

Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church  
Church Council Minutes  
September 20, 2016 at 5:30 pm

Our purpose is to make and sustain spiritually healthy followers of Jesus Christ who live in ways that transform the world.

Members present: Bryant Aldridge, Michael Byles, Suzie Farabow, Laura Gibson, Susan Hedrick, Laney Henley, Jim Holcomb, Scott Howell, Audrey Miller, Rita Meredith, Mark Morgan, Meredith Morgan, Nancy McKenzie, Dan Smoak, Tom Smothers, Pete Thompson and Al Ward  
Staff present: Erin Beall, Anne Carroll, Debbie Foust, Jared Stine and Susan Sumpter

Pete Thompson called the meeting to order; Jared opened with prayer.  
The August minutes were approved.

**Finance:** Scott reported that finances look good. Income is inline with current expenses. Al and Scott commended Susan Sumpter and the WMS board for working hard over the past few years to improve the school's financial situation.

**ACTION ITEM:** Wesley Memorial School Funds. The committee on Finance recommends that \$10,842.25 be allocated to the WMUMC Facilities Team to cover the cost of improvements and maintenance within the space utilized by WMS and that any unused funds be directed to the WMS Scholarship Fund.  
Action passed.

**ACTION ITEM:** Approval of 2015 Audit. The Committee on Finance has reviewed the audit of the financial statement of Wesley Memorial for the year ending December 31, 2015 and recommends its adoption.  
Action passed.

**Board of Trustees:** Bryant reported that the columbarium is almost complete. Finalizing donation of bus to Salvation Army.  
Mission team is in discussion to partner with Feeding Lisa's Kids. Funds that this group raises will go through Wesley Memorial. The group will use our back parking lot for delivery staging.

**ACTION ITEM:** Wedding policy. The Wedding Ministry Team recommends that the policy governing weddings of non-members be amended by deleting the wording "*the wedding may not be scheduled more than 9 months in advance.*" Rationale: In the current world, a minimum of 12 – 18 months is required for the planning of a wedding. The policy, as it currently exists, is basically making it impossible for non-members to schedule a wedding at Wesley Memorial.  
Action passed.

**ACTION ITEM:** Christmas Decorations. The Ministry Area Team recommends that the Council set aside an amount not to exceed \$3,000.00 from the 2016 Operating Budget to hire a local firm who will decorate in the Sanctuary, Narthex, Asbury Room and Chapel, provided that we are unable to secure volunteers. Jim Holcomb made the motion that we do this in the current year. Rita Meredith seconded the motion. Bryant Aldridge suggested that the Council address this situation each year. Action passed.

**Strategic Planning Presentation:** the Council watched a video by Simon Sinek entitled, “ The Golden Circle”, a presentation of **Why, How** and **What**. Scott then presented an outline of our Strategic Plan, utilizing our strategic pathways of Connect, Grow and Serve. We believe that by prayerfully and intentionally engaging in the four priority disciplines of prayer, worship, small groups and hands-on service, Wesley Memorial will grow to become, more and more, a Kingdom-oriented people.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Gibson  
Recording secretary