



CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

June 23, 2009

ATTENDING: Mark Thompson, Joanie Thompson, Jim Emerson, JoAnna Emerson, Leon Couch, Kay Greathouse, Dan Greathouse, Randy Stacey, Cecile Morse, Liz Shaw, Larry Shaw, Muffett Emmanuel, Cleo Abbott, Dr. Harold Henderson, Frank Ferreri, Jim Nation, Margaret Steptoe, Bill Steptoe, Ann Phillips, Herb Phillips, Jim Bishop, Pam Church, Jack Church, Amy C Watson, Mary Kilgour, Audrey Lewis, Joe Willcox

Mary Kilgour presiding - Opening prayer by Frank Ferreri

Minutes of May 26, 2009 meeting approved as circulated

STAFF REPORTS

1. Preschool Director - Amy Watson - Written report attached
2. Helping Hands Clinic - Randy Stacey - Verbal report
3. Director of Music - Robert Jackson - away - Written report attached
4. Children, Youth and Young Adults - Frank Ferreri - Written report attached
5. Assistant Pastor - Carl Romey - excused for ensuing discussion
6. Assistant Pastor - Bill Yeager - excused - Written report attached
7. Senior Pastor - Dr. Harold Henderson - Written report attached in which he elaborates upon a challenge/opportunity presented by a change in circumstances requiring Bill Yeager to seek full time employment, here or elsewhere, and Dr. Henderson's strong recommendation that his employment at FUMC be extended to full time.

Jim Nation, as chair of the Staff Parish Relations Committee, reported upon favorable deliberation and action by that committee concerning Rev. Yeager's full time employment and concurrent issues with respect to a change in Frank Ferreri's circumstances raising a need for family health insurance, and desired adjustment in Rev. Romey's salary, with recommendations to the Finance Committee for those adjustments.

Audrey Lewis, as chair of Finance, reported on extended discussions of the SPRC actions as illustrated in the attached "Analysis of Staff Parish Recommendations" including budget alterations leading to a favorable recommendation to the Church Council.

Jack Church spoke of initial success in augmenting additions to current budget income to help meet the recommended additions to salaries and other expenses.

There followed an extended discussion of all changes and recommendations culminating in a consensus motion as follows:

- 1- Move assistant pastor Bill Yeager from half time salary to full time employment resulting in an increase of \$19,908 effective July 1, 2009,
- 2- Increase Frank Ferreri's salary \$2,750 effective August 1, 2009 to allow for acquisition of private health insurance,
- 3 - Pay additional FICA tax for Frank Ferreri \$211
- 4 - Increase assistant pastor Carl Romey's salary\$2,000 effective July 1 for the remainder of 2009.

Submitted to a vote by show of hands the foregoing motion passed overwhelmingly.

With a closing prayer by Mary Kilgour the meeting was adjourned.

Note: Minutes and a full set of written reports will be available in the church office for approximately one month.

Joe C. Willcox, Secretary

First United Methodist Church
Council Meeting 6-23-2009

Report from the Director of Music

Once again, I am submitting this report in absentia. I am currently staffing the Music and Liturgical Arts Week music conference in Lake Junaluska, North Carolina.

Summer brings many opportunities for me to schedule continuing education. I have just finished my first of two music conferences which are scheduled in June. The Florida Chapter of The Fellowship of United Methodists in Music and Worship Arts sponsored its annual Church Music Workshop at Florida Southern College in Lakeland, Florida. It was a great week of worship, choral rehearsals and fellowship. I am currently in Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, staffing and attending the Music and Liturgical Arts Music Week also sponsored by The Fellowship. I am serving as the Handbell Assistant for the week as well as taking advantage as some excellent worship services and seminars offered throughout the week.

In July, I will be staffing the National Convocation – *Imagination 2009* - in Orlando sponsored by The Fellowship. I am the Vendor-Exhibit Coordinator and responsible for entire exhibit hall of 25 vendors and exhibitors. As is my practice during my absence, the choirs will also be taking some time off during the summer. In their stead will be soloists and ensembles bringing special music to the worship services.

Sunday, August 30 we will be hosting Jim Hendricks for a piano recital and our own Melanie Yeager will be presenting her first organ recital in November.

