

SUMC Church Council Minutes for October 7, 2022

Chairman Kevin Frazier welcomed everyone to the meeting and lit the Christ Candle. Pastor Regina opened with prayer. Chairman Kevin reaffirmed the church's mission statement, core values and vision statement.

Present: Kevin Frazier, Pastor Kevin Baker, Pastor Regina Harrison, Dr. Layne Harpine, Lisa Potts, Chris Wilson, Cleo Croom, Adele Hyla Brewster, Sue Young, David Wilmoth, Levin Jones, Roger Fulp, Tom Scholl, Louisa Ringo, Bren Feutz, Peter Gante, Christy Denham, Joanne Kopanski, Paula Roberson, David Krawchuk, Marie Hurst

Housekeeping / Attendance: Marie reminded everyone to sign in and print name. If anyone is having difficulty receiving email information/reminders they should contact Marie.

Celebrations:

- Bren shared that all 3 of her grandchildren would be visiting. A member who had not been here for awhile asked to join a life group.
 - Joanne shared that her 93 yr old dad flew to Washington, DC to visit the WWII Memorial. She and her 2 daughters flew in to surprise him.
- Kevin F thanked everyone for their prayers when was not feeling well.
- Pastor Kevin shared that more people are coming to join the church and requesting baptism
 - Layne shared that over 20 youth were attending the fall meetings and some new faces were in the group.
- Adele shared how professional the flyers for the Nativity Festival are that Alysia Barth made

Committee Reports:

Trustees

Chairman Tom Scholl shared:

- The new HVAC system in Building 2 was completed. The cost \$18,000.
- The fire inspector found a couple of lights and batteries that needed to be changed; otherwise, he gave a good report.

Child Care

Pastor Kevin shared information from Allison Cowell, the SUMC Childcare Director:

- There are currently 15 staff and one more waiting to be hired waiting on background check.
- There are currently 53 students enrolled.
- Projected attendance numbers: 10/31=57; 11/7=63; 11/14=69; 11/21=72
- Stabilization Grant monies have been coming in to assist with specific designated daycare costs. The grant has been extended to September 30, 2024.

Communications: No report.

Christian Education

Chairman Chris Wilson shared:

- Sunday School classes are slowly increasing but still looking for teachers: elementary, middle and high school. The greatest need is in the middle and high school areas.
- Pilgrimage: two of our youth will be on stage. Max B has a dance routine and Armani Harpine will be sharing her testimony.
- Pilgrimage takes place during the weekend of Veterans Day, November 11th in Rocky Mount at the Rocky Mount Convention Center. It will be streamed.

- There were 51 tickets allotted- please contact Layne if you are interested in attending; there were a few tickets still available.
- A new paid nursery worker has been hired.

First Impressions: No report.

Finance

Chairman Pete Gante shared:

- September Financial Summary:

Total Income: \$747,075 Total Expenses: \$928,511 Income/Less Expense: \$-181,436

- Childcare Summary:

Beginning GL Balance: \$39,210.51 Surplus: \$-3,409.19 Ending GL Balance: \$35,801.32

- This is budget season. All chairmen should have turned in their budgets to the church office by November 7th so they can be presented to the finance committee by November 17th.
- Committee Chairmen need to reduce their budget by 10% for 2023.
- We will hold off on church budget increases for a few months to see how things go.
- If we continue paying \$3,900 a month extra on our building debt; it could be paid off in 4 years instead of 7.

Lay Leadership: No report.

Missions

Chairman Lisa Potts shared:

- The final meeting for the year will be on November 6th to finish the budget and complete the year end report.
- Ricky's Retreat for next year is being planned. More to come.

SPRC:

- Discussion was held at the October 20th committee meeting and a decision was made to select a Nursery/Wiggler's part time position.
- The search is ongoing for the Contemporary Worship Leader. The committee hopes to make a decision by the end of November for a start date in December.

Stewardship

Chairman David Wilmoth shared:

- A great stewardship newsletter has been mailed to get information out to the members.

- Church leaders should set the example by returning their pledges in a timely manner and encourage others to do the same.
- Church leaders, as well as, all members should ask folks to pray about how to grow their giving.
- David will be working with Pastor Kevin to present information to the congregation at all services.
- Louisa Ringo shared that years ago, the church had a representative come from the conference to share information on how families can incorporate planned giving in their finances.
- There could be ideas shared as to how families/individuals may choose to designate monies to the given to the church- perhaps the conference could share information.
- Pastor Kevin shared that maybe we could do something like this in the spring, i.e. planned giving or legacy sharing session.

