

Saint Mark UMC
Church Council Minutes
August 28, 2018

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

Welcome and Approval of Minutes: The July, 2018 Minutes were provided to members by email. Richard asked if there were any questions or comments about July's minutes. There were none. Richard asked for a motion to approve. Motion made by Rob Wood; seconded by Scott Myers. All voted in favor.

Core Values and Leadership Development -

Richard addressed Culture of Sharing Time & Money. Richard's emphasized that everyone on Church Council are already giving their time and he questioned how "we" can get other laity church members to give their time and efforts. Relaying a positive attitude would go a long way when we're speaking with others about where and how we spend our time as volunteers, etc.

DREW CLAYTON: addressed The 15 Commitments of Conscious Leadership
Commitment #10 – "Opposite of My Story"

Jesus is not a threat: "Going from that place, he went into their synagogue, and a man with a shriveled hand was there. Looking for a reason to bring charges against Jesus, they asked him, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?" He said to them, "If any of you has a sheep and it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will you not take hold of it and lift it out? How much more valuable is a person than a sheep! Therefore it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath." Then he said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." So he stretched it out and it was completely restored, just as sound as the other. But the Pharisees went out and plotted how they might kill Jesus." – Matthew 12:9-14

Reminder to live above the line ("by" me) - not below the line ("to" me).
Asked everyone to read out loud together:

1. WHEN LIFE HAPPENS TO ME:

I commit to believing my stories and the meaning I give them as THE TRUTH. (This is egocentric)

2. WHEN LIFE IS LIVED BY ME:

I commit to seeing that the **opposite of my story** is as true, or truer, than my original story. I recognize that I interpret the world around me and give my stories meaning.

Drew played a short video "I noticed / I imagined" i.e. less judgment / extend grace - -

Celebrations and Collaborations –

Ryan Karr: Baptism in Modern Worship this past Sunday! We have a new stage, we're painting ELC, working on the coffee shop, lighting, is in need of a nice reading chair if anyone knows or has one they would like to donate.

Scott Myers: cannot go without praising the 4480 Response! Deanna Holmes confirmed \$18,000 so far (72 givers). \$1,800 of this will go to the Benevolent Fund. It was asked if it's a 1-Sunday thing or will it be extended. Drew said not sure of "Rise Against Hunger"['s] rhythm on donations but it was suggested that we make last call via Facebook link to 4480 since some people may not have been in attendance on the one-Sunday that this was a focus.

Saint Mark UMC
Church Council Minutes
August 28, 2018

Ruth Miller: reported that the Traditional Service has lots of children involved – acolytes, crucifers and reading scripture.

Scott Perry (SPRC) provided an update:

“Welcome Back” Ashley Kirby! – You were certainly missed! Thanked everyone who chipped in to keep management of the building going as smooth as possible. Last night the first 2 candidates were interviewed for Director of Student Ministry. Others have expressed interest through other avenues and reiterated our partnership with Connect YM – Consulting Agency. Cassady Wade has certainly stepped up in her role at Student Council President and Amie Smith and Ruth Miller have really helped with all the youth and their activities while we are in this transition.

Scott Perry/Liz Benninger reported that Barbara Patton (who has worked with Saint Mark for 18 years) is retiring – her last day was Sunday, August 26. She provided notice the first of July and asked for discretion. She works full-time and is having some minor health issues. She does not want any attention and did not want to be on a long continuation of saying good-byes. Even though we want to express to her how she’s blessed us with her presence and dedication to our children, she expressed to Scott how she has been blessed seeing so many of our children start with her and growing into such responsible adults for 18 years. She does not want any type of celebration, etc. SPRC is wanting to do something but convincing Barbara is going to be a challenge.

Cassady Wade said the Youth Retreat last month had 20+ kids and it was a great success. Next month is a Jr. High Retreat at Camp Up-A-Notch.

Ryan Karr: 8/4 paintball event – was a lot of fun

Paul Conner said the Trustees have a lot going on and the report is provided on the hand-out; “lights are still on!”

Sandy Jenkins: ELC – all going well! Getting great feedback – you can tell all is well when you walk down the hallways.

Richard Nelson asked for “popcorn” reporting for up and coming events:

- Tommy Traynham – Communications Ministry had to regroup but they are getting back on track and he will hopefully have an update by next meeting.
- Wonderful Wednesdays STARTING 9/5
- October 7 is World Communion Sunday – all choirs will sing
- Sunday, September 9 / 5:00 PM – Accountability Group Meeting
- Sunday, September 30 “Blessing of Animals” - - NEED LOTS OF HELP - -
- Drew Clayton – staff met with Officer Crim – Vestavia Police Dept. about Emergency Preparedness i.e. active shooter training
- Fall Festival – October 28 (4:00 pm – 6:00 pm)
- “Children’s Hope Chest” – BK Orphanage is closing (60 orphans) Missions Meeting – skyped for last time last week; don’t know if we’ll get another orphanage; families being split/sibling

Saint Mark UMC
Church Council Minutes
August 28, 2018

getting split (6 different places); Jill Mann – kids are very anxious; kids ripped apart (again); the head director retired and low number of orphans

- Ruth Miller – very pleased that the children are participating as acolytes and crucifers along with the adults. Children have also been involved in Scripture Reading.
 - Rehearsals for the children begin on 9/5, as part of Wonderful Wednesday
 - Regular rehearsals for Godspeed begin on 9/9.
 - We had a successful getaway when we welcomed some new members.
 - Worship Committee meets on Thursday to make plans leading to Advent.
 - New members of that committee will be given job updates.

- Ann Gipson – October 20 ReMarkAbles Luncheon: entertainment will be Delores Hydock, a nationally recognized actress and storyteller.

- Drew Clayton – football event with Bobby Humphrey this past Sunday – (Siran Stacy gave his testimony and how he dealt with his anger after losing his family in a terrible automobile accident). The event was a tremendous success. Good News Sunday School Class provided/served a delicious meal.

Questions about Finance Highlights

Drew Clayton – Stewardship Campaign end of September/1st of October.

- Nominations for Lay Leadership coming up; need new nominees;
- Who will own Family Life Retreat (February 2019)?
- Griffen Cope is a new intern probably until the end of the year. He is a student at B'ham Southern College in pre-ministerial curriculum and will be helping with student ministry here at Saint Mark and will be shadowing three ministers

BUSINESS (Old and New):

After determining there was no further business to report, Richard Nelson asked for a motion to adjourn. Proper motions were made.

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

Our next meeting will be September 25.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Wood
Recording Secretary