

Church Council Meeting-Minutes



18 Feb 2024 / NEUMC

Attendees:

Elizabeth Chamblee
Weston Cheatham
Chastity Cherubin
Heather Cook
James Cook

Sylvia Cousin
Stephen Crowell
Antoinette Gaboton-Moss
Ryon Miro
Mike Munn

Ira Sansolo
Jane Scott
Christopher Wargel

Agenda

Opening Prayer and/or Devotion	Ryon Miro
Review and Approve Minutes	Karen Evans
Reports	
Ministries	
Nurture Ministry	Chastity Cherubin / Elizabeth Chamblee Provided food and drinks for Ms. Bernice's funeral with help from Sylvia and Fred and many food donations. Ms. Bernice's family was very appreciative. Meeting with Pastor Antoinette to identify scope of work for committee.
Outreach and Witness Ministries	Heather Cook Last meeting was spent making sheep agape for youth attending Revolution. Also talked about Backpack supplies. Delivered 44 bags last time – ran out of lunch and dinner items so had to stop. Discussed Spring in the Patch. Due to many dates with conflicts, this year will skip this. Planned for Gaye to talk with Jane Scott about a way to serve Killingsworth. Heather will contact Epworth and Washington Street UMC's Soup Kitchen. Open to other ideas of places to serve.
Worship Team	Stephen Crowell Getting started with Easter – Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Youth will provide Good Friday service and help UMM with Sunrise breakfast. Easter service will have a full choir. Possibility that kids will sing too, but not yet finalized. Scout Sunday will be March 3.
Lay Leaders	Stephen Crowell Met with Pastor Antoinette to discuss services through Easter.

Youth Group	<p>Weston Cheatham Christmas Eve service went great. Revolution was a wonderful weekend – 12 youth and 6 adults. Super Bowl Party went well. Provided drinks for Fat Tuesday. Need help with lock-in with Trinity UMC this weekend. Will start at NEUMC and then be bussed to Trinity. Working on Good Friday Service. Souper Bown of Caring collected ~\$341 for Washington Street UMC.</p>
United Methodist Men	<p>Ira Sansolo Great meeting last week. Going to work with Trustees to find things that need to be done around campus in order to reduce budget, i.e., painting bathroom in office. Fred (Cousin) will be cooking Easter morning pancakes, eggs, sausage and grits. Asked for prayer for Ernest Cousin.</p>
United Women in Faith	<p>Sylvia Cousin Wants to set up account to support missions. Need a letter for bank; signees will be Sylvia, Jane Scott & Pat Christianson. Melissa Sansolo – spiritual coordinator Stacy Cruz – Education Interpreter Jane Scott will mentor Stacy February 24 – Emmaus training March 2 is “Day Apart Sylvia attended virtual meeting “So You Want to Talk About Race”</p>
Administrative Committees	
Finance Committee	<p>James Cook First meeting in January. Moved bank information / signees. Trustees are working on new mortgage. Budget meeting – will present balanced budget in March. All expenses of \$200 and up need to be pre-approved Pause all discretionary spending. Gratitude campaign: 33 Gratitude cards committing to about \$200,000 plus estimates for those that have given in the past year, but did not turn in a card comes to \$273,790 which is a bit less than last year. Operating Acct is 6,800, Money Market 37,000, Youth 36,482, CDs 110,000 The overspend in Oct was on track with what was budgeted – we are still getting less income than we are spending. The lump sum restitution payment from the hearing helped this year. The proposed budget (still in development) accounts for us to consume our savings by EOY 2024, as did the current budget at this time, last year.</p>
SPRC	Walker’s raise was approved
Trustees	<p>Mike Munn Will be meeting with committee members on Wednesday to discuss mortgage, landscaping and janitorial. Global (HVAC) charged \$900 to do partial inspection of HVAC – need to come out and complete the inspection. Mike said he will not pay any additional money for that.</p>

<p>Report of the Pastor</p>	<p>Antoinette Gaboton-Moss Big thank you to James and Mike for accepting new roles. 16 Pastoral Care Needs from 12.16.23 – 02.16.24 January and most of February birthday cards have been sent out. Discussing plans with Living Springs Lutheran to carry a cross from Living Springs to NEUMC on Palm Sunday Bishop Day – 03.02 from 9am – 3pm at Lexington UMC. Clergy is going – asking for about 5 leaders to attend as well. Grant update – went to AZ (33 total pastors) – discussed where money went – some built a Eucharist table, retreats, etc. Provided council members with copies of “21 Days of Breakthrough Prayer” Report attached for more detail.</p>
<p>Other Business</p>	<p>Christopher Wargel Working on preventive issues Projector on last legs – cord is broken and cannot be replaced due to age Pro-Presenter EOL was January 2023 Windows 10 EOL – 10.14.2025. Items needed: 2 60” – 80” televisions - \$1300 - \$1800 New box to have enough power to reach TVs in the front. Discussed ways to pay for above – grant or item line contributions from church members</p>
<p>Closing Prayer</p>	<p>Ryon Miro</p>



PASTOR REPORT

February 18, 2024

Pastoral Care 12/16/2023 – 2/16/24

16 Pastoral needs and follow ups (Calls, cards, hospital visitations, home visits, bereavement care)

Monthly Birthday Cards

- January
- February

Lenten Season

- In conversation with Rev. Fink for a prayer walk with the cross on Palm Sunday (time: TBD). Start at Northeast and end at Living Springs.

The 2024 Bishop Day - Columbia District

“Strengthening the SOUL of Your Leadership” – Excellence in Ministry Training

March 2, 2024, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Lexington United Methodist Church 309 East Main Street, Lexington, SC 29072

Clergy are required. District Superintendent is requesting that **we invite 5-7 key leaders in the church(es) where we serve** to attend--Lay Leaders, SPRC Chairs, Church Council and Leadership Team Chair and members, Finance Chair, Trustees Chair, along with any other key leaders in the parish.

Grant with cohort of pastors

Our next “in person” gathering will be Feb. 5-8, 2024, at Spirit in the Desert, Carefree AZ (Grant projects: book with artists and poets; built a eucharist table with candles people take home and bring back; retreats).

- Is connection happening?
- Where do we locate God?
- What does it mean to give and receive ministry?
- We’re always waiting for something as humans. How do we then wait for God’s in-breaking?
- Where is God and how is He at work?
- Where is the good life and how do we live it?
- We are temperature setting—pastors and leadership.
 - Through our lives and our presence.
- We’re living in a time of “control, manage, and fix;” but that is not how we should live life or our faith.



PASTOR REPORT

February 18, 2024

Final gathering with pastors is September 30 – October 3 in New Harbor, Maine.

21 Days of Prayer

Jane D. proposed that the Church Council read a book on prayer (*21 Days of Breakthrough Prayer: The Power of Agreement*) to begin the New Year.

- “Prayer does not fit us for the greater work; prayer is the greater work.”
- “We will pray for our pastor/staff and their own personal prayer lives, encouraging them to lay the burdens of the church on God in prayer. We will also pray for the Holy Spirit to breathe life into the prayer lives of our congregation.”