I am continually grateful for the talent and willingness of so many church members to give of their time to rehearse and help lead this church in worship and song.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert W. Jackson, Director of Music Ministries

Frank Ferreri -- Report to Church Council -- 23 Jun 2009

I'd like to begin my report tonight by expressing gratitude for the many ways I've been blessed by the FUMC family of late.

As I mentioned in my sermon on Sunday, the experience that I've had with Tom, Betsy, and baby Lissy has made quite an impact on me and taught me much about the hand and voice of God. I'm thankful to the family and to Rev. Yeager for involving me in the baptism last Thursday. Please keep Lissy in your prayers; the news of late has been good, and it would be good for the family if things could remain steady and stable for a while.

I'm also glad to report that one of our youth, Cortney Powers, is able to lend a helping hand around here this summer. Cortney is a rising senior at GHS and needs to accumulate some volunteer hours to earn a Florida Bright Futures scholarship. Actually, she has more than enough hours accumulated over the years, but she has never documented them. Cortney is a real leader in our youth group and is wise and

mature beyond her years. It is my hope that she will consider a career in ministry some day because she has the gifts to make a real impact in that vocation. Many of you probably know Cortney because she sings in the choir fairly regularly. She will mostly be helping me complete the tasks that I usually put on the back burner, and she will also be helping Cristle Alfred with filing. Additionally, she is a talented singer, and we have already begun to put that talent to use in our Monday chapel service.

We have several upcoming youth events planned in the coming weeks. Next Monday, we will be distributing snack bags and refreshments to Helping Hands patients before and during clinic time. This has been a successful operation in the past and one that's greatly appreciated by the patients. On July 4th, Karen Harris and Sandy Evans have been kind enough to offer to host a cookout at their lake house, and we are glad to take them up on that offer. Also, in early July, I'm inviting the parents of the youth to a special dinner at restaurant as an expression of thanks and encouragement to them as well as an opportunity for them to come together in fellowship.

I'm looking forward to our vacation bible school this year. There are a handful of families from outside the church who have signed up for it, and I'm hoping and praying that the VBS experience will draw them into the church. I'm quite thankful for all who have volunteered to be a part of our VBS team.

The Stewardship Committee is making headway into this year's campaign with a deep desire to make this campaign one that is really strong for the long-term financial health of the church. We face some challenges this year, but we've got a great leader (in my humble opinion) and some fresh blood on the team. That committee has been great for as long as I've been associated with it, but I'm especially thankful to Gabriela and Alberto Azeredo, John Bevis, Jim and Kim Hasko, Trish Eccles, and Tim Leslie for always giving so much creative energy to our group.

I would like to express thanks to all who contributed to the areas for which I made requests with the Pentecost "birthday gift" for the church. That is a tremendous help, and I want to assure everyone that you will soon be seeing your gifts in use. In fact, it's already enabled me to purchase improved materials for our Wednesday summer youth class and for our Sunday evening youth fellowship lessons.

My thanks also to everyone who's been supporting our summer dinners on Wednesday evenings. I know that the meals aren't huge or gourmet, but we've managed to pull them off at low cost, and thanks to your contributions, we've been able to turn a small profit each week, which goes to help fund youth events and activities. We greatly appreciate it.

Lastly, I leave you with two prayer requests, in addition to the one for the Gills. As some of you may know, Wesley Evans is away at Duke University at a summer program for academically advanced teenagers. Unfortunately, not long after arriving, Wesley came down with the swine flu. I spoke to him yesterday and he sounded well but he's in quarantine and cut off from all human contact for the next week. More than anything, he's disappointed about missing the program -- he looks forward to it all year and so I know this is quite a let down for him. Also, please remember Noah Mitchell in your prayers. Many of you will remember Noah from his time in the youth group here; he is the brother of Ian Mitchell and he's studying for the ministry at a school in England. Currently, he is back stateside and raising funds for a mission trip to Africa this summer.

Thanks to all for all you do for FUMC, Gainesville. Respectfully submitted,

Frank Ferreri, Director of Children, Youth, and Young Adults

First United Methodist Preschool (FUMPers) Report

-presented to the Church Council on June 23, 2009

We are currently in Summer Break for the children and staff at FUMPers!

