

Mount Vernon UMC Church Council Meeting

Monday, August 18, 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 May 19 meeting were approved with one change, and the minutes of the July 20 meeting with Trustees were approved as written.

Sonny Morton announced that the next meeting of the Council will be on Tuesday, September 16.

Beth Bauman, **Children and Youth Ministry**, reported on summer events (report on file) and coming events, such as a fall kick-off with breakfast on Sunday, Aug. 24 for Sunday school and Godly Play for young adults, youth, and children; the church picnic on Sept. 7, and the CROP Walk on Oct. 5. She announced that Joyce Underwood and Wendy Sampson will lead the 2's & 3's Sunday school class.

Tim Navis, **Music Ministry**, reported successful handbells camps for children in July and adults in August, in conjunction with West Main Baptist Church, and Music Day on Aug. 16 for handbell ringers and the Aldersgate Choir. The Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols will be at the 11 a.m. service on Dec. 14; the children's Christmas program on Dec. 17. He will be teaching music theory at Averett University for one or two semesters, a temporary assignment.

Budge Kent, **Trustees**, said Averett University has no further interest in the parsonage.

Tom Underwood, **Property**, reported on repairs and improvements at the church and the parsonage (see report on file). The nursery door project is underway.

David Fuquay, for **Finance**, reported that the financial situation for the year is unfolding, so far, as projected (see report on file). To save cost and time, **the committee recommends that the church no longer send individual acknowledgments to members for memorial and honorarium gifts, since those are listed in the newsletter each month; however, non-members will continue to receive acknowledgments.**

Linwood Wright, **Worship**, said the committee fully supports the new time for the Lessons & Carols service, and expressed appreciation for the way handbells are being used flexibly in services, along with the talents of others such as Joe and Kathy Northen.

Dan Waters, for **Missions**, said the Lent offering for Dr. Manyeza totalled \$2,596, and the VBS offering of \$500 was sent to Heifer Project. Radio broadcasts are going well, and we now have the capability (WiFi) to stream/webcast services live online; he will do some preliminary investigation of cost and licensing issues.

Gary Benefield, **Evangelism**, said Wednesday dinners and programs will resume on Sept. 10, and some new kinds of programs are planned. Bonnie Griffith will continue to organize bus trips.

Catherine Bendall, **Caring Ministry**, expressed appreciation for the Triangle Lunch Team, which has provided lunches for many bereaved families over the past months.

Sonny Morton read a report by Lindsay Payne, **Children's House Board** director, highlighting the tremendous effort being made by Leslie Navis, director, along with Joyce Underwood (Smart Beginnings advisor) and Tom Underwood, Frank Cuthrell, and others to make the transition to preschool-plus-daycare and upgrade the facility. Lindsay informed Council that \$2,000 is needed to cover expenses through the end of 2014, since classes are not filled yet. **A motion was made and approved unanimously that Council request the funds from the Memorials Committee.**

Barry Foster announced that Charge Conference will be on Sept. 21, at 4:30 p.m. ... New Members Classes will begin on Sept. 7 and thirteen prospects will be invited ... he will be in Germany on Sunday, Oct 5, with Susan, who is performing there, and Beth Bauman's father and brother, the Reverends Jack and Walter Weikel, will lead our communion service ... stewardship Sundays will be Oct. 12–Nov. 2 ... infant baptisms are scheduled for Sept. 7 and 14 (Remmus Milligan and Emma Trent).

***Present:** Barry Foster, Linwood Wright, David Fuquay, Gary Benefield, Tom Underwood, Dan Waters, Beth Bauman, Leah Cooter, Catherine Bauman, Budge Kent, Sonny Morton, Pat Maurakis, Martha Jo Hodges, Tim Navis*
– Lin Benefield