

Mt. Pisgah United Methodist Church  
Church Council Minutes  
September 25, 2017, Meeting

**Call to Community**

Erika MacCormac, Church Council Vice Steward, called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Sheryl Irby, Preschool Council Steward, shared a personal reflection on decluttering our lives to make room for God.

**Prayer Concerns**

Prayer concerns were shared among Council members.

**Call to Christian Conversation**

- **Finance** – Chuck Saunders, Steward, and Melissa Holmes, Business Manager
  - The 2016 audit is under way and should be completed by the end of October.
  - Teller scanning procedures will be implemented.
  - 2018 budget packages have been sent out and need to be returned to Melissa Holmes by 9:00 a.m. on Monday, October 16, 2017.
  - Through August, 2017 YTD expenses have been below budgeted amounts for the same period.
  - The Trustees overage will be covered from the reserve fund.
  
- **Missions** – George Hudson, Co-Steward
  - Unloading of pumpkins will begin at 4:00 p.m. on October 5. Sign-up for shifts can be done online. Shift workers are particularly needed on Saturdays.
  - Rise Against Hunger event will be November 11. The packaging of 10,000 meals will be paid for with Mission Branch funds.
  - A Thanksgiving luncheon will be held in Jewett-Bass Hall on November 18 in cooperation with the National Alliance on Mental Illness.
  - Thanksgiving baskets for CCHASM will be collected again this year.

■ **Nominations and Leadership Development** – Kerry Thomas, Steward

- The process of nominating leaders for 2018 is progressing.
- Handwritten notes will be sent to departing and new church leaders. Note cards will be available for Branches interested in writing additional notes.
- Serving from the Heart is an 8- or 9-week course to be offered on Sunday afternoons, beginning in February or March 2018. Kerry Thomas will facilitate.

■ **Staff-Parish Relations** – Lisa Oakley, Steward

- Volunteers will lead the children and youth music programs until a director is hired.
- A third interview is scheduled for a candidate for Director of Music and Worship Arts.
- A second interview is planned for a candidate for Director of Children and Youth Music.

■ **Stewardship** – Elizabeth Farrell, Steward

- Unpledged giving as a percent of total giving for 2017 is 20.7 percent, a six-year high.
- “Defying Gravity” begins October 1. Included in the journey will be:
  - Distribution of financial planning worksheets on October 8.
  - Clean-Out Challenge on October 14. Opportunities to help on sign-up genius.
  - Commitment Sunday on October 22.
  - Distribution of a family pack of cards to practice living the great life.

■ **Trustees** – Gwen Turbeville, Steward

- Trustees have been contacted concerning the purchase or lease of Jewett-Bass Hall.
- Information needs to be provided to the congregation, including: current/future usages of Jewett-Bass; cost to run Jewett-Bass annually; anticipated maintenance/repairs over the next 5 to 7 years; funding for maintenance/repairs (Berryman funds designated for Jewett-Bass renovation have been exhausted).

**Motion:** The Trustees and Church Council will co-sponsor a series of congregational town hall meetings to explore and discuss the future of Jewett-Bass Hall.

***Motion approved unanimously***



**Motion:** A Jewett-Bass Hall Future Committee be established to conduct the town hall meetings. The committee should include members of the Trustees, Finance and Church Council.

***Motion approved unanimously***



- **Youth/Young Adult Ministries** – Amy Crisp, Director of Youth/Young Adult Ministries
  - 25 youth participated in kick-off Sunday.
  - Confirmation for 17 confirmands begins on Sunday, October 1.
  - ECHO is a small group which meets on Wednesday evenings. It is geared to youth and young adults but open to anyone.
  - The car wash and bake sale raised over \$600 for the 2018 youth mission trip.
  
- **Preschool Council** – Sheryl Irby, Steward
  - Enrollment in the Preschool is currently at 97, exceeding expectations.
  - Additional 3-year-olds are needed.
  
- **Vision Council** – Bob Cooper, Steward
  - Vision Council will meet in October and refine Vision 2020 in preparation for its presentation at Church Conference on November 12.
  
- **Other Reports**
  - **MOPS** – Kay Adams
    - Preparations have been made for the first meeting of the group on Tuesday, September 26.
    - Eight moms have registered.
    - MOPS will be a blessing to the Midlothian community and to Mt. Pisgah.
  
  - **Membership** – Melissa Holmes on behalf of Barbara Hurt, Database Manager
    - A list of inactive members was prepared by Barbara Hurt. These people will receive the non-attendance letter presented earlier to Church Council.
    - A list of members previously reported to Church Conference was prepared.
    - Church Council members will receive the lists via email and are asked to contact Barbara Hurt with information they may have regarding any of these members.
  
  - **Pictorial Directory** – Sheryl Irby
    - Response to the new directory has been positive.
    - Time slots remain for photo sessions on October 7-10.
    - Additional photo sessions may be added if needed.

### **Upcoming Events**

October 7-10 – Pictorial Directory Photo Sessions  
 October 14 – Clean-Out Challenge  
 October 15 – Deadline for November/December newsletter. Items to William Marriott.  
 October 21 – Midlothian Village Day  
 October 28 – Trunk or Treat, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

November 11 – Rise Against Hunger  
November 12 – Church Conference, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
November 18 – Thanksgiving luncheon in Jewett-Bass Hall.

### **Pastor's Comments** – Bob Cooper

\$8,768.50 has been raised for hurricane relief.

Advanced planning among staff and across work areas is critical.

- Six-month planning should be the minimum.
- First call when scheduling an event should be to William Marriott.
- Staff person should be contacted if his/her area's support or participation is desired at an event.
- Staff and Stewards should be prepared to coordinate calendars of planned events for January-August, 2018, at the October 23 Church Council meeting.
- A second calendar review will take place in June 2018.

### **Thanks/Celebration/Recognition**

Appreciation was expressed to:

- Sharon Macauley for always being ready to serve when asked.
- Mary Ellin Scarberry for congregation/community communication through updates of the sign's message board.
- William Marriott for uploading audios of the sermons to the church website.

### **Upcoming Meeting**

Branch reports of 2017 accomplishments will be presented at the November 27, 2017, Church Council meeting.

Amy Crisp closed the meeting with prayer. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

**The next Church Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 23, 2017,  
at 7:00 p.m. in rooms 107/109**

Minutes prepared by Jayne Shultz, Church Council Secretary