

## **Church Council Meeting**

**Date: 01/17/2016**

*Being the authentic Body of Christ, by receiving God's love and abundant life,  
Through the power of the Holy Spirit,  
To reach, gather, welcome, heal and serve others so that Christ is lifted up.*



*Vision Picture by Bill Asman*

### **Church Council Covenant**

1. Listen with intention
2. Respect others opinions
3. Speak for yourself only
4. Speak from prayerful discernment

### **Attending**

Pastor Duane Corle, Alan Sizemore, Peggy Rice, Elizabeth Corle, Terrie Scarboro (Recording), Mary Ann Sizemore, Rebecca Frost, Walt and Pat Farris, Lorraine Asman, Carol Young, Jake Morrow, Don Nagel

Meeting was called to order at 4:05 by Alan Sizemore.

### **Opening Prayer and Devotion**

Pastor Duane opened with prayer. Pastor then gave a devotion from “A Guide To Prayer”...the servant’s struggle. (Looking at how we are distracted sometimes and that God should be in our mind at all times.

### **Ministry Reports**

#### **Preschool: (No report submitted)-Beth Stevenson**

- Pastor did report that the playground had been disturbed quite a bit due to having to extend power from inside the church to the well house. We will need to make sure that we communicated to the pre-school and secretary regarding workers being here, as well as communicating to the workers information about safe sanctuary.
- If pre-school is in session and if you are here during pre-school hours, please use bathrooms upstairs. The teacher’s/children do not know us. It also assists with keeping safe sanctuary rules.
- The pre-school has added 5 new families and are now operating in the black after a couple of months operating in the red.
- Fabric paper and mulch need to be replaced in the playground.

#### **Children’s Ministry: Report given by Pastor Duane**

- Operating on the model of a children’s ministry team. Several attend and duties are delegated. Below are the ones that coordinate the different aspects.
  - Matthew Payne –Sunday School
  - Melinda Morrow—Children’s Church
  - Peggy Rice—Nursery

- Curriculum is discussed and how it can cross over between nursery, Sunday School,
  - Looking to connect to Children's Church, etc.
- Looking at establishing benchmarks for children to make sure they are progressing within the curriculum.
  - Kayln brought back information she obtained while at school
    - These are in regards to Biblical learning/Bible verses/things about the Bible
- Have also been discussing VBS
  - When to offer—i.e. days, weekend, nights
  - Need commitments
  - Going to send out a survey to see what time for VBS and also volunteer status.

### **Youth Ministry: Report submitted by Kayln Wiley**

Peace of Christ to you all!

I apologize for not being able to present at the meeting this evening, for I am currently leading a local youth retreat this weekend. Below you will find some youth updates as we begin this spring semester (I apologize in advance for its lengthiness!):

-In the fall, we focused on creating a consistent group, and this will continue into the spring.

-This spring, Sunday nights will focus thematically more on their relationship with others and the world. Youth need to be empowered that they are disciples now, not in the future.

-Sunday School is focusing on some general knowledge of the Bible and how we can make large, thematic connections within the Old and New Testament. I have already been impressed in the ways in which the youth are challenging themselves in this.

-I would like to continue to encourage all adults in their support of the youth ministry. Helping with Sunday nights, cooking, and participation in other youth events is crucial in the development and flourishing of the youth and this ministry. This also includes in imagining and implementing a more active participation of youth and myself in worship, too.

-Confirmation of all middle school youth will take place this spring. This will entail them meeting set Sundays after church. This will also include participation in a weekend retreat at Lake Junaluska in mid-April.

-I should have some finalized summer opportunities planned in the upcoming months.

Non-youth related updates:

-I have been developing the Facebook page for the church. Please like and share posts!

-I have been working with Caitlin in imagining ways in which our congregation can help with the nutritional needs of our congregation. I would ask for prayers in this process.

-Finally, a school update: it is my hope to be a certified candidate for ordination as a Deacon by summer. I will be finished with my Master's from Duke Divinity School in August.

### **Worship, Choir, Praise Team: Reported/Submitted Terrie Scarboro,**

- Special services during Advent were Healing Service and Christmas Eve Service
  - Evaluation to be done by prayer team and worship team
- Lenten planning session held with full attendance by group
- Documents created for Liturgist training, Usher/Greeter training, Sound booth training, and Communion Server training. Training session held this AM for laity volunteers. –Fulfills suggestion put forth by visioning committee
- Choir starts back in Feb.
- No special report from Praise Team

**Witness Outreach:** Report by Elizabeth Corle

- Meeting next Sunday night with Elizabeth, Rebecca and Pastor.
- First meeting will be in Feb.

