**SUMC Church Council Minutes**

**Thursday, January 28, 2021 7pm**

Kevin Frazier presided over the meeting in the absence of Chairman Yana. He lit the Christ Candle and asked Marilyn Boyce to open the meeting in prayer.

Kevin, on his and Yana’s behalf, welcomed new and returning members to the first meeting of the 2021 church council.

Present: Kevin Frazier, Kevin Baker, Tammy Taylor, John McLean, Adele Brewster, Sanders Hall, Layne Harpine, Becky Dorris, Cleo Croom, Peter Gante, Marilyn Boyce, Lynn Rouse, Roger Fulp, Susan Fulp, Tom Scholl, Lisa Potts, David Wilmoth, Marie Hurst

Pastor Kevin conducted the nominations and election for a Vice-Chairman of the SUMC Church Council. Our two at-large members are Kevin Frazier and Denise Dunsten. Kevin Frazier was nominated by Pastor Kevin and seconded by Sanders Hall. Kevin said he would accept the Vice-Chairmanship. By concensus, the church council members chose Kevin Frazier as the Vice-Chairman of the SUMC Church Council for 2021.

**Celebrations with Joy**

Marilyn had her second vaccine shot.

We made it through the Christmas holidays with the help of many people who decorated the church and assisted in various other ways.73 people attended the traditional service and 56 the contemporary service.

Pastor’s email of looking back at 2020 and how our church got through was very positive and a great lead in for moving us into 2021.

**Training and Goal Setting for Year / Resources**

Pastor Kevin shared about training and goal setting for the year and the available resources. He hoped everyone found the resources through the link that was shared in the e-note. The Leadership Orientation 2021 Video is on website i.e. Core Values, **Visioning and Goals**: 1. Growing in Generosity, 2. Elevating Communication and 3. Connections/Expanding Participation by 15% in all areas of our ministry. All church council members should review and be familiar with this information.

Pastor suggested that since it is the 150 anniversary of SUMC that we may want to consider a campaign to retire out debt which aligns with the Generosity goal.

***Where can I find Church Council Information for SUMC?*** Scroll to bottom of our website and click on **My Church**. Here you can find information particular to our church as well as the Lay Leadership training area information. CC January Training is located in this section also.

If you want information for your committee added to this section, please contact the church office.

The concensus chart numbering needs to be updated to meet current practices. All members should have a copy of the concensus chart. One will be sent to each member.

**Committee Reports / Updates**:

**Traction Church Meeting Structure and Training:**  Dr. Layne Harpine shared that the Traction Church Meeting Structure would be a point of reference and assistance as we move forward with our church meetings and planning. We need to meet to get things done. Traction is based on church philosophy of how to use human resources to function positively.

There is a training video which is on the church website. Please review it.

There are “to dos” that are captured during a meeting. A “To Do List” is developed to drive action and then the agenda/ or IDS – identify, discuss, solve. At end of meeting there is a review of how effective the meeting was based on a “Level 10” scoring process. A “Level 10” meeting shows a consistent template that drives a meeting; accountability, action and follow-through.

Anyone who wants to learn more, contact Layne through the church website or information on the bottom front page of our bulletins.

**Ministry Architects**: A vision team and prayer team activity is involved at meetings. The vision team identifies a specific position and job description and pool of potential volunteers; the next step is to link those folks up.

**Student Ministries**: Still meeting on Sunday nights, having new guests attend, following safety protocols, pleased as to how the face-to-face is going. Pilgrimage has been moved to new location this Fall. It will be a face-to-face venue.

**Board of Trustees**: Tom Scholl shared that they met Jan. 7th, welcomed new members, looking into how much it would cost to have a “pull in lane” for day care. He has prices for the last 3 HVAC units that need to be changed; they are 20 and 21 years old. If we change, we can save $1,800.00 a year. Price for three units is $46,000.00. HVAC contractor showed information for potential new air purifier additions. We are getting a quote for changing the church phone system. The items on our never-ending task list are being taken care of one thing at a time. The next meeting will be Feb. 4th.

Tom’s contact number 910-389-6170.

**Child Care Advisory Committee**: Becky Dorris shared that their first meeting will be Feb. 9th and they will elect officers and go over their handbook and regulations. There are 18 staff, 77 students and 3 openings. The center follows CDC and state COVID-19 guidelines.

