

Saint Mark UMC  
Church Council Minutes  
January 23, 2018

The request below from Richard Nelson was sent out to the church council for a vote by email, Thursday, January 4th. The request was approved by a majority of the church council - all responses were "yes."

The Building Operations and Kitchen Supplies line items have exceeded their 2017 budget allotment. The Finance Committee is asking for your approval to move excess budget money from Children's Ministry, Youth Ministry and Contemporary Worship to cover this shortfall. Deanna has gotten approval from Liz, Ryan and Tina, who will not be using all of their approved budget money this year.

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**6:30 P.M. Meeting called to order by:** Richard Nelson

**Welcome and Approval of Minutes:** The November, 2017 Minutes were reviewed by the members present.

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Scott Perry and seconded by Rev. Ryan Karr. All voted in favor.

Richard Nelson introduced himself as new Church Council Chair. He opened with discussing a new structure for our Council meetings, the Church Council's common core values, leadership development, our role as council members, how to be better leaders and the ability for members to be able to step in and serve in leadership roles.

Stated that the "new format" of the council meetings will be with "popcorn reporting" for those who wanted to provide praise, news, plans, etc. and to try and focus on keeping the meeting flowing and the goal of trying to keep the meeting to one hour duration. We can certainly change the format going forward if we do not think it works well.

**Core Values and Leadership Development** - Presented by Rev. Drew Clayton.

Rev. Clayton listed 6 Core Values with emphasis on No. 5 – Culture of Assuming the Best to extend grace with the best of intentions as far as our ministry areas are concerned. Working with the Core Values, there is Leadership Development based on a book called "15 Commitments of Conscious Leadership" that the Saint Mark Staff has done together - wants us to be bathed in scripture. Each month, Drew will highlight a commitment for us as Church Council to concentrate on. This month's is "Responsibility" (Ephesians 4:1 – "I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.") He drew a line on the whiteboard and said we are either living life "above the line" i.e. WHEN LIFE IS LIVED BY ME (not alone, using analytical skills, positivity, commit to support others) or "below the line" i.e. WHEN LIFE HAPPENS TO ME (a choice, basement of our souls, reactionary). The Council read aloud the wording provided on the Agenda, which gave a commitment paragraph to each way we choose to live.

**Celebrations and Collaborations – “popcorn” reporting:**

- Bonnie Gaston celebrated our Facebook live broadcasts and stated that her daughter Charli was able to see the service from Ecuador.
- Joan Purse stated that the sound system and visual aids are all good. There are new microphones on pulpit and lectern.

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- Sally McClanahan stated we were able to pay full apportionment to conference.
- Rev. Clayton stated Rev. Karr is still working on the poll results for use with contemporary worship.
- Sandy Jenkins/ELC Director stated registration is complete for August; there are a few spots left, raising tuition for next year.
- Karl Turner stated he enjoyed being a part of the choir and all the music this past season.
- Richard Nelson stated he enjoyed seeing his children participating in Christmas Eve Service. Several council members agreed.
- Ruth Miller stated several hundred attended the Christmas Eve services.
- Tina Nelson said Youth “Souper” Sunday sale raised \$713.00 for Choir Tour; Ryan Karr lead Sr. High day retreat which leads up to Discovery Weekend 3/2-4.
- Carol Moats stated over 100 women attended Recommit Conference this past weekend.
- Ann Gipson stated the Sr. Adult Ministries has had some meetings and mid-February will be a lunch at Magnolia Café. Karl Turner will provide quartet.
- John Nelson – Family Life Retreat reported 110 registered as of today (last year approx. 145 attended); final meeting next Wed. (1/31) 6:00 to assemble packets; bus will be provided again this year; there will be a 5-K event and other activities; looking for a new leader for next year. John elaborated on how Richard Nelson has helped him tremendously on heading up the planning on FLR and hopes no one thinks you have to do it alone and developing leaders to make it an easy transition to take on a leadership position.

New Activities:

- Tina Nelson reported the Youth Pancake Breakfast is 2/10/18 in Family Life Center; \$5 per plate; Elmo will be there.
- Ryan Karr stated Lent series starts Wed. 2/14/18 (Valentine’s Day) entitled “Famous Last Words.”
- Drew Clayton stated April 1, 2018, Easter Sunday, would be soft launch for Modern Service.
- Carol Moats said nominations are being accepted for the UMW Special Mission Recognition Pins. The deadline is Wed. January 31. Pins are given to honor individuals’ work for and commitment to missions. Completed forms may be left in the UMW box.
- Carol Moats stated 2/24 is a Rock-A-Thon for McCoy Methodist.
- Ron White reported that next Respite Care is 2/9 and they still need volunteers; about 15-20 kids attend; trying to have 3 groups to serve 4x a year. Right now, only have 1 group.
- Ron White reported Mexico Mission trip is 3/23-4/1 and there will be a meeting this week for anyone interested.
- Tina Nelson stated Discovery Weekend is 3/2-4 and so much planning goes into this event; come and pray for all involved the Saturday night during that weekend.

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- Ruth Miller stated that some of the adult choir members would be attending a Handbell Festival at 3:00 PM on March 3 at Pleasant Hill.

**Business (Old and New)**

Opened floor for any old business that needed to be discussed. There was none.

Deanna Holmes reported being able to use designated giving money first before using different areas of the budget money allowed us to come in under budget and we were able to give 100% of conference apportionment. She went over the finance highlights emphasizing that we started the 2018 with net operating cash of \$64,438.

Paul Connor reported that “Passport” (Anna Goode) will be using our facility (Youth Center) during the week that our youth will be on Choir Tour. There will be 20-60 youth will go out and work on houses in need of repairs during the day.

Paul Connor said that bus driver training is usually provided each year before summer activities are to begin. We certainly are in need of more people to be bus drivers – preferably some younger drivers since the usual ones are getting older and have been driving for a number of years and do not want to make the long overnight trips any longer.

Paul Connor discussed the HVAC and projected cost for 3 new units.

Our next meeting will be 2/27/18.

The meeting was adjourned after Rev. Clayton provided a prayer of dismissal.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Wood  
Recording Secretary