**Prayer Ministry:** By Don Nagle

- Don gave a report on prayer emphasis and answered prayer
  - Report given on needs by Penny Brown regarding medical bills and what Medicare would not pay
    - She received a grant from Park Ridge Foundation
    - She was granted great favor
  - Praying for favor is a Biblical principle that God is trying to teach us
  - Another family in our midst has been in the same situation.
    - At prayer group Penny has reached out and is working with this family
    - This story is not yet finished

**Membership Care:** (No Special report)

**Shepherd Care:** (No Special Report)—Peggy Rice

**Lay Leader:** Peggy Rice reporting

- On Jan. 30, a C4C conference will be held at Biltmore UMC from 9:30-2:30
  - Please RSVP to Pastor
- There is also a Weaverville committee to work with extra with C4C.
  - i.e. needs of children, such as shoes, then they would get information to the committee (Community)
    - Please let Peggy know if you desire to participate
- United Methodist Men, Women, Youth, etc. to participate in a domestic violence seminar
  - This will be held at Aldersgate UMC in Shelby.
  - April 23, 2016

**Business reports**

**Minutes:** Minutes from the Sept. meeting, called meetings in Oct. and November were presented. Carol moved that the minutes be approved. Jake seconded. Motion passed and minutes were approved.

**Finance:** Submitted by Carol (Budget).

- No report by Brad
- Ended the year in a good position regarding giving and expenses.
  - There was a large gift toward the end of the year
- Carol reported that the large deficit noted on the paper was due to the adjustment of the budget mid-year
  - Some things such as copier expense was omitted and then had to be re-addressed
- Built into this year's budget the well water needs.
- Pastor reported that we have received a grant from the Missional Engagement Group that is specifically related to the cost of the testing of the water. This is a \$5000 grant. We have received the money.

**SPRC:** Reported by Jake

- Church profile has been submitted
- First meeting of the year is coming up in Feb. (2) 2016
- Finishing up with staff assessments
  - Children's ministry position has been put on hold
  - Will be discussed going forward in meetings of the SPRC

**Trustees:** Submitted by Rich Downing (See Attachment)

- Need to add repair of the skylight over office entrance
- Peggy reported that heat in the nursery was too cold and was told she could turn this up and then turn back down.
- Look at programmable thermostats. Jon Frost will look into.

**Pastor's report:** Reported by Rev. Duane Corle

Pastor brought down the visioning papers and began reporting on the last 1 ½ years on the visioning. Thoughts are that we need to move from the visioning stage into the implementation stage.

Believe that the Church Council should lead the church into the implementation of the vision.

- Offsite meeting with 1,3, 5 year goals
- Then looked at challenges that might be
- Communication
- Priorities
  - Commitment to God
  - Growth
  - Transformation
  - Kingdom Principles
- How do we do this
  - Next steps
  - Communication
  - Refining vision
  - Assessment of ministries
    - Prayer Team
    - Worship
    - Preschool
    - Nominations and leadership
    - Children's ministry team
- Are we living out the priorities agreed upon

Pastor, Alan, and the visioning group wanted to bring this back to the council. What Alan would like to suggest is that begin doing another assessment with the ministry teams and look at what worked and didn't work.

The floor was opened for discussion. No additional comments were made.

Pastor reported that this coming week he is finishing year end statistics. He pointed out that our finances came in very well especially in light that our attendance has decreased rather substantially. Avg. attendance has dropped about 20% over the past year. Year before was about a 10% drop. He wants us to be aware that he is aware and knows that this is not sustainable.

The district is working on a new initiative related to small groups. We are going to be working on this...gets us back to our Westley tradition of "Classroom", small groups. This, at the district level is more on a covenant level...asking "how is it with your soul".

Pastor reported that Jan. 3 was taken as a vacation day. April 17<sup>th</sup> he will be gone for a week on a study leave. He is not sure he will be gone on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

May 15<sup>th</sup>, he is the head spiritual director on the Women's Emmaus Walk. He will not be able to leave, return, and then go back. Vacation schedule is being determined, based on needs of daughter. He is looking at going to Aldersgate on July 24<sup>th</sup>. He will be gone on Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>. (Anniversary)

Don asked what the difference in a traditional and contemporary service is. Pastor gave some examples.

**Closing:**

Pastor closed with prayer.

Rebecca motioned to adjourn, Walt seconded. Meeting adjourned at 5:44

Respectfully submitted,  
Terrie Scarboro, Recording Secretary

Terris Scarboro

January 17, 2016

TRUSTEES' REPORT

Trustees had a meeting on January 12, 2016.

The Construction of the well house has been completed. The original bid was \$8,500.00. We had to run a new electric line from the church to the well house, and because of this, it increased the cost to \$9,700.00. This cost was something that wasn't in the original bid. They had to dig a ditch and bury the line in conduit. So as not to create any additional expense for the church, the men of the church filled in the ditch. The final inspection is not complete at this time, but should be soon. We will also be painting the building and putting in stepping stones to the doorway.

The roof leak has been repaired. Our next project is to repair the ceiling in the sanctuary where the leak occurred.

The window frame on the nursery outside door needs replacing. The parts for this have been ordered.

In the spring, our plans are still to replace the heat pump and furnace above the kitchen.

At our next meeting, which is March 8<sup>th</sup>, we will be setting a time for a work day to do some cleaning, etc. before Easter.

Richard Downing