

Church Council Minutes – Called Meeting

October 19, 2015

Mount Vernon United Methodist Church

Chair Sonny Morton opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m., and explained that this is a called meeting to approve material for Charge Conference.

Barry Foster led the Council in prayer. The minutes of the September meeting were approved as written.

Linwood Wright (**Finance**):

- Presented a 2016 “challenge” expense budget, showing expenses for 2015 and estimated expenses for 2016. He noted that the 2015 figures should have been higher; some 2015 expenses for salaries, lawn care, and janitorial service were inadvertently left out. Therefore, the reduction in expenses for 2016 are estimated to be at least \$12,000 more than shown. (*Budget on file*)
- Announced that Staff Parish and Finance Committees recommend salary increases of 2% in 2016 for the three staff members; the pastor’s salary will remain the same. This will increase the total cost of salaries in 2016 by \$2,263. The recommendation was approved unanimously.

Council approved unanimously the Pastor’s Accountable Reimbursement and Parsonage Exclusion for 2016.

Barry Foster distributed copies of the “Pastor’s Statistical Report,” which shows changes in membership since the previous Charge Conference. (*Copy on file*)

Lin Benefield, Recording Secretary

Present: Barry Foster, Sonny Morton, Linwood Wright, Tom Underwood, Richard Turner, Melissa Herke, Gary Benefield, Margaret Scott, Catherine Bendall, Leah Cooter, Budge Kent, Lin Benefield.