

Swansboro United Methodist Church
Church Council
Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Members Present: Scott Dodson, Lois Craig, Paula Roberson, Adele Hyla-Brewster, Jim Brewster, Pam Thompson, Lydia Cauley, Merle Epperson, David Wilmoth, Marcie Briley, Bonnie Johnson, Jay Ahlquist, Roger Fulp, John Freshwater, Ashley Hypes, Sandy Kellum, Terry Proper, Ray Bihary, Bonnie Bihary, Mel Guss

Members Absent: Angelo Sanchez, Bill Eubanks, Pam Castellano, Carol Ferry, Susan Fulp, Lou Collins

Guest: Carol McLean (representing Worship for Lou Collins)

Lois opened by lighting the candle inviting Christ into our meeting with devotion from Psalm 1 and prayer.

House Keeping – Paula Roberson

-Minutes from February 23 and April 3, 2016 were approved

-Handouts (2016 Annual Goals for Church Council Ministry Areas and March 2016 Statement of Income and Expenditures)

Celebrations/Successes included:

-His Hands Extended ministry ongoing and expanding; 17th UMC Kids musical; UMW Tea; ASP Team completed practice project (handicap ramp); 2nd-5th Grades Sunday Schools moved into new spaces; Confirmation Retreat; Easter Services conducted with full sanctuaries; Easter breakfast served in the new space; UMM working on a new support group; 365 completed photos for the new Church Directory (if you do not have your free 8x10, please contact Bonnie Johnson); 59 names of volunteers answered the call to fill needs in our Church on Sunday; 120+ venison burgers served; Interfaith Refugee Ministry thriving; SPRC hired new Contemporary Worship Leader Brandon Armstrong; upcoming concert for AME St. Thomas church, 3rd week in May

His Hands Extended – Merle Epperson

-The wording of the current His Hands Extended ministry was restricting progress intended for this service, so Council came to consensus to change wording for His Hands Extended ministry to include “other sources” along with SUMC pastors to refer people in need to this program.

Lay Leadership – Pastor Scott

Following celebrations/successes news that we had 59 names of people wanting to help with needs of the Church, the Lay Leadership committee met to connect volunteers to designated work areas. Someone from this committee is assigned to follow up on this process to insure no one “falls through the cracks!”

Financial Report – Jay Ahlquist

For the month of March, we experienced a deficit of \$12,000. Jay indicated that this figure did not include the mortgage payment. This payment comes from the Twenty Dollar Fellowship Fund which is running a \$5,000 monthly deficit.

Update on EWB – Pastor Scott

Pastor Scott and parties involved are working very hard to close out this process, but it continues to be difficult and time consuming. There are some 22 subcontractors that need to be paid, and we are averaging closing out 1-2 subs per week. Some problem areas with the new building (lighting/roof) are being handled. Lawsuits are progressing with the Church being protected during this process.

Areas of Discernment

Guidelines for Worship Spaces – Carol McLean for Lou Collins

Julie Lee, Jane Sylvester Carol McLean, Lou Collins and others have been working diligently to address issues concerning these areas. The intent of this policy was to create general guidelines for worship spaces, to have a means of safe guarding these spaces, and to do our best to protect these areas. Council came to consensus to change the wording in Guidelines for Worship Spaces including Sanctuary and Assembly Hall to state “that does not directly relate to the life of the Church.” Before the next meeting in June, Council members will be emailed the Building Policy.

Ministry Fair – Pastor Scott

- Joel Team: This team will meet in May/June/July with the purpose of vision casting for our Church. Books have been dispensed to the team, and their ideas will be reported to Council for consideration.
- Visitation Coordinator: Council came to consensus to approve Gwen Jackson as Visitation Coordinator to handle all requested visits for Pastors. This will be advertised so that the Church knows to contact Gwen for these needs.
- Ministry Fair: Pastor Scott would like a Ministry Fair to take place September/October as a way of connecting people who want to serve the Church with specific jobs that need to be filled. This is a great venue to accomplish these two great needs in our Church.

Help Wanted Process – Pastor Scott

- Much discussion continued concerning the fact that there are many people willing to help in our Church with no vehicle in place to connect the needs of our Church and community to the congregation. In addition to The Scoop and The Church Bulletin, we may need to consider other ideas (designated bulletin board for announcements; closed circuit TV; the room opposite the Acolyte room.)
- Two needs of Church, signage for the buildings/campus maps and AED jump starter kits, have not been furthered due to financial restrictions. Council came to consensus to approve the purchase of an AED kit, (cost approximately \$1,500) as soon as possible due to the fact that the current kit is outdated and not in working order.

Pastor Scott closed us in prayer with members indicating specific prayer requests. Our Church has many great things going on as well as much heartache. Let's be the Church and remember to love on each other through it all.

***NEXT SCHEDULED CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING IS TUESDAY, JUNE 28, 2016 at 7PM
Building 1, Lower Level, Room 13**