**Communications** Sanders Hall shared that they have not met yet, but reached out to members to brainstorm how we as a church can celebrate our 150 anniversary. We need historical imagery, for example, put together short video clips to post throughout the month. What can we do to celebrate the church? We are supporting all online webcasts and getting the videos out there.

**Education Committee:** Susan Fulp shared that they met on Jan. 12th and went over what’s been going on. Sunday School will start on March 7th with Oasis in a one room format, UM Kids and Confirmation still meeting on Sunday afternoon.

**Evangelism/Hospitality:** Tammy Taylor shared that they will bemeeting soon to discuss ways to organize some outreach strategies.

**Finance:** Peter Gante shared the committee report. The financials are attached for you to review. There was a surplus of $65,334.00 for last year.

Finance committee took $22,500.00 from the day care funds which left a balance of $8,070.00. They have a reserve of $20,000.

We have between $300,000 and $400,000 in the dedicated accounts for 5 to 10 years, we need to find a way to make some money on this. It is not making any money currently. We need to do something that is safe and we can still have access to it.

Could we use some of this to reduce our debt? Yes, but this money is there as our surplus if we have a hurricane or other need at the church.

**Lay Leadership:** Pastor Kevin shared that they will get going in the Fall.

**Mission and Service**: Lisa Potts shared that she is reassessing and contacting folks to see what their availability will be. She picked up Health Kits to be delivered at the American Legion building. She will work with the committee to get an assessment of where our mission team is at before we set goals and move forward.

**SPRC:** John McClean shared that the committee met on Jan. 20th and will next meet on the third Wednesday of the month from now on. The committee is required to meet quarterly. John shared who was currently serving on the committee.

**Stewardship:** David Wilmoth shared what was in the e-note from Pastor Kevin was very encouraging. There were 115 pledges so far which isn’t too bad based on the economy and COVID-19. Our giving last year was tremendous based on the circumstances. Our challenge is looking ahead of how to capitalize on the 150 anniversary, some special contributions to retire the debt? Maybe different levels of giving could be an option for members, above their regular monthly tithe. Share any ideas with David or a committee member.

**Worship:** Cleo Croom shared that the committee had not met yet but will meeting in Feb. and discuss the Lenten Season. She was excited to hear that if we needed new people, there may be some available to help, perhaps a co-chair to represent the contemporary service.

Kevin took over for Terry Proper regarding our church security team. Some people have signed up, but no date is set for training yet. New members are welcome.

Tammy asked if current members need to take the new training or will their previous training be sufficient. The old training is same as new, but members who have taken the previous training are welcomed to participate in the new training.

**Handmaidens**: Sarah Austin is no longer the chairman; Charlie Krawchuk is now the new chairman. They are still making prayer shawls and they meet in library as per safety protocol.

**SAM (Senior Adult Ministry):** Adele Brewster shared that they will start up at a future date.

**UMW:** Lynn Rouse, President, shared that the circles have been meeting in Zoom and have their new handbook. The NC Conference theme is “Finding Peace.” We use email to share information and we have 5 circles now; there were 6 but one dissolved and those members went to other existing circles. We have 115 members total. Our special older men and women are called VIPs; there are 10 or 12 of those.

**UMM** had no report.

**Pastor’s Report**

On Monday, Feb. 1st, Reverend Rachel Moser will be interim pastor of pastoral care for 3 months, February through April. There will be a stipend to cover this and a line item for travel/visitation may need to be reinstated to cover her travel. She will work 15 hrs. a week and have an office at the church.

Peter shared that Finance has funds which can be used to assist with the travel stipend which may need to be reinstated in our paperwork. We will be receiving some money from the District to assist with the stipend for the three months Reverend Rachel will be with us.

Nate Harpine is on board in a part-time capacity to help Sanders and Steve with the Technology/Communications needs.

**Areas of Discernment**

We are keeping our schedule with the 8:30 and 11:00 services. We are also keeping track of the numbers attending each Sunday. The first contemporary service after Jan. 6th had 70 people in attendance.

Any progress on getting a part-time music minister? Terry will serve as the coordinator till June. SPRC is putting a search team together with the criteria for the position.

The search team will meet this coming week and determine our needs for the coming year and what are we looking for? Roger Fulp will be chairing this committee.

Mel Brooks, Cleve Folger will be working with our Stephens Ministry this year.

The next church council meeting will be on Thursday, February 25th at 7pm on Zoom only.

Pastor Kevin gave our closing prayer. The meeting ended at 8:24pm.

Respectfully submitted by Marie Hurst, Secretary