

Mt. Pisgah United Methodist Church  
Church Council Minutes  
January 23, 2017, Meeting

**Call to Community**

Brenda Colley, Church Council Steward, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Brenda shared a meditation on the spiritual disciplines of solitude and silence.

**Prayer Concerns**

Council members shared their prayer requests.

**Call to Christian Conversation**

- **Finance** – Chuck Saunders, Steward, and Melissa Holmes, Business Manager
  - Contributions in 2016 exceeded budgeted amounts for both the Ministry Fund and the Mortgage and Maintenance Fund.
  - The Mortgage Fund has a six-month reserve.
  - 100% of the 2016 apportionments was paid.
  - Changes to the 2017 budget may be required in light of current pledges.
  - The changeover to PowerChurch software is underway.
  - A review of current investments and bank accounts is planned.
  - Plans are being finalized for the external audit.
  
- **Stewardship** – Elizabeth Farrell, Steward
  - Through January 12, 2017, 161 pledges totaling \$534,993 have been made to the Ministry Fund, 69% of the target.
  - Through the same date, 121 pledges totaling \$204,906 have been made to the Mortgage and Maintenance Fund, 92% of the target.
  - Both amounts are lower than previous years. People who pledged in 2016 but not in 2017 are being contacted.
  
- **Staff-Parish** – Lisa Oakley, Steward
  - Staff structural analysis continues.
  - Efforts are under way to realign responsibilities in response to the departures of Andy Braswell and Vickie Weber.

■ **Trustees** – Gwen Turbeville, Steward

- Additional volunteers are needed to clear walkways during inclement weather. A contractor clears the parking lots.
- Jewett-Bass Hall did not pass a county inspection done in December. Most problems have been corrected, and work continues on those remaining. Use of Jewett-Bass may be restricted until work is completed.

■ **Missions** – George Hudson, Co-Steward

- The Veterans' Luncheon is Sunday, February 19. Volunteers will be needed. Mike Lewandowski is the contact person.
- A congregational day of service is being planned. Tentative date is Saturday, April 8, with Saturday, April 22, as an alternative.
  - Seven projects will be chosen from suggestions made by congregation members.
  - Projects will be church-based and community-based.
  - A luncheon and discussion of the service day will be held on the Sunday immediately following the event.
  - Leaders/coordinators will be needed for each project.

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

- An orientation meeting for new Branch Stewards and Branch members will be held on Sunday, February 5.
- An overview of the responsibilities of the Branches will be presented.
- Participants will receive an information and resource packet.

**Upcoming Events**

February 5 – Nominations and Leadership Development Orientation at 12:15 p.m. in CFLC.

February 15 – March/April newsletter deadline. Send information to William Marriott.

March 18 – Spring Tea at 3:00 p.m. in CFLC.

**Call to Christian Service**

A discussion of the strategic direction of Mt. Pisgah for 2017-2018 was begun. Pastor Bob reviewed the priorities/goals/objectives of Vision 2020 focus areas: missions, fellowship/community, and small groups.

Brenda Colley charged the Branches to identify goals and/or actions in support of the focus area. Stewards should send their Branch's plan to Brenda prior to the March 27 Council meeting.

**Pastors' Comments** – Bob Cooper

The \$5,000 housing allowance reimbursement agreed to at the November called Church Conference will be made in two payments. The first payment of \$2,500 will be made in late January, and a second payment of \$2,500 will be made in June 2017.

Jimmy Edwards has been assigned to Mt. Pisgah as a licensed local pastor. Jimmy will assist with sacramental and preaching responsibilities.

Mary Krakoviak will be unable to serve as Steward of Worship Arts and Music due to family responsibilities.

**Thanks/Celebration/Recognition**

Appreciation was expressed to the congregation, the Stewardship Branch and others involved who made it possible for Mt. Pisgah to meet its 2016 apportionments.

The Trustees Branch and volunteers were recognized for the visible changes that have been made to the church campus.

Pastor Bob closed the meeting with prayer. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

**The next Church Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 27, 2017,  
at 7:00 p.m. in rooms 107/109**

Minutes prepared by Jayne Shultz, Church Council Secretary