

**Mount Vernon United Methodist Church**  
**Church Council Minutes**  
**March 16, 2015**

Chair Sonny Morton opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m., and Barry Foster led the Council in prayer. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written.

Beth Bauman (**Children & Youth**) said 10 children attended the Sexuality Seminar in February. The children's spring musical will be April 19. A New York study trip for youth will be June 4-8, and "Hire-a-Youth" is ongoing (to help youth pay for the trip). Vacation Bible School will be June 22-26, with Beth deAristizabal in charge. July 15-16 our younger youth will have an overnight mission outing. The summer Crossroads mission trip will be July 26-31, and more adult volunteers are needed. Thanks to a generous donor, we have 8 new folding tables, small and lightweight, that can easily be set up (by anyone) in the Winn Chapel and elsewhere, as needed.

For **Trustees**, Budge Kent once again announced that members of the Danville Life Saving Crew will be our guests at the May 17 11:00 a.m. service. As Church Treasurer, Budge intends to discuss with the Finance Committee, at their next meeting on March 23, the need to publicize gifts in kind and gifts of required minimum distribution (RMO) to Mount Vernon.

Tom Underwood (**Property**) reported on the two people from FCS who clean the church twice a week.

Richard Turner (**Staff-Parish Relations**) reported that a farewell reception for Tony Miller was held after church on March 9.

Sam Newell (**Worship**) said this committee has met twice since the last Council meeting, discussing changes to make people feel more a part of worship, and to make visitors feel more welcome (greeters; improvements to the foyer). Possibly changing the offering plates. A big Easter service is planned, and there will only one service at 11:00 a.m.

Melissa Herke (**Young Adult Council**) said they had a social at the home of Derek and Alana Mitchell March 13. An Easter egg hunt/picnic for young adult families is planned for March 29. Young Adults will cook Wednesday dinner on April 22.

**Barry Foster** said the Council will probably have to go to the Foundation for funds to get through the summer. A music fundraiser is planned for the final Wednesday, dinner, April 29. The man who has been disruptive at several worship services has been sent to Central Hospital in Petersburg. New Members classes are being held, and we hope to receive six new members on the Sunday after Easter. A Seder meal is planned for Holy Thursday. Since the last regular Council meeting (January 19) five members have died: Ruth Callahan, Lois Kirkland, Margaret Powell, Dorothy Millner, and James Gauldin, Sr. Lindsay Payne said she researched the Penn Mausoleum, and learned where it is; David Fuquay found out that W.D. Rowe has a key to it.

— *Lin Benefield*

*Present: Sonny Morton, Barry Foster, Tom Underwood, Beth Bauman, Gary Benefield, Richard Turner, Lindsay Payne, Melissa Herke, Margaret Scott, Pat Maurakis, Catherine Bendall, Bill Smith, Martha Jo Hodges, Budge Kent, Sam Newell, Lin Benefield*