- Louisa thanked Financial Officer, Christy Denham, who wrote the grant our church received. Our staff goes above and beyond and should be recognized for their work.

Worship

Chairman Cleo Croom shared:

- There is no line item for the altar flowers for Sanctuary. Hal Silver took care of a great portion of providing flowers for each Sunday, poinsettias during Advent, Easter lilies, and palms for Palm Sunday.
 - Pre-covid, people would argue who would put flowers on altar.
 - The cost to put flowers on the altar in the Sanctuary is \$100.00. The cost could be divided between two families if they agreed.
 - Encourage your committees to ask their members to donate to the altar fund. Every amount is appreciated and will help.
 - It was suggested to put back in the bulletin those who gave flowers in memory or in honor of the person and if they will collect the flowers after the service.
- The deficit for the year so far for 2022 is \$4317.30.

SUWF: Marie Hurst shared President Lynn Rouse's report:

- Financial commitments have been completed to the NC UMF Conference for 2022.
- The UWF Harvest Luncheon will be held on Sunday, November 6th from 12:30pm to 3:30 in Building 3.
- UWF members will celebrate our year of mission service and have a silent auction. The church staff is invited to join us.
- Sewing Sisters have many craft items displayed in the glass door cabinets across from the church office.

SUMM

President David Krawchuk shared:

- They have 17 VIPs on their visitation list.
- The Peanut Ministry is doing well. There are over 30 organizations/groups that we give planned donations.
- The Boy's Scouts decided to move their charter from SUMC to the Swansboro American Legion. The reasoning for this move was based on delays with the UMC Conference on when and if they would charter Scouting in the future. A Facilities Use Agreement has been processed between the Scouting Group and the Trustees.
- They are continuing to build ramps, the last of which was built on September 23rd.
- Friday Lunch Get Togethers continue with adequate attendance.
- David will be resigning as SUMM President at the end of 2022.

Nativity Festival Team

Chairman Adele Hyla Brewster shared:

- Folks need to sign up on the website to volunteer. Pay attention to the QR code.
- Patty Bills, who volunteered 15 years to direct the Live Nativity on the steps of the United States Supreme Court Building, is working with the Live Nativity at our church.
- The Live Nativity will be held on Saturday, December 3rd and the Indoor Display on Sunday, December 4th.

Pastors' Report:

Pastor Kevin shared:

- Memorandum of Understanding for Childcare Center was reviewed by church council members prior to coming to the meeting.
- The church council voted by consensus to approve the revised MOU between the SUMC Childcare Center and the SUMC.
- 11:00 Worship Service: people are asking about 11:00, will it continue? No changes in services will take place.
- Roger shared that the choir discussed this and the head count for 8:30 is 75-85 and 11:00 is 50-60 people.
- Cleo shared that the worship committee had talked about this also and that there may be difficulties for some to come at 8:30.
- Sue Young shared that when Pastor Kevin has to rush into the 11:00 service after the 10:30 sermon; some may not get to meet the pastor.
- It was suggested that we might add a mission moment to the services.
- The Worship Committee is working on some ideas to add some extra interest to get folks to come to church.

- **The 2023 Lay Leadership Charge Conference will be held on Tuesday, November 22nd at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary. A short business meeting will follow at 7pm.**
- All SUMC lay leadership should be presented for presentation and acceptance.
- The church council is the charged body and District Superintendent, John Strother, will preside.
- Paula Roberson shared that she spoke with someone whose child is in our childcare program and the comments were very positive.
- Chris Wilson shared that Tom and Joanne Scholl had donated a grill and David Krawchuk stepped up to help with the Fall Festival activities. Their generosity was very appreciated.
- Pastor Regina encouraged everyone to come to Fall Festival and all other events to support the church.
- Adele Hyla Brewster asked for prayers for Pastor Kevin and Denise as they go to Lake Junaluska for the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference. Prayers are also asked for the voting for 3 bishops

Pastor Kevin closed the meeting with prayer at 8:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Hurst

SUMC Church Council Secretary