

St. Peter's United Methodist Church
Church Council Meeting
May 21, 2023 after worship

Present

Brian Davis, Holli Forlines, Shelley Horton, Esther Gilman, Tom Gilman, Jen Kahler, Yun Kim, Dani Stockwell, Leon Stockwell, Phyllis Wiggins, Anna Williams, Mike Williams

Opening Prayer

Leon offered our opening prayer.

Review Minutes

March 12th meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

Financial Update

Mike reported that actual church expenses (\$59,334) are 17% under budget (\$71,660) through the end of April. Since we aren't paying the music director or accompanist salaries, personnel expenses are coming in well under budget. Despite being well under budget, our giving isn't keeping up with expenses. April YTD actual total general budget expenses are \$73,530 with giving at \$69,100, which leaves us with a \$4,430 deficit. The good news is that May giving is looking good so far. The memorial fund is down considerably, due to the improvements to the sound system. During our last meeting Mike discussed drafting a policy on how to handle memorial funds that have been in the account for an extended period of time. He will write up a policy to present at the next council meeting. It was mentioned that the families whose memorial funds were used for the sound system improvements wanted a small plaque to be mounted on/near the sound board stating that it was given in memory of Jim Smith, Anne Sirc, and Cathy Morgan. Leon and Mike will look into that and report back at the next meeting.

Missions Update

Esther shared that we will be packing Kits for Conference next Sunday after worship. We are also currently helping Kenwood UMC with a shoe drive. Additionally, Esther will be checking with Amanda and Brian on the best date for the Clothes Closet.

SPR Update

Anna broadcasted the music director position again in April through Facebook, VAUMC website, Randolph-Macon, University of Richmond, VCU, and CNU. She also renewed the job listing on the American Guild of Organist website. Unfortunately, there have been no inquires. The SPR committee is working on Yun's annual evaluation that is due June 1.

Trustees Update

Tom said there isn't much to report for Trustees. One of the 20+ year old HVAC units for the sanctuary is failing. Trustees approved to go ahead and replace it.

Children / Youth Ministry Update

Jen is getting ready to wrap up Kids' Club and Youth for the summer. The Youth will be going on their mission trip to Spindale, NC for 4th of July week. They will also be staying in Bakersville a few days before to extend their stay so they can explore the Blue Ridge Mountains. Kids Camp is full, but Jen would like a few more to sign up for Youth Camp.

Men's Group

Leon said that Butch shared that the Men's Group assembled the carport but they still need to make it portable and anchor it in place. They served Easter breakfast following the Sunrise Service. Mens Group meets monthly and all are welcome. Next meeting will be on June 10th at 8:00am at Kitchen 33.

Pastor's Update & Disaffiliation Discussion

Yun shared that he emailed out the survey and also made hard copies available. So far, approximately 30 surveys have been returned. He will share results once they are all in. Several felt we need more information to help us move forward. After a great deal of discussion on the survey, Martha Stokes' presentation, fees associated with disaffiliation, differences between the United Methodist Church and the Global Methodist Church, the 2024 General Conference meeting and its decision, determining our current church membership, etc, we ultimately decided that we need more information and a town hall meeting as an open forum for discussion. Yun will reach out to DS Lee to ascertain his availability to meet with us, preferably during the worship service one Sunday.

Future meetings: Jul 9, Sep 24*, Nov 12 (September meeting rescheduled due to conflict)

Closing Prayer/Adjournment

Yun offered our closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Anna Williams