

Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church
Church Council Minutes
March 17, 2015

The purpose of Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church is to make and sustain spiritually healthy followers of Jesus Christ who live in ways that transform the world.

Members present: Michael Amos, Laura Gibson, Jim Gooding, Jim Holcomb, Scott Howell, Vicky Jarrett, Harvey Lowd, Mark Morgan, Dan Smoak, Tom Smothers, Pete Thompson and Al Ward

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

Pete Thompson, chair of the Church Council called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

Jay Butler opened with prayer and he shared reflections from his recent Walk to Emmaus.

The minutes from the January 20 meeting were approved as read.

Al Ward shared with the Council that The Leadership Summit was a success. Membership remains about the same and attendance is about where it was for the same period last year. 15 confirmands will join the church on April 12 and new couples are interested in joining. The Jesus Painter event will be March 31. Al encouraged us to stay aware and alert to to welcome new faces. He asked that we be a part of Holy Week and he reminded us that Easter is a season, not just a day... A Resurrection Experience!

Trustee: Scott provided the Council with a report on the status of the endowed fund at Wesley Memorial at the end of 2014 (a copy is attached). He reported that repair work (mold and mildew remediation and new windows) at Parsonage is in progress.

Finance: Jim Gooding and Scott Howell presented the financial report. The Finance Team moved that \$18,500 from the 2014 excess fund balance be designated for the following projects:

Choral Scholars – \$12,000 (Al explained that until the “Marlowe gift” is in hand and producing income, the funding for choral scholars could run low.)

Additional expense for the new server- \$4,000

Hardware required for Payroll Service- \$2,500

Motion passed.

Staff Parish: Tom Smothers reported that they are working on plans for staff appreciation event.

United Methodist Men: Dan Smoak reported that Shrove Tuesday went well despite weather challenges. There will be a Chicken and Fixins’ dinner in May with funds possibly going to help rebuild Mt. Carmel UMC.

Children’s Ministry: Debbie Foust announced the Rock-n-Roll Easter Event for Sunday, March 29 and encouraged council members to participate.

Mission and Community Impact Team: Action: Jim Holcombe explained that in 2013 the Council had designed \$25,325 of the 2012 excess fund balance to be used for the development of a Day Shelter for the Homeless in High Point. Since that time the Mission Team has been working on this project, but for various reasons this has not been possible and is no longer seen as a need by the community. After extensive conversations with Open Door Ministries, the Mission and Community Impact Team recommends that the \$25,325 previously restricted by the Council be re-directed to the Rapid Re-Housing Program at Open Door Ministries.

Action Passed.

Action: Jim also moved the approval of the following “mission grants” from the 2015 budget:

Ansanm	\$5,000 (4/6)
Boys & Girls Club	\$3,500 (5/4)
Community Clinic	\$5,500 (5/4)
Crop Walk	\$1,000 (10/1)

Hinton Rural Life Center	\$4,500 (4/6)
Macedonia Center	\$5,500 (3/23)
Open Door Meals	\$3,600 (6/18)
Stop Hunger Now	\$6,000 (TBD)
West End Ministries	\$2,500 (6/8)

Action passed.

He also announced that pursuant with the requirements of the Asbury Mission Fund, the Mission Team had awarded \$6,780 to Kenya Partners from the income in the Asbury Mission Fund.

WMUMC Easter Offering will support West End Ministries to assist with Thursday Community meals and college visitation tours for students. Al reported that a steering committee is in place for the Community Garden.

Student Ministries: Jay reported that there will be 15 confirmands on Sunday. Planning is underway for Spring Workshop, April 24-26, which will include grades 6-12. He is going to “re-tweak” the Sunday night program for fall. Afraid of The Dark, Lenten series is underway now. Jay reported strong Middle School participation.

Worship Team: Michael Amos reported that the dedicated team is working to encourage growth in all worship services.

Wesley Memorial School: Susan Sumpter reported that Super Hero’s Dash, a special Lenten outreach program to benefit Family Services of the Piedmont, will take place on March 20. Susan expressed gratitude for the positive response received to the scholarship letters that went out. There are 14 children on scholarship this year. Currently, of the 155 children enrolled in Wesley Memorial School 45 are GRG (Grandparents raising Grandchildren). Grandchildren primarily raise these children. Three different summer program plans are in place.

Jared Stine closed with prayer.

There was no further business and the council adjourned.

Laura Gibson
Secretary