

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES SEPTEMBER 25, 2018

The following members were in attendance: Paula Roberson, Lou Collins, Marcie Briley, Peter Gante, Nancy Harris, David Wilmoth, Merle Epperson, Bonnie Bihary, Gay Williams, Adam Barth, Scott Dodson, John Freshwater, Bonnie Johnson, Susan Fulp, Roger Fulp, Andrew Harper, Maggie Pearce, Mary Weiss, Marie Hurst

Guests: John Lee, Yana Franz, Ray Bihary

Mary Weiss opened the meeting by lighting the Christ candle. She read a short devotional entitled, "It Matters" by Jeff Ostrander and shared a poem. Adam Barth said the opening prayer.

Members were reminded to sign-in, pick up the handouts and an agenda. Marie Hurst asked if everyone was getting the minutes and if not to please contact her.

The following celebrations were noted:

- The Barnum House has been torn down-Mel Guss shared that the house was dedicated to Robert Wayne Barnum because he made it possible to have the old building move to our current site. He is buried by the Octagon House; he was John Jone's uncle.
- There were 318 attending the 9:45 Contemporary Service in the Assembly Hall on Sept 23.
- There have been several calls into the church office wanting to make donations to our church for hurricane relief. One check was for \$7500.00 from Texas.
- Those working with our youth are excited to be back working with them.
- Nancy Harris shared that it was inspiring to see the kids helping with hurricane clean up and to serve food to some of the linemen.
- Mary Weiss added that it was uplifting to volunteer at the Rotary Center and see the kids working together for their community.

COMMITTEE REPORTS / UPDATES:

SPRC: Paula Robertson had no report.

Worship Committee: Lou Collins shared that the committee hasn't met since their last meeting, but they are working on moving things out of sacristy at this time. The committee is going through each item for salvage and are taking pictures for insurance purposes.

Trustees: John Lee add that any committee that is discarding items due to the hurricane should keep a tally and take pictures for insurance purposes.

Congregational Care: Marcie Briley shared that Martha' Mission will be preparing lunch for the Austin Guthrie Family. The Guthries' oldest daughter, Darlene passed away recently.

Finance: Peter Gante provided a handout entitled, "Hurricane Florence Financial Summary" for the meeting. Refer to the handout for a detailed report. He also stated that the church budget

for this month is ok. Committees should get their budgets for 2019 to Carol Ferry by October 4th if at all possible.

Stewardship: Carol Ferry provided a handout of the "Statement of Income and Expenditures 2018 - August of Fiscal Year 2018 for those in attendance.

Missions: Nancy Harris reported that the mission group would be meeting soon to talk budget. She was working with "Clothed in Righteousness Mission" who lost almost everything to mold. They are doing shift work at the Rotary. Please check with them for what is needed for 10-2pm and 2-6pm shifts.

Stewardship: David Wilmoth had no report.

Music: Merle Epperson shared that there will be a combined choral benefit on October 7th at 7pm for hurricane relief in the sanctuary.

Evangelism: Gay Williams stated that a luncheon is being scheduled.

UMM: Ray Bihary shared that all of the peanuts were not damaged but the raw peanuts got wet and will be done away with.

Trustees: John Freshwater stated that we have approximately 10 million dollars worth of property with a 5% deductible on each building. There may be concerns that we will not meet our deductibles on all 3 buildings. We will have to wait and see once everything has been reviewed and written up by the adjuster and reviewed by insurance company. Building 2 had the most damage when the water came in through the sacristy and flowed down the elevator shaft and beyond to cause damage in the lower level. John Lee reported that Tony Cassella was writing an estimate and drawing a schematic. After a walk-through he will come back and put together an estimate.

Communications: Bonnie Johnson stated that SAM, the Senior Adult Ministry had to cancel their meeting but are planning their next meeting.

Lay Leadership: Roger Fulp had no report.

Education: Susan Fulp stated that the UMK had a great meeting and are glad to be back up and running.

Representing the Trustees: John Lee stated that when it comes time to put everything back together, who do we go with? Does CRC, who is currently working for us do the demolition and restoration? If we have a good crew doing a great job then we shouldn't dismiss them, we should keep them here. We must deal with Building 2 before we can complete the restoration.

We have hired CRC and have committed the church to \$50,000.00. The insurance agent said we needed a company to stop the damage immediately therefore, we have a signed contract with CRC. Peter Gante made a recommendation to approve the \$50,000.00 payable to CRC. Consensus was given by the members of church council to approve this decision.

Trustee John Freshwater stated that we have a credit loan to take care of the work that needs to be done at the church. Roger Fulp stated that we should prioritize the repairs with the cost in mind.

Mary Weiss asked if we have a consensus on acquiring the credit loan? Consensus was given by the members of the church council to approve this decision.

John Lee also stated that we cannot use bus for awhile, the shed over the bus collapsed on top of bus and the bus is damaged.

Roger Fulp asked if the sign is attached to one of the buildings? How about the shed? There is a separate individual coming out Friday to look at the bus. We may be able to attach the bus and shed to Building 2. This is to be determined.

PASTOR'S REPORTS:

Adam Barth:

- focused on coordinating tree removal for families, tracking Rotary information for relief effort.

Andrew Harper:

- coordinating youth volunteers to get them to Rotary center - spreading the word to their friends and working together to help in the community

Scott Dodson:

1. It will be Ok! We have a great congregation! Many people are hurting. Be gentle, listen, share stories. Lead well!
2. Tell people it will be ok. Be patient. Lead with love and confidence.
3. We as the church have the opportunity to be the church. Love people through the Rotary opportunity but keep in mind that there are several other churches that lost their buildings to Hurricane Florence. The First Baptist Church needs place to worship. Teen CBS needs a place to meet. One Harbor Church who meets downtown in our old church building doesn't have place to worship. There were two churches who showed up at the Rotary Center: One Harbor and SUMC.
4. Pastor will offer the Assembly Hall on Saturday nights to One Harbor Church. He will offer the First Baptist Church our sanctuary on Saturday nights. We will offer our church to these two churches and see if they accept our offer. No member of the church council was opposed to this offer.
5. The Bishop and District Superintendent came to review the damage at the church. Pastor Scott showed the damage to them and stated that we have a plan.
6. Pastor Scott recommended that the church not send the October check in the amount of \$10,964.00 to the conference at this time. We send a check monthly to the conference. We missed a Sunday of giving and giving may decrease because of Florence. Peter Gante, representing the Finance Committee, stated that he agreed to hold the October check. Mary Weiss asked if the members of church council could come to consensus on this recommendation. Consensus was given by the members of church council to approve this recommendation.

On Sunday, September 30th, all classes will get back on schedule. Where will our Sunday School classes meet? On Thursday, September 27th, Ann will be back and a plan as to where these classes will meet will be determined.

Pastor Scott stated that the Bishop and the District Superintendent came to see the damage at our church. They toured the grounds and Pastor Scott explained our situation. It was decided that the charged conference would be postponed for now.

We will continue a special line item for donations on our website and by other methods to get the word out so we can help our community. The money will stay in our area. We want people in wider areas to be able to have the opportunity to send donations to help our community.

Adam Barth gave our closing prayer and the meeting ended at 8:05pm.

Respectfully submitted by Marie Hurst