. The amount is \$381,000 for 30 years at 2.5% fixed interest. The payments do not begin for 12 months. We still have some legal work to get done before all the loan information is complete.
- Betty's condominium and the parsonage are scheduled for repairs from the hurricane.
- The MOPS program is going great.
- There will be several services held by multiple denominations at our church on Christmas Eve.

COMMITTEE REPORTS / UPDATES

Child Care Board of Directors: Betty Tidquist had no report, but shared that our child care center was voted the #1 child care center in Onslow County.

SPRC: Paula Roberson reported that their primary focus is to fill several staff vacancies and they are beginning to fill those, but their work is not finished. Paula raised a question about the passing of the 2019 budget, but understood that the budget can be amended after the first of the year. A praise is that Trish Smith stepped in as the interim contemporary worship until we can fill her position.

Finance: Peter reported that the income for Oct was \$125,726.00. \$20,000 of that is from our day care. For the month of October we had a \$24,646.00 profit. As far as for the year, we are \$693.00 in the hole. The finance committee voted by consensus to pay the October apportionment of \$10,964.00. The committee will review our finances at end of month and see where we are. The \$20 fellowship is down to \$2734.00.

UMW: Lisa shared that a "Celebration of Lyle" will be held on Sunday, November 18th at 12:23pm in the Assembly hall. A special gift is will be presented from the church. When requests are sent to WOW, the requests are evaluated and help is sent out once the needs are identified.

Communication: Bonnie Johnson reported that all was going well. Sanders is getting the videos online with Scott sharing our church's hurricane story.

Music: Merle shared that the Christmas Cantata will be on Dec 2nd., but we will not have a string quartet.

Trustees: Mel reported that their committee had lots of discussion on how to make things work around the church and help us get certain tasks accomplished. He suggested that we offer H&H Landscapers and other contracted service providers, donation letters to encourage them to provide their services at no cost. A review was done of the parsonage to see what needed to be done to get everything repaired. Mel went to the Swansboro Town Hall to check on what we needed to do in order for us to put up a sign until our permanent one was put in place. The town said we could not do what Mel proposed because it would not be a permanent fixture. They said perhaps we could consider a banner. A suggestion from those present would be to park our church bus out front. There are plans in the future for an electronic sign. This is in the list of things to do, along with repairing our roofs and floors. Mel also shared that he liked Pastor Scott's appeal to the church for volunteers to help with work around the church.

Representing Worship Committee: Bonnie Bihary had no report.

Martha's Mission: Marcie Briley had no report.

Lay Leadership: Roger Fulp had no report.

Education: Susan Fulp reported that on Dec. 2 we will have a Family Advent Wreath Celebration from 4:30-6:30 pm. Bring the whole family to make your family advent wreath. We will provide a spaghetti dinner and the items to make a wreath. You may bring some greenery from your own yard and your own shears. We will collect the greenery for everyone to share.

Stewardship: Scott reported for David Wilmoth that a stewardship financial report will be given at church on Sunday, November 18th.

PASTOR'S REPORTS

Scott Dodson:

1- We have funds to help those in need; they need to contact the church. We have given 165 people \$50.00 gift cards and given \$8000.00 to teachers at preschools.

2- Church conference will be November 26, at 7pm at Northwoods. Lay Leadership is trying to fill all of the lay leadership positions before church conference. The Lay Leadership Committee will be meeting Thursday, Nov 15 to complete this task.

3- The church office is working hard to get all of our reports done but it is very difficult since we have been short staffed and Carol is working with the auditors.

4- Who will be going to church conference? Pastor Scott, Marcie, Bonnie B and maybe others. We have 2 special items to get approved at charge conference, our loans.

5- Our insurance for the church is very expensive. It is estimated that it will cost \$448,000 to fix the damages. To date, we haven't heard from our insurance company. We have loans and we have an idea how to raise funds. We can't hire a contractor until we get some other things done. We have to file a claim for all contents broken down by building.

