

Mount Vernon UMC Church Council Meeting

Monday, March 24, 2014, 7:00 p.m.

Church Council Chair Sonny Morton called the meeting to order, and Rev. Barry Foster led the members in prayer. The minutes of the January 27, 2014, meeting were approved with corrections.

Budge Kent, for **Trustees**, said Charles Harris of Averett University, after exploring the possibility of buying the church parsonage, decided Averett cannot afford to buy it, but would like to have figures for renting it. The Trustees are trying to ascertain the best policy on the parsonage for the future.

Tom Underwood for **Property** reported that everything in the kitchen is now working. See the report (on file) listing repairs and improvements made since the last meeting. Thank you to the eleven volunteers who painted the Children's House hallway.

David Fuquay, for **Finance**, reported that so far this year, the financial picture is close to what was projected in the budget for 2014. (See report on file.) There was discussion of whether and when to request a transfer of funds from the Mount Vernon Foundation Dot Rich Fund to cover the expected shortfall for operations this year. After discussion, David made a motion to request \$16,500 from the Dot Rich Fund now. Sonny Morton seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Gary Benefield, for **Evangelism**, reported that he has gotten a quote for purchasing 25 additional chairs for the Fellowship Hall (\$774.50), and the Memorials Committee has agreed to advance the funds. Gary made a motion that we purchase the 25 chairs. David Fuquay seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The committee is planning a bus excursion to the restaurant at VIR for dinner.

Catherine Bendall, for the **Caring Ministry**, said that so far this year the Triangle Lunch Team has provided lunch for 55 people (deaths in two families). Easter cards are on the bulletin board in the hallway; please sign.

Fran Ashby, for **Memorials**, said two requests for funds have been approved: the chairs (see Evangelism, above) and a digital tablet (similar to an iPad) for the Music ministry, on which Tim Navis will organize music for all our vocal and instrumental groups (as opposed to carrying around stacks of binders). The Memorials Committee invites other requests for funds.

Beth Bauman, for **Children and Youth Ministry**, asked everyone to publicize and promote the transition in Children's House – we will continue offering preschool but will add full day care starting in the fall of 2014. She expressed appreciation to Leslie Navis, Director, for excellent leadership. The Children's House fundraiser/chili supper raised over \$1,200. Our youth recently attended a retreat at Eagle Eyrie, which was one of the best Beth had ever experienced. Our children and youth will lead the worship service on April 6. The Senior Banquet is May 4.

Tim Navis, for **Music Ministry**, encouraged everyone to come to "Danville Sings" on April 5. He explained plans for the Palm Sunday and Holy Thursday services. We are looking at having a handbell camp this summer for our young bell ringers, along with West Main Baptist Church.

Sonny Morton, who serves on our team of counters, said things are coming together as we transition from having an in-house financial secretary to working with Howard Bolton, CPA. He requested an additional article in the newsletter explaining how flowers for the sanctuary are now handled.

Barry Foster said six students are enrolled in confirmation class.

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