

## SUMC CHURCH COUNCIL

OCTOBER 24, 2017

### MINUTES

The following Council members were in attendance: Julie Lee (for Lou Collins), Pam Thompson, Gay Williams, Adele Hyla-Brewster, Marcie Briley, Andrew Harper, Nancy Harris, Susan Fulp, Roger Fulp, Mary Weiss, Peter Gante, David Wilmoth, Mel Guss, Crystal DesVignes, Ray Bihary (for Jim Gamble), Scott Dodson, Bonnie Johnson, Paula Roberson, Bonnie Bihary, Lois Craig

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

Members were reminded to sign in and pick up the hand-outs for the meeting. The minutes from the September 26, 2017 meeting were approved by consensus as emailed.

The following celebrations were noted: successful Charge Conference, well-attended 1<sup>st</sup> Community Lunch, UMM meeting-The Refuge's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, 1<sup>st</sup> monthly prayer meeting.

Upcoming events noted: Next Community Lunch in January, UMW General meeting, October 25<sup>th</sup>, topic: Agape in Armenia, UMW Harvest dinner-November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS/UPDATES:

Finance: The auditors will be here November 13 – 16. Finance has had two budget meetings so far. The next one is scheduled for November 14<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm; more attendees needed. Giving is down for September, but expected to increase in the last quarter of the year.

Missions: Nancy Harris and Lisa Potts are looking for a chair and co-chair for the Yard Sale for next year.

Board of Trustees: Mel reported that the roofers are working on the roof in Building 3. The drainage problem in the front of the church is being repaired. The

heat pump for Fellowship Hall in Building One will be replaced before winter. Mel and Merle to check out the thermostats in sanctuary to identify any problems.

Stewardship: David Wilmoth noted that stewardship letters and commitment statements and pledge cards will be mailed next week. Emphasis is on prayer, service, attendance and giving. November 12<sup>th</sup> is Commitment Sunday; member of Church Council are encouraged to set the example.

Communications: Bonnie Johnson and Sanders Hall are working to upgrade the church's website.

Contemporary Worship: Brandon reported that the new 11:15 service has an attendance of 80-100 per week. The 9:45 service is down in attendance slightly. Both services combined have an attendance of 230-250. The worship team for the new service continues to add new members.

Pastors' Reports: Pastor Crystal is devising a system to track who is here and what each is involved in. She is working with the Evangelism committee.

Pastor Andrew reported that 58 will be attending Pilgrimage on November 12<sup>th</sup>. Fall Festival is this coming Sunday for all ages.

Pastor Scott informed the Council that the sermons will be lectionary based. He and Crystal will be preaching every Sunday. Mel asked that an announcement of speaker and topic be placed in The Scoop and bulletins. Bonnie reminded Council that the upcoming bulletin is online Thursday. Scott said he would send the preaching schedule to Lois who would email it to Council members.

Pastor Scott encouraged Council member to participate in the Rise Against Hunger event on November 4<sup>th</sup>. Partial funding for this event comes from the sale of a lot, designated for this particular mission. Scott proposed that the remaining amount come from yard sale proceeds. The Council agreed by consensus.

#### AREAS OF DISCERNMENT:

The Council revisited the children/live streaming issue from last Council meeting. The concern is for the 8:30 and 11:00 services during the Children's sermon. Brandon gave a recap of the situation. The NC law is basically summed up by 'Public places, public faces'. No child is to be singled out; no approval is needed. Merle has requested that the camera persons do not zoom in on any child. The

congregation will be informed that services are live-streamed and/or recorded in the following manner: Scott will inform those participating in Baptisms or joining the church; Bonnie suggested a sign in foyer and footnote in bulletins.

Brandon emphasized the positive aspects of live streaming the services. It helps those who are home bound to worship. In the future it may be possible to interact through giving and prayer.

The Council came to a consensus to live-stream the services.

Pastor Andrew has reviewed and updated the Safe Sanctuary Policy and Procedure. He has added personal references for volunteers. Pastor Scott emphasized the absolute necessity of following this policy. Council agreed by consensus to the updating and necessity of following this policy.

A discussion followed on the NC law concerning convicted sex offenders attending SUMC. After an explanation of the law, Pastor Scott proposed that convicted sex offenders not be allowed to attend SUMC. Council agreed by consensus.

Scott closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lois Craig, recording secretary

Next Council meeting – December 5th