

St. Matthew's United Methodist Church
Church Council

Mission
To make disciples of Jesus Christ
Vision
To be a welcoming community where all God's Children may find meaning and purpose in Jesus Christ.
Values
Love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control

4th Wednesday Meeting Minutes

Date: 23 May 2018

Attendees

Neil Hough, Sr. Pastor

Mark Mrini, Sr. Pastor at St. Stephen's UMC

Amy Chan, Chair

John Alexander, Vice Chair

Jim King, Member at Large

Brad Oswalt, Trustees

Andrew Gay, Children's Council

Lyle Minter, Lay Delegate to Annual Conference

Bill Moberly, Assoc. Pastor

Charlie Oppenheim, Member at Large

Susan Ericksen, Member at Large

Karen Chevalier, Lay leader

Amanda Hill, UMW Co-President

Angela Culberston, Chair SPRC

Mike Fee, Youth Ministry

Susan Ely, At Large

Carolyn Andrukonis, Lay Leader

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Jeff Spear, guest

Rudy Ehrenberg, Finance

Chris Ligon, Discipleship Committee

Todd Creekman, Treasurer

Keith Robertory, Member at Large

Welcome & Introductions Amy

Opening Prayer Neil

Introduced Mark Mrini, St. Stephan's UMC

Called Charge Conference Rev. Mark Mrini

Mark opened the charge conference.

The salary, benefits, and housing allowance for the new associate Pastor was discussed.

Nickie Moreno Howard is a full time local pastor (not provisional). The district has set her salary based on the position.

Motion is moved, 2nd, and unanimously approved.

Approval of April Minutes Amy

Approved pending correction of Lyle Minter's last name spelling.

Featured Committee – Music Nancy/Charlie

Nancy shared information about the music committee. Nancy shared the large number of fairs and festivals the choirs that represent SMUMC out in the community.

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The FCPS change that removed early dismissal on Monday has impacted the program. The last students get out at 4:10pm, so the practice can't start until 4:45pm. This has hurt the attendance in the music program.

Nancy is retiring in two years.

Susan, modern worship, provided an update on the modern worship service. She shared the great quality of people coming forward in the church to help run the modern worship service. They do have some paid musicians, but are blessed by the number of musically inclined people in the church. Music selection is one of the most rewarding and meaningful parts of leading modern worship. She's looking for more singers and instrument players.

Scout Charter Proposal Keith

Motion: St. Matthew's Church Council approve the chartering of a new Boy Scouts of America troop. The troop will be a Boy Scouts of America's Scouts BSA troop to serve girls who have completed the fifth grade and are at least 10 years old but have not reached age 18.

Discussion occurred. Motion passed.

NLI Update John/Neil/Amy

Neil reviewed the formation of two new NLI working groups: Strategic Worship Planning Team and Communications Team. Names of working group members were announced. Neil still looking for anyone else who may be interested.

Refer to written highlights for additional details.

Comments from the Pastor Neil

Chris shared information from the "Life Group Pilot". The program is ending, and the 16 participants will share their experiences to the broader church. The group may informally stay together through the summer to help launch the program next fall.

Last session of Financial Peace University occurred. 10 families participated and it was well received. Plan to repeat the FPU in the future.

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Neil requested four new members to add to the Stewardship committee. The motion was made and passed.

Grace's last Sunday service will be June 10th

Reports & Highlights

Finance Rudy / Todd

Refer to written highlights for the current fiscal numbers.

About \$22k short in the amount donated through pew envelopes. Uncertain as to why the shortfall in the "other envelopes" category of revenue.

Todd presented information about the "cash" of the church. They are exploring putting the money to work at the Virginia United Methodist Foundation, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Virginia United Methodist Development Company. The company only loans money to UM Churches. The suggestion is to purchase certificates to get guaranteed rates over time than normal banks. Current offer is a 6 month certificate with a 4% guaranteed return.

Motion: Authorized Treasurer to invest \$280k in a Virginia United Methodist Development Company 6 month investment certificate (1 Jul - 31 Dec 2018) with a 4% APR guaranteed return.

Discussion occurred. Motion passed.

SPRC Angela

SPRC is leading the first Wednesday on the lawn to celebrate Grace. Angela encouraged everyone to come and enjoy. A love offering letter is going out this week for Grace.

Trustees Brad

A new roof is being added to the church as a result of the damage that occurred in a past storm. The new shingles can withstand 110mph winds. Details in written highlights. It will be worked around VBS.

New concrete work around the front of the church is to be done. Replace the sidewalk, steps and some uneven concrete.

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Steeple has been cleaned. Look up next time you come in.

Red van is dead. It will be donated to a local high school for vocational training.

Trustees will spend all their budget plus the surplus from last year, to about \$90k. Brad emphasized that Trustees need about \$75k a year to really operate.

Open Forum

None presented.

Joys and Concerns

Shared.

Closing Prayer & Adjournment

Closed.

Accountability

Responsibility

Commitment

An ARC is a continuous portion of a circle or an arch to connect one source to another. Arc as an acronym connects singers and ringers to music by being accountable, responsible and committed to a group that produces music. One is accountable through participation in learning the music and rendering services to the groups as a whole. Responsibility requires obligation and all involve commitment. Commitment is an agreement to successfully join

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oneself to a course of action. Individual commitment to a group effort is what makes a team work, a church work and a choir work.

The quality of music rehearsed, shared and performed is of great significance to all choir participants. The emotional high received when singing, playing an instrument, directing or listening to a well written, musically executed piece resonates in one's heart and soul. When the first Carol Ringers attended their second festival they played two pieces for a solo concert. When they finished they received a standing ovation and had never experienced that excitement of doing something so outstanding. This feeling is the charge from God that keeps our program going. It can happen in worship, in the smallest church on tour or at the Kennedy Center.

Our Peace Ringers are young adults who grew up ringing bells here at St. Matthew's or bellringers who rang in another church and after moving here for work decided they wanted to ring bells again as an adult. They have thrived on excellent music played with good friends. They have been called back to the church family doing something they love.

God calls us to give 100% of ourselves and our talents when serving him. If a program is built on mediocrity then you lose your skilled musicians. A church program should offer music for everyone and special choirs or times that can challenge even the best musicians. Choir participants' complete the connection through their accountability, responsibility and commitment (ARC).