

SNOW HILL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
January 28, 2016

The Church Council of Snow Hill United Methodist Church met January 28, with the following members present: Pastor Rev. Dr. Pat Spicer, Chuck Spicer, Barbara Mabe, Willis and Jeanette Overby, Janie and Sam Tilley, Keith Bullin, Jerry Ballard, Carolyn Henderson, Arthur Glidewell, Laura Wilson, Cindy and Malcolm Roberts, Lee Richardson, Emily Anderson, Judy Fain, Shannon Manning, and Iris and Glen Robertson.

Barbara Mabe, Chair of the Church Council, **greeted** us with humor, noise makers, decorations, and an encouraging “Happy New Year!” Each of us had in front of us a nice white binder with papers inside. Barbara said she was excited about the New Year, striving toward things that can and will happen. She thanked everyone already attending meetings and training. We had a “school moment” taking out the plastic sheet protector [static plagued (humor there)] to cover the sheet containing the hymn “A Charge to Keep I Have”. Barbara said that would make it easier for us to sing it at the closing of every one of our meetings.

Emily Anderson presented a **devotional** from *Alive Now*. Barbara said it totally covered what we were about.

We read the Statement of **Church Council Mission**. We are the administrative unit of the church. We are one entity, though made of many committees. Barbara’s responsibility is to help, listen, and work *with* us. She said all of us need to know about any church project going on. We are the voting body of the church. When we vote, that is what the decision is. She would hope we be informed, pay attention, and have clarity of purpose. The chair person does not run any one part, such as finances. We need to be clear about who does what. We need to have some order in anything we do, though it is not a business. There needs to be spiritual growth of each of us. We do not want to be leaving God out and being just an organization. We function in discipleship. We strengthen our internal ministry, such as Bible Study, Sunday School, and Worship Service as well as going outside, setting an example for others and each other. Barbara said our strengths need to become so functional that our weaknesses don’t matter.

The Church Council is to meet at least quarterly. It may meet more than that, but it may not meet less than once a quarter. She said we need to meet monthly for the first 3 meetings in January, February, and March, then, after that, most likely meet quarterly. She said this is due to 3 steps the various committees are doing. The next meeting is February 18, the third Thursday, at 7 PM. [Seen in the church bulletin: this has changed to Thursday March 17 at 7 PM.]

We had a page in the notebook giving the purpose of the Church Council, its Mission and Ministry, Meetings rules, its Other Responsibilities, and the Membership and Quorum of the Council for us to have for reference and reading.

Next was an **Overview of Church Council Responsibilities**. The Chairs of each Ministry and Committee presented us a statement of their committee’s responsibilities, so we would know what everyone else was doing:

Keith Bullin, Chair, told us about the Pastor/ Parish Relations Committee. He said to read the information in the notebook when we could.

Jerry Ballard, Chair of the Parsonage Sub-Committee, said they were to keep the parsonage in a good and safe condition, starting with an annual assessment.

Sam Tilley, Chair of the Trustees, said to see the list in the notebook. He wanted them to do all in humility but take pride in what they do. He said each of the letters in “pride” stand for purpose, responsibility, integrity, desire, and excellence.

Pastor Pat is allowed to Chair only one committee. She said it is usually called the Nominations Committee, but the best name for it is Lay Leadership Development Committee.

The Finance Committee is chaired by Jerry Moorefield, with Lee Richardson the Treasurer, and representatives from several other committees. Lee read to us the statement of their purpose.

Judy Fain read the purpose of the Congregational Care Committee.

Cindy Roberts spoke for the Worship Ministry. Pastor Pat said there are several components to the Worship area. She would like for any congregation member to pass on comments to the Worship Committee about something they liked, anything that was positive and we heard said.

For the Spiritual Formation Team, Keith Lawson could not speak, as he was working until 11 PM that evening (He is assigned to various other times at random times.) Pastor Pat read the statement for the team. She said it covers things we provide to the church and community to grow in spirit. They need our prayers and support.

The Outreach Ministry is both Malcolm Roberts and Lee Charleville with Lee as Chair. Malcolm said they are concerned with missions beyond Stokes County. They continue the outreach to schools, including the ones currently going on.

Pastor Pat also spoke for Lay Leader Tim Wilson who could not attend.

The At-Large Members represent and act as voice of the congregation. People can speak with them if unable to speak to Pastor Pat or Barbara Mabe. The At-Large Members are Chuck Spicer, Whitney Overby, Keith Lawson, Emily Anderson, Faye Mabe, and Tommy Wagoner.

The Annual Conference Delegate is a voting member attending the Annual Conference. The person reads in preparation items presented prior to the conference. Cindy Roberts spoke about it for absent Keith Lawson, as she was the previous delegate. She said sometimes issues can be clear and you know what your church is interested in. At other times, the issues are very thorny. There are nationwide issues, and the Bishop has his ideas on that. Willis said there is more than Snow Hill District. There is West and East Districts in North Carolina, then the whole Conference.

The Cemetery Committee asked if there were any concerns or wishes. Glen Robertson said people tell him when something needs doing and they do it.

For the Church Council Chair, Barbara said she is to lead the Council in fulfilling its responsibilities. She works with Rev. Spicer, lay leaders, and all committees, for a healthy and growing spiritual life. She is the ex-officio on every committee. She is responsible to us, and we are responsible to her. We are all responsible to Rev Spicer because Rev Spicer is “responsible to her own goals and standards. We need each other to function,” she said.

Finance Committee Report was next. Jerry Moorefield had a commitment to a ball game. Lee Richardson gave out the Current Activity sheets. He was happy to report we paid all our apportionments. He said offering has increased over other years. There was a big bill for the sound system, but all donated for that. Barbara wanted a moment of thanks for this condition and to think how to *wisely* minister this money.

For **Pastor’s Report**, Rev. Dr. Spicer said many thanks for all Barbara has done and for those who volunteered to be on committees. She is energized by what is going on with the Council. She said February 10 begins Lent with Ash Wednesday Service. Bible Study will be doing a 6 week study of “24 Hours That Changed the World”, every Wednesday at 6:15. This Sunday Jan 31 Worship and Finance Committees will meet. Then PPR will meet another time and not Feb 7.

For **Next Steps**, Barbara said we are called by God to be leaders of this local church. We are to ask God how to put new resources to work for His Kingdom. We are to focus on discipleship. HOMEWORK is for each Committee and Ministry to think of a Mission Statement that is their own. Committees and Ministries must meet at least once a Quarter. She said to see the Mission Statement at the bottom of the Agenda Page.
“We are blessed to help build up God’s Kingdom.”

Chuck had papers for us to sign if we wanted a free email of the “UM Interpreter” and ways to get in touch with us quickly.

Pastor Pat prayed for us, and we **closed** by standing and singing “A Charge to Keep I Have”.

Respectfully Submitted,

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