

SUMC CHURCH COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER 26, 2017

MINUTES

The following Council members were in attendance: Crystal DesVignes, Marcie Briley, Peter Gante, Terry Proper, Pam Thompson, Paula Robertson, Mary Weiss, Scott Dodson, Carol Ferry, Merle Epperson, Maggie Pearce, Lou Collins, Nancy Harris, Andrew Harper, Bonnie Johnson, Adele Hyla-Brewster, David Wilmoth, Roger Fulp, Susan Fulp, Mel Guss, Lois Craig

Guest: Ray Bihary

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

Lois reminded everyone to sign in and pick up the hand-outs for the meeting. The minutes from the August 22, 2017 meeting were approved by consensus as emailed.

The following celebrations were noted: 17 confirmands, 42 in youth programs,, new worship service, 6 new small groups, WOW conference, campus signs installed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS/UPDATES:

Finance: Peter went over the financial report and explained the reason for the deficit—air conditioning units, roof leaks, new sidewalk and landscaping.

Missions: Nancy Harris received positive feedback from the Mission Moments and Mission inserts in the bulletins. Please email any thoughts/ideas about these to Nancy. The possibility of a yard sale was discussed with the following suggestions: reach out to the Boy Scouts and other groups in the church for leadership, put announcement in church bulletin to reach new people, break down responsibilities into small areas, be mindful of the new fund-raising policy. Lisa Potts has the yard sale notebook from previous years.

Board of Trustees: Mel Guss reported that the Child Care has received the free mulch for the playground with a 12 yr. warranty. Becky is getting quotes for the removal of the old and placing of the new mulch. Roger Fulp reported that the insulation in the kindergarten room has been removed and replaced with non-

absorbent type. No mold was found in the old insulation. The roof leak in the narthex has been fixed.

Stewardship: David Wilmoth reported that the committee is preparing the literature for the pledge cards which will incorporate service and prayer as well as financial matters. November 12th is Commitment Sunday.

Communications: Bonnie Johnson noted that the Welcome Centers are functioning, signage is in place, all but one brochure is ready. The big push now is to update the church's website. Additional volunteers are needed for the Welcome Centers.

Pastors' Reports: Scott reported that 31 people watched the live streaming of the worship service. Sanders Hall will be doing a 'teaser' with Scott every week to build interest in the coming worship services. The teaser will be on social media.

All lawsuit issues have been resolved. We can now calculate the cost of the new building,

The new worship service has attendance in the 80's; new service has not affected the attendance at the 9:45 service. Roger Fulp noted the increase in Sunday School attendance and youth programs.

Scott and Crystal are working on the preaching schedule. They will move from sermon series to the lectionary.

Andrew reported that the youth kick-off was a great success along with increase numbers in Sunday School.

AREAS OF DISCERNMENT:

Lay Leadership Report: Scott presented the slate of nominees for the class of 2020 and replacements for vacancies in other classes for Council's approval. Council approved slate by consensus. Scott also explained that for the administrative committees, husbands and wives cannot both serve on these committees. He furthered said that interested people can join any committee except SPRC. Chairs were encouraged to contact those committee members who are not attending meetings. If the absentee can no longer serve for whatever reason, the chair is to reassure that person of future service and then contact Lay Leadership. Corrections to the listing of Church Committees will be emailed to

Council members. Scott announced that the Charge Conference is October 16, 2017 at Northwoods UMC, Jacksonville, at 7 pm.

Chairs/Tables Set-Up in Assembly Hall: Terry Proper explained the problem of having to ask the same folks to do the set-up for events held Sunday afternoon. Peter Gante asked to have a formal policy that whoever is hosting the event is responsible for the set-up of tables and chairs. The Council approved this policy by consensus and it will be added to the Building Use Policy.

Prime Time Players?: Mary Weiss gave the background for this group which is no longer in existence. However, the interest and the need for a senior group are growing. Scott suggested a lunch followed by a musical program on October 18th to determine interest. Marcie (Martha's Mission) will provide the food; Merle will do the music. Everyone in congregation is invited with the emphasis on seniors. Since this is a new activity, people will be asked to sign-up/call office to RSVP. Basket will be provided for donations. Additional lunches/programs for November, January and February are being considered.

Live Streaming/Children: Merle voiced his concern over children being photographed during the live streaming of worship services. Several suggestions were given: no focusing on any one child, broad and long shots, statement in bulletin, Scoop and a sign on door – 'We live stream the services.' VBS, UMKids and UMYF parents fill out form indicating their desires concerning children being photographed. Andrew will gather more information, especially what other churches are doing. This item will be on next month's agenda.

Building Fees for Church Members: After much discussion, the Council agreed by consensus to eliminate building fees for church members who want to use the Assembly Hall for private use (weddings not included). There is a wedding policy with established fees. It was also agreed that Bill Cunningham and Steve Dyer be paid \$75.00 each for their services. These fees will come out of the church budget. A damage deposit will be refunded within one week of the event. Marcie will be the Trustees' representative to oversee the above procedure. The Building Use Policy is to be updated and emailed to Council members. Everyone is encouraged to follow the established procedures of the Building Use Policy.

SPRC: Paula presented SPRC's recommendation of 2.1% increase in salary for the senior pastor in accordance with the Conference's guidelines. Utilities, professional development and CEU's remain the same. The Council approved

SPRC's recommendation by consensus. A 2.1% increase was also recommended for all employees who have been in their present position more than one year.

Pastor Andrew closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lois Craig, Secretary

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING – OCTOBER 24, 2017, 7 PM