

## Mount Vernon UMC Church Council Meeting

Monday, January 27, 2014, 7:00 p.m.

Church Council Chair Sonny Morton called the meeting to order and set dates for Council meetings in 2014: March 17, May 19, August 18, and October 27, all at 7:00 p.m. Barry Foster led the members in prayer, and the minutes of the November 2013 meeting were approved as written.

Tom Underwood for **Property** reported many repairs made and issues being addressed (report on file). He made a motion that we switch to Fire Safe for fire extinguisher inspections (instead of Dameron). The motion was approved unanimously.

Tim Navis read a report from Beth Bauman (who was unable to attend; report on file), for **Children & Youth** ministry: Carey Wilkes, our long-time steward, has moved, and Dan Waters has agreed to take his place. Kelly Long will become our newest Godly Play teacher, serving with Leslie Navis, Beth deAristizabal, Becky Lutz, Ann Hurt, and Beth Bauman. The youth group will go on a retreat at Eagle Eyrie March 7-9. Our children and youth are preparing for the spring musical on April 6. Lindsay Payne is taking over from Leslie Navis as our nursery coordinator.

Tim Navis, for **Music** ministry, described the broad participation in services and programs such as the children's pageant in December, and explained an upcoming event, "Danville Sings," in which singers from predominantly white and black churches in Danville will join to present a program on Saturday, April 5, on the grounds of the Danville Museum of Art and History. This event grew out of Danville United's effort to improve race relations in the city.

David Fuquay, for **Finance**, said the church finished 2013 in the black, by \$233. He made a motion that three funds now listed separately in the budget be transferred into the general operating account. The motion was approved unanimously.

Richard Turner, for **Staff Parrish**, said they plan quarterly meetings. ... Dan Waters, for **Missions**, said we are entering a covenant with Dr. Manyeza, missionary in Zimbabwe, and looking at a partnership with GLH Johnson school. ... Gary Benefield, for **Evangelism**, said the committee invites ideas for outings on the church bus; Bonnie Griffith is the person to contact. Fellowship in the Winn Chapel after the 11 a.m. service is going well; visitors have been joining in, and three visitors seem interested in becoming members. ... Catherine Bendall, for **Caring**, said Valentines cards are up for signing, and recognized Betty Leggett and Ann Williamson for their service each month at the Stratford House communion service. ... Melissa Herke, for **Young Adults**, said they are having a Bible study every other week on Sunday evenings until April, and listed many trips and activities recently completed or planned in the next few months. ... Lindsay Payne, for **Children's House Board**, explained plans for Children's House to transition to preschool plus full daycare in Fall 2014, and recognized Leslie Navis for doing an outstanding job as director.

Barry Foster said (1) Averett University's Charles Harris, after meeting with Mount Vernon people to look at the parsonage, is looking into costs and rezoning that would be required for it to meet Averett's needs. (2) There is a possibility Mount Vernon will participate in "church pairing" with our neighbor church Trinity Baptist, in some yet-to-be-determined way, as part of the Danville United effort to improve race relations. (3) The Danville John Bland Music Competition, sponsored by Lions Clubs, may be held in our Fellowship Hall on a Saturday in February.

**Present:** Martha Jo Hodges, Dan Waters, Richard Turner, Tim Navis, Leah Cooter, Catherine Bendall, Gary Benefield, Barry Foster, Pat Maurakis, Margaret Scott, Fran Ashby, Linwood Wright, Sonny Morton, Melissa Herke, Lindsay Payne, Tom Underwood, David Fuquay. **Not present:** Carey Wilkes, Budge Kent, Beth Bauman, Bill Booker, Susan Daniels, Bill Smith.  
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