

## Snow Hill UMC Church Council Meeting Minutes From June 1, 2017

In Attendance: Jerry Bullins, Pat Spicer, Chuck Spicer, Emily Anderson, Barbara Mabe, Janie Tilly, Sam Tilley, Keith Lawson, Lee Richardson, Steve Gregg, Janet Gregg

### Welcome and Comments – Barbara Mabe

“We meet this evening as SHUMC council members. We come just as we are with strengths and weaknesses. I want to share some personal thoughts. To fail to do that would suggest that nothing unusual has occurred in our church. I’m not the same as when we met in March and April; not angry, but disappointed – my feeling not hurt, it is more complex than that. I wish for you, that if it were simply anger or hurt feelings.

A few individuals have focused their energies on conversations in direct contrast to the decision made by Church Council at the March meeting regarding a land site and an undetermined facility. Although it is human nature for our own opinions to become the center of our thinking, this has led to division, emotion, and hurt feelings.

The pastor, Council Chair and PPRC chair were prevented from providing leadership or acknowledging concerns as we were not included in any direct way. The Methodist Discipline requires the pastor to uphold the decisions of the Church Council. Our pastor will support these decisions regardless of personal feelings.

Experiences such as we have just observed are much more common than we may realize. The Methodist Church has clear procedures and policies as to how situations are to be handled. These would include having a member make a motion to have a decision revisited by the Church Council. This is not what happened.

I pray that as a council and a church congregation we will earnestly seek God’s guidance that we will pause – we will think. And as the sun sets this evening, we continue forward – knowing that the sky isn’t falling, and that the sun will rise in the morning! Our church has been “gifted” with a generous matching fund; it is to be a blessing. May we focus on this opportunity to grow and be together in council and as a Christian example.”

### Invocation – Pastor Pat

Minutes for April meeting were approved. No meeting was held in May.

### Financial Status Report – Lee Richardson

- Checking Account Balance
- Offerings continue to be good.
- Stained glass windows costs have almost been fully covered by family members outside the current church family. Only \$100 of church funds will be needed to complete the project
  - Pastor Pat recognized Barbara Mabe for her diligence in locating names/addresses of the families represented in the windows, sending letters, communicating with family members, and sending thank you’s. Much “behind the scene” work took place to make this happen. Thanks Barbara!

### Trustee Report – Barbara Mabe

- There is leaking around the chimney after the last couple of heavy rains. It is on the opposite side that has been repaired recently. Lee Richardson offered to do the work. Keith Lawson suggested a specific product he has used and will get the information to Lee.

### Outreach Ministry Report – Chuck Spicer (Chair was not able to attend)

- Several projects were completed on a home including roof work, shingle replacements, and a ramp

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- 3-4 men are involved in the North Stokes Food Pantry transportation monthly
- Delta UMC has requested a partnership project with Snow Hill UMC to build a large ramp. They are looking forward to learning from our expertise. The new trailer will be used for this project.

### Senior Citizens Ministry Report – Pastor Pat

- Pastor Pat shared some of the presentation presented to the conference as an overview of the ministry which includes fun, food, fellowship, devotion, and training for the seniors (over age 75) in the area. The purpose is to bring together those who are isolated. Those involved are very enthusiastic and look forward to each time.
- Pastor Pat, Keith Bullins, Barbara Mabe, Keith Lawson, Iris Robertson, and Chuck Spicer have been the key contributors this year with several others helping periodically. Even those working are involved with preparing a meal, presenting a portion of the program. Hope to get more people involved next year.
- Good support from the community with volunteers from fire department, senior center, hospital, exercise session, etc. Special treat has been the friendship built between participants and kindergarteners at Lawsonville Elementary to read together.
- The program will not meet during the summer but recruitment and efforts to get the word out around the area will continue.

### Design Committee Update – Emily Anderson

- Based on discussion from last meeting, Emily has talked with several different “experts” as suggested in the last meeting. Her findings were that the processes followed to date have been appropriate.
  - The environmental approval cannot be requested until a detail plan and specific location are determined per Brandon Joyce from Environmental Health Department.
  - The UMC District committee confirmed they will need to approve any building plans but would not get involved until we have a general building design, estimated costs, specific location, and payment plans.
    1. The district chair (an architect) provided additional information:
      - Due to previous experience, he felt confident that if Jerry Moorefield said the sites adjacent to the current building were viable, that information would be accurate.
      - It is almost always preferable to build adjacent to current church buildings whenever there is sufficient land
      - This committee provides a process to help determine what we can afford. (UMC District Committee)
- Next Steps:
  - The previous separate Design Committee and Fund Raising Committee will be combined into one Building Committee (per motion made by Keith Lawson, seconded, approved)
    1. Building Committee will come to a consensus on budget for the building and conceptual design for building in either site B or C or determine the budget available would not meet the current building needs.
      - James Matthews (residential/commercial contractor) will provide information which can guide the team to develop more details
    2. Building Committee will report recommendation back to the Church Council.
    3. Church Council will discuss recommendation and either request more information or determine whether recommendation should go forward for a congregational meeting.

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4. If the Church Council approves recommendation to go forward, the Building Committee would provide a presentation regarding the proposal to the church.
5. A church charge conference would be scheduled for at least two weeks after the initial presentation. At that conference, all church members who are present will vote to approve or not approve the plan.

Miscellaneous

VBS is scheduled for July 16-20<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Cindy Robertson or Janet Gregg to get involved.

Provided by  
Janet Gregg, Secretary

Approved: August 3, 2017