

Wesley Memorial UMC
Charge Conference & Church Council Minutes
January 20, 2015

Charge Conference members present: Pete Thompson, Harvey Lowd, Tom Smothers, Meredith Morgan, Suzie Farabow, Gene Kester, Karen Odom, Mary Cullen Bills, Jared Stine, Erin Beall, and Al Ward.

Staff present: Jay Butler, Anne Carroll, Debbie Foust, Scott Howell and Susan Sumpter

Al Ward, Senior Pastor, was authorized by Dr. Nancy Rankin, Northern Piedmont District Superintendent, to preside over a called meeting of the Charge Conference for the purpose of making adjustment in the clergy compensation for 2015. Erin Beal opened the meeting with prayer.

The first order of business was to elect an acting secretary for this meeting. Meredith Morgan agreed to serve and was elected.

Tom Smothers, chair of the Staff Parish Relations Team presented clergy compensation agreements on all three appointed clergy (attached) and moved their approval effective February 1, 2015 and retroactive to January 1, 2015. The motion was approved without dissent.

There was no further business and the Charge Conference was adjourned.

Harvey Lowd, chair of the Church Council convened the Council.

Church Council members present: Pete Thompson, Harvey Lowd, Tom Smothers, Meredith Morgan, Suzie Farabow, Gene Kester, Karen Odom, Mary Cullen Bills, Scott Howell and Al Ward.

Staff present: Jared Stine, Erin Beall, Debbie Foust, Anne Carroll, Jay Butler and Susan Sumpter.

The minutes from the November meeting were approved.

Al Ward shared with the Council some of the statistical data gathered for 2014. He reported that we added 37 members and lost 57 members and the total membership stands at 2159 as of January 1, 2015. The average worship attendance was 460, which represents a decrease in 19. He reported that Sunday School attendance averaged 183, but that we average about 640 persons participating in worship and ALL spiritual formation groups each week.

Scott Howell, Director of Administration & Finance, reviewed the 2014 financials. These reports indicated that we collected almost 2 million dollars and had expenditures around 1.8 million dollars, so we have a budget surplus of approximately \$240,000. He indicated that the Finance Team would be making recommendation on the disbursement of the surplus.

The 2015 budget was presented. It projected income of about 1.9 million dollars and expenditures of the same amount. The 2015 pledges are slightly higher than the 2014 pledge pay out, which was 98% of the pledge amount. Harvey Lowd noted that funds designated for missions equal 4.5% of the 2015

pledges or about \$81,000 of the budget. The Finance Team recommended the 2015 budget be set at \$1,851,470.30. The motion was approved without dissent.

As required by the Book of Discipline, the Finance Team recommended that the depositories for church's funds be Wells Fargo (holds about \$1.2 million) and BB&T (holds about \$9.5 million). The recommendation of the Finance Team was approved without dissent.

The Finance Team recommended that \$10,000 of the 2014 surplus be used to purchase a new server for the computer system. Scott explained that the current serve is old, has been patched, and is working intermittently. The motion was approved without dissent.

The Finance Team and the Board of Trustees recommended that an amount not to exceed \$22,000 (\$5400 for mold remediation, \$14,000 for replace of single pane windows with energy efficient windows, and \$2600 for power washing and repairs to exterior wood surfaces) of the 2014 surplus for repairs and improvements at the parsonage. The recommendation was approved without dissent.

Al Ward reported for the Leadership Development and Nominations Team. He recognized the retiring members of the Board and expressed appreciation for their service to the Church. The Leadership and Nominations Teams presented the following nominations to complete the overall 2015 leadership:

Church Council

Reserve Annual Conference Lay Members

George McLarty, Leigh Ann Bassinger

Worship Team Rep

Michael Amos

Administrative Teams

Board of Trustees

2017: Jane Kester

Ministry Teams

Mission and Community Impact Team

2017: Meredith Morgan

The nominations were approved without dissent.

In other business, Ministry Area leaders and directors shared information with the Council.

Jay Butler reported that attendance in Sunday School is up over last year.

Debbie Foust highlighted the activities of Children and Family Ministries during Advent/Christmas and the children's Sunday School. She announced that the Design Team and the Children and Family Ministries Team would be combining in the new year to focus on parent engagement, and attendance.

Jared Stine reported that the Hospitality and Evangelism Team would be kicking off an emphasis to encourage our members to wear their name tags.

Al Ward reported that the church has signed a contract with The Jesus Painter to do a presentation at Wesley Memorial on Tuesday of Holy Week, March 31 at 7 pm. This event is being funded by the Victoria Qubein Fund. He also announced that the Leadership Summit would be held on Saturday, February 28, 2015, from 8:30 until noon and encouraged all leaders to attend.

Al also reminded the Council that Wesley Memorial was fortunate to have a dedicated staff of gifted and skilled individuals. He expressed his appreciation to them and encouraged the Council to do the same.

There was no further business and the Council adjourned.

Meredith Morgan
Acting Secretary