6- Scott has an idea about how to raise the \$448,000, which is the amount of the damage that we will have to pay. We could solicit funds from other churches. Scott contacted two previous churches that he has served in and they were very receptive. We have about \$3,200.00 collected so far. Scott and Sanders Hall will be creating a FB/YouTube video which will share our situation and ask for any assistance that can be given. Members should consider sharing this information on their personal social media to get it to as many folks as possible.

7- During the services a couple of weeks ago, he asked people to help volunteer for various tasks at the church. A system will be set up to coordinate the se volunteer efforts.

8-We as a church have asked our conference for help, but no response to date. Our conference is still in the process of deciding how the money will be sent out.

9- We need to know who needs to have work done in our area. A list needs to be started. We need to take care of people in our community ourselves. There are folks in other areas who would like to come to help those who are in need. 50% of the damage in North Carolina happened in our district.

10- The Town of Swansboro recognized SUMC last night and presented an award for being a great church who helps its citizens and encourages town. Pastor Scott accepted the award.

11- We have 4 goals this year: 1) Stephen's Ministry, 2) SAM, 3) have 50 people watching on line, and 4) have 100 people join our church (children and adults). The first 3 goals have been met. So far, about 82 people have joined the church this year, including about 20 confirmands, 20 kids and the rest adults.

12- Everyone is reminded to pray for each of our staff members. We lost Michael, Brandon moved on to a new job, Andrew was displaced from home, Adam has a new child, our pastor is in and out of house, Joan's husband has cancer, Anne Turnage has a serious medical condition, and Merle has several challenges in his position. In our child care center, Vicky is retiring soon, Becky will be leaving next year and Allison, who is moving into Becky's position, lost her home in the hurricane. All in all, things are complicated and it is very difficult to get done what needs to be done.

Andrew Harper:

Andrew shared that 45 youth and adults went to Pilgrimage in Fayetteville. They will be talking about the prophets and how they relate to the youth at our church.

Adam Barth:

Adam will begin a new "Membership 101" class from 8:30am to 1:30pm this Sat., November 17th. Six people have signed up for the class this Saturday. He will lead these classes on a quarterly basis. Out of 13 total attendees, half have joined the church. The speakers for our Wednesday Advent services are George Speak, Laura Thompson and Angelo Sanchez.

Marcie shared that luncheons will be held on the following Wednesdays, December 5, 12 and 19 after the noon message.

AREAS OF DISCUSSION AND DISCERNMENT

Peter and Carol presented the 2019 budget for the church. A handout was shared with each member present. Our budget is down from last year 13.2%. The budget is a working document. The finance committee approved the 2019 budget last night by consensus. The budget can be amended after the first of the year if necessary. There will be a \$208,000 decrease in this budget from last year which came mostly from the realignment of positions and other items. The reduction did not come from any of our programs.

Paula, representing SPRC, shared that they are still working on staff salaries. She is concerned that there will have to be adjustments made to accommodate any changes. Peter stated that our budget is a working document. Roger shared that even though we are passing budget we may have to amend once the appropriate information is gathered. Our budget does not have to be passed before charged conference. Peter asked for consensus regarding the budget and the board agreed by consensus that this budget is passed and may be amended after the first of the year.

Bonnie J shared that the SAM group enjoyed doing some crafts and had a great time at their last gathering. They will meet next in January, 2019.

Andrew asked when can we expect the schedule for 2019 CC meetings. Church Council meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of the month. In January 2019 we will have a workshop on Saturday which will count as our January meeting.

Andrew requested to be on the January agenda in order to approve the Safe Sanctuary Guidelines for our church. A 2019 church council schedule will be provided with these minutes.

CLOSING

Andrew closed with prayer.
The meeting ended at 8:12pm
There will be NO December meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Marie

2019 Tentative Church Council Meeting Schedule (sheet will be given to each member once the schedule has been confirmed)

January 22.	<u>No July Meeting</u>
February 26	August 27
March 26	September 24
April 23	October 22
May 28	November 26 (maybe early like this year?)
June 25	<u>No December Meeting</u>