We had 9 children who graduated and will move on to Kindergarten, please pray for them and their parents as they continue their education.

Throughout the year, we had a lot of great days, but, I wanted to share a few of the highlights of the past school year:

- We implemented Spirit Days this year. We encourage the children and staff to wear their FUMPers shirt on Mondays or Tuesdays to promote the school.
- We had a lot of participation from the parents and the church staff during our Community Helpers month. These visits ranged from Firefighters to Mathematicians.
- Our PreK class learned about and then performed a circus for their parents.
- During Chapel time, one of the highlights was teaching the children the Lord's Prayer.
- We made lots of books this year: A Science Journal (the children dictated what they saw as a bean plant grew), My Adventures with Clifford (each child took turns sharing time with a stuffed animal) and All About Me (sharing things that are important to each child)
- We have been very busy learning with all of these activities plus so many more!

Thank you for your support of this ministry of FUMC,

Amy C. Watson, Director, First United Methodist Preschool (FUMPers)

REPORT TO CHURCH COUNCIL

23 JUNE 2009

ASSISTANT PASTOR WILLIAM H. YEAGER

The two priorities of my work, pastoral care and adult education, continue to challenge and inspire. As the pace slows during the summer months, opportunities arise to organize and focus, and specific acts take on deeper meaning.

The Care Partner Team met for the first time on June 2nd to plan for the serving of Holy Communion to those who are unable to attend Sunday Worship on a regular basis. We began with eight volunteers, agreeing on procedure and reviewing the unique situations of about fifty "care partners". The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 7th, at which time the first assignments will be given to the volunteers and the pastoral staff. The plan is to begin simply and expand the care as specific needs are identified.

The Wednesday Evening Studies will conclude tomorrow night. Attendance has held steady over the six weeks (averaging sixty), and I want to extend my thanks again to the leaders of the four offerings (UM Beliefs- Harold Henderson, Sisters Bible Study- Trish Eccles, The Meaning of Prayer- Jim Knight, and The Unfolding Drama of the Bible). Please be reminded of the video series on the five Wednesday evenings of July, following the snack suppers, centering on the heritage of The United Methodist Church. I have already received numerous good ideas for the Fall schedule, and we are considering reviving the Disciple Bible Studies. There are some excellent new short term courses including Genesis, The Gospel of John, and Romans that are now available from "Disciple."

Recently, Jim Nation asked me to list the various duties that have become part of my daily, weekly, monthly, and seasonal work within FUMC. If he has not done so already, I am sure that Jim would be open to sharing this with the Church Council. Rather than repeating the information given to the Staff-Parish Committee, however, I want to tell of two days since the last meeting of this body that illustrate the honor and privilege that I have in serving as an Assistant Pastor within this portion of the Body of Christ.

The first was Friday, June 5th. As Pastor Emeritus of University UMC, I was called upon to conduct the memorial service for a long time member of UUMC. In meeting with the family of Helen Ellis, I learned that they had been a part of First Church many years ago, including Sunday School, the Scouting program, serving as acolytes, and much more. Of course, this is not at all surprising. The long and deep ties between our two churches are well documented. Mrs. Ellis had been the first paid leader of the March of Dimes here in Alachua County. Those footsteps were later followed by Lynda Knight, and I could go on and on about the inter-relationships within these two faithful congregations. Many of the founding members of the University Church were persons from here who answered a special call to be in ministry to and with college students. Most importantly now, the time has come for us to answer an equally special call to be in ministry to and with the members of University UMC, and I pray that we will be up to this gracious task.

The second day was Thursday, June 18th. We received word that Melissa Gill was dangerously ill in the NICU 3 at Shands. Frank Ferreri was there with her family and, on their behalf, asked that we come to conduct and celebrate Melissa's baptism. I was honored to baptize the newest of our members, with Betsy and Tom, Betsy's mother representing the extended family, the hospital staff, and Frank representing the whole congregation of FUMC. We all pray that we might, in God's grace, remember this baptism in the fullness of the Sanctuary on a Sunday morning very soon. We continue in prayer even as this report is being read...

Grace and Peace,

Bill Yeager