

Mount Vernon United Methodist Church
Church Council Minutes
May 16, 2016

Chair Sonny Morton opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Rev. Bart Fletcher led the Council members in prayer. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written.

Beth Bauman (**Children & Youth**) gave updates on the District Youth Retreat in February, the children's musical in April, the Senior Banquet on May 15, and plans for the summer Crossroads mission trip in July and Vacation Bible School in June. Bible school will be held in the evenings this year since many of our children are unable to come during the day.

Tim Navis (**Music**) reported that Kathy and Joe Northen are a huge asset for our music program. The music fundraiser on May 4 brought in \$2,700. Several children plan to attend Kaleidoscope music and performing arts camp August 1 - 5, and Kathryn Waters will go with Tim as the second adult.

Tim announced that Leslie Navis (Children's House Director) recently earned an associate degree in Early Childhood Education at Danville Community College with a 4.0 average.

Tom Underwood (**Property**) reported that since the last Council meeting, the committee held a work day and made a number of repairs and improvements throughout the facility (see report, on file). Using \$1,000 from Memorials, Lindsay Payne and Chuck Sampson spearheaded a project in January to improve the pastor's office: new blinds installed, walls and trim painted, new countertops installed. See the report, on file, for further details.

Linwood Wright (**Finance**) said "we are in relatively good shape" but need pledges to be kept up to date during the summer. Financial statement for first quarter, on file.

Richard Turner (**Staff/Parish Relations**) is recruiting volunteers to cover the church office when Lin is on vacation.

Sam Newell (**Worship**) listed the special worship services since November and is looking into webcasting the 11 a.m. services.

Dan Waters (**Missions**) reported over \$1,700 was given for One Great Hour of Sharing; \$3,862 for the Advent (Habitat house) offering; and over \$2,500 for the Lent/Easter offering (African missionary Dr. Manyeza).

Dan is ordering a new microphone for the pastor (\$300), and looking into feasibility of installing two projectors and a "hearing loop" in the sanctuary.

Catherine Bendall (**Caring**) is ordering Upper Rooms to give to the homebound; the Landis Sunday School Class will pay for them.

Alana Mitchell (**Young Adults**) reported on the annual church picnic on Sept. 11, and said the Praise Team will probably resume in the fall.

Fran Ashby (**Memorials**) said as of May 8, there was \$20,800.00 in the fund.

Beth Bauman (for **Children's House**) said there are only a few openings for next fall, mostly for older children.

John Ranson (**Foundation**) said two college scholarships (\$2,250 total) have been awarded for 2016/2017, and disbursements of \$1,000 (Children's House), \$2,500 (Youth), \$2,000 (Children), \$1,500 (Missions-Stop Hunger Now), \$5,000 (Music), and \$1,000* (Children's House Scholarship Fund) will be made.

** Note from Margaret Scott, July 2016: The Children's House Scholarship was based on availability of funds as of June 30, 2016; the scholarship was \$2,000.*

Gary Benefield (**Evangelism**) said Wednesday Dinners for the fall will need new volunteers for the serving and clean-up teams in order to continue, because several regulars on the teams are "retiring."

Bart Fletcher said that typically he will be in the church office Monday–Thursday, in the morning or the afternoon, depending on what commitments he has on a given day or evening. If he's not in the church office, he can be contacted by cell phone: 763.248.2587 or at the parsonage: 857.2580 or by email: bartfletcher@vaumc.org.

– Lin Benefield

Present: Sonny Morton, Gary Benefield, Tim Navis, Linwood Wright, Beth Bauman, Leah Cooter, Bart Fletcher, Richard Turner, Budge Kent, Pat Maurakis, Alana Mitchell, Lin Benefield, Fran Ashby, John Ranson, Dan Waters, Tom Underwood, Catherine Bendall, Melissa Herke, Sam Newell