

Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church

Church Council May 20, 2014

Church Council members present: Mary Cullen Bills, Alison Collins, Suzi Farabow, Angela Frith, Jim Holcomb, Curt Jacobs, Samantha Klemme, Harvey Lowd, Meredith Morgan, Jim Royal, Tom Smothers, Al Ward

Visitor: Carolyn Steed

Staff members present: Anne Carroll, Debbie Foust, Jared Stine

Council Chair Harvey Lowd called the meeting the order. Al Ward opened the meeting in prayer.

The minutes of March 18, 2014, were approved as written.

Reporting for Finance, Al Ward reviewed the budget as it stands. A lot of money has been spent on heating and clean-up from the winter storms. Pledges are \$63,000 less than projected, and total income is \$36,000 less than projected. There is currently a \$33,000 positive cash flow with expenses running less than income. Much of the positive cash flow does come from the decreased staffing due to open positions. The church is currently down \$56,000 in pledges from this point last year with total income \$17,000 less. For the same period, total expenses are \$31,000 more than this point last year. May has been an exceptional month regarding income, making it the best month for income this year. Finance Committee is considering sending statements to members regarding where they stand in regards to pledges.

Trustees Chair Curt Jacobs reported that Trustees have spent a lot of time responding to needs for storm clean-up, funding the Choral Scholars, and renovating the Youth area. The Trustees are currently working on a Facilities Use Policy.

SPRT Chair Tom Smothers announced that Al Ward and Jared Stine have been reappointed to WMUMC for another year. Anne Carroll has now been hired as the Director of Music. Erin Beall will be the new associate pastor for Adult Spiritual Formation and Contemporary Worship. Scott Howell will be starting at the end of May as the Director of Administration and Finance. A search team is forming to look for a new Director of Youth Ministries. The search team is exploring how to find an interim director until a full-time director can hopefully be found by the end of 2014. Kathy Barba Pierce's last Sunday at WMUMC will be June 15th.

Church Council approved a request from SPRT for \$6800 for one year (June 1, 2014 – May 30, 2015) for Paul Nixon/Epicenter Group, Inc. to consult with individual staff members, for one campus visit, and one staff retreat to coach the pastoral and ministry staff in building a working team as well as defining and addressing the key issues facing them and Wesley Memorial.

Church Council also approved an action item for the funding for Paul Nixon to be taken from the Voliva Endowment Fund for an amount not to exceed \$10,000.

Chair of the Children's Ministry Design Team Carolyn Steed reported on the progress of Ministry Architects' work with the children's ministry. The Design Team has started regularly meeting and has participated in a visioning retreat. The group has formed a Mission Statement, Values Statement, and Three-year Goals organized under the Connect, Grow, Serve format. Another retreat is planned at the beginning of November to create a Scope and Sequence for faith formation, as well as other goals. Debbie Foust distributed copies of the Mission Statement, Values, Three-year Revolving Goals, and brochure.

Mary Cullen Bills, Chair of the Student Ministries Team, reports that the renovation of the Youth area will be completed within two weeks. Church Camp will still occur as scheduled with several college students volunteering to help with camp. She commented on the importance of encouraging high school attendance in youth activities.

Senior Pastor Al Ward reports that the Playground Project currently has \$95,220.13 in the bank with pledges of \$8000 due in October 2014. In order to have the equipment installed by the start of school in August, Church Council approved for Wesley Memorial UMC to advance Wesley Memorial School \$4800 so the equipment can be ordered, installed, and paid for. Wesley Memorial School will then repay this amount to Wesley Memorial UMC by December 15, 2014.

Jim Holcomb, Chair of the Missions and Community Impact Team, reported a successful day of church members volunteering with Habitat for Humanity. Another workday is scheduled in August.

Church Council approved a recommendation from the Missions and Community Impact Team to distribute the following grants:

High Point Jail Ministry	\$2000
Open Door – Father's Table	\$3600
Open Door – Housing First	\$5000
Open Door – Emergency Relief	\$5000
UMAR	\$2500
Macedonia Center	\$5500
West End Ministries	\$2500
Henderson Settlement	\$3500
High Point Community Clinic	\$5500
Habitat for Humanity	\$1000

Ansanm Ministries – Haiti \$2500

Kenya Partners \$3625

Payments are scheduled to be disbursed throughout the year.

Senior Pastor Al Ward noted the number of agencies in which members of Wesley Memorial are involved and the impact they have in the community. Al expressed excitement about the new staff members joining WMUMC and reiterated plans for finding a leader for Youth Ministry. Attendance on Easter Sunday numbered about 1000 people. Average attendance for the year is about 500.

There will be a called Charge Conference on June 8th at 12:15pm to approve the salary for Erin Beall.

Council Chair Harvey Lowd encouraged individuals and their unity groups to become involved in some type of community service.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Frith