

## SUMC CHURCH COUNCIL

DECEMBER 5, 2017

### MINUTES

The following Council members were in attendance: Scott Dodson, Peter Gante, Julie Lee (for Lou Collins), Crystal DesVignes, Pam Thompson, Merle Epperson, Mel Guss, Ronald Gurganus, Mary Weiss, Bonnie Johnson, Carol Ferry, John Freshwater, Gay Williams, Paula Roberson, Nancy Harris, Adele Hyla-Brewster, Marcie Briley, David Wilmoth, Roger Fulp, Susan Fulp, Lois Craig

Guests: Lisa Potts, Sanders Hall

Council Chair, Mary Weiss, opened the meeting by lighting the Christ candle and reading a selection from "Stories From the Heart", followed by prayer.

Members were reminded to sign in and pick up the hand-outs for the meeting. The date for the Council Workshop was announced – Saturday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 8:45-12pm. The minutes from the October 24, 2017 meeting were approved by consensus as emailed.

The following celebrations were noted: the Christmas cantata; Merle's improved health and recovery; increase in pledge cards; financial review.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS/UPDATES:

Finance: Peter went over the Statement of Income and Expenditures and answered questions. Carol encouraged all council members to hand in any expenses for the 2017 budget year.

Missions: Nancy Harris announced that the Yard Sale will be April 21. Two Bray trailers will be on site February for collection of items. Nancy encouraged all council members to get their committees involved.

Board of Trustees: Mel and John reported the following: For Building One, the leaks on the highway side of the stairwell has been repaired. Trustees are getting quotes to replace the HVAC along with a service contract. For Building Two, the leaks in the narthex have been repaired. For Building Three, still tracking down leaks. Leak testing has been done; waiting for the results. No payment until the leaks are completely fixed. Installation of intruder/security locks is in progress.

Stewardship: Pledge cards continue to come in.

Communication: Bonnie Johnson reported that the Chrismon pamphlets have been distributed. Copies given to the confirmands. Pamphlet can also be found on the SUMC website. Bonnie and Sanders continue to work on the church's website. Sanders Hall stated that SUMC is well represented on six different social media sites. All members were encouraged to watch the 'Ugly Christmas Sweater' video and share it with friends.

UMM: The annual Christmas dinner is Friday, the 8<sup>th</sup>. The visitation program is reaching 20+ men. Christmas gifts of SUMC hats/shirts will be given to those visited.

UMW: Ten Chrismons have been replaced; new ones are beaded, not Styrofoam. The 2018 budget is in place. UMW expressed thanks for the congregation's support for their activities.

Evangelism: Gay Williams reported that the evangelism committee is in planning stage for 2018. The Advent services start December 6<sup>th</sup>. There will be an evening Advent service on December 12<sup>th</sup> with dinner following.

Pastors' Reports: Scott commented on the beautiful preparations/decorations for Christmas especially the Christmas cantata. He noted the controversy in the church over whether Baby Jesus should or should not be in crèche of the nativity scene before Christmas eve. Several opinions were given. Scott announced that during the worship services on January 7<sup>th</sup>, there will be a special blessing for all who serve the church in any capacity. He asked that the chairs inform their committee members.

Ron reported that he had made 209 visits plus 131 funerals, weddings and administrative meetings and had covered 1,484 miles.

Crystal invited all to attend the Advent services, especially the new evening service on December 12<sup>th</sup>. There have been two prayer services with ones planned for the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month.

**AREA OF DISCERNMENT:** Peter presented the 2018 budget to the Council. He stated that the budget is \$152,000 more than last year. He highlighted and explained the increases. He also pointed out that there were no reductions in requests and that all requests were honored. The Council approved the 2018

budget as presented. Peter noted that there will be quarterly reviews of the financial status of the church.

Pastor Scott closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Craig, secretary

CHURCH COUNCIL WORKSHOP

JANUARY 13<sup>TH</sup>

8:45AM-12:00PM

ASSEMBLY HALL, BUILDING THREE