



Church Council Meeting January 24, 2012, 7:00pm

## Agenda

**Welcome by Chair,** Mary Kilgour

**Opening Prayer**

**Minutes:** approval of November 22, 2011 Minutes distributed by e-mail December 16, 2011

**New Business -**

1. Nomination & Leadership Development Committee - Harold Henderson
2. Finance Committee - Tom Young
3. Staff Parish - Jim Knight
4. Trustees - Sandy Evans
5. United Methodist Men
6. United Methodist Women
7. Mission & Outreach
8. Other Committees, as desired

**Staff Reports -** *Please limit your oral presentation to highlights; longer written reports may be presented to Jim Nation, secretary, and Leon Couch, webmaster, for the record and website.*

1. Carl Romey - Assistant Pastor
2. Julie Cole - Administrator
3. Amy Watson - Pre-School Director
4. Randy Stacey - Helping Hands Clinics
5. Robert Jackson - Director of Music
6. Rachael Jordan - Youth Leader
7. Aaron Stegemoller - Children's Leader
8. Harold Henderson - Senior Pastor

**Old Business**

1. "Voice It" Comments - Chair

**Closing Prayer**

**Next Meeting: February 28, 2012, 7:00pm**

## FUMC GAINESVILLE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**January 24, 2012, 7:00 PM**

**Persons Present:** Cleo Abbott, John Bevis, Julie Cole, Margaret Couch, Leon Couch, JoAnna Emerson, Jim Emerson, Muffet Emmanuel, Kay Greathouse, Dan Greathouse, Peggy Halsey, Bob Jackson, Rachael Jordan, Mary Kilgour, Barbara Kirby, Linda Knight, Jim Knight, Jim Nation, Ann Phillips, Sue Sharp, Elizabeth Shaw, Larry Shaw, Randy Stacey, Amy Watson.

**Welcome by Chair -** Mary Kilgour

**Opening Prayer –** Bob Jackson

**Minutes:** approval of November 22, 2011 Minutes distributed by e-mail December 16, 2011

**New Business –**

1. Nominations & Leadership Development Committee – Muffet Emmanuel reported for Harold Henderson, who was ill and not present. Muffet presented the list of names of persons for church leadership. The Charge Conference in 2011 gave us authority to complete this action after the Charge Conference, rather than before. Some vacancies will still need to be filled. Peggy Halsey made the motion to accept the present additions and Randy Stacey seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor of adoption of the present slate of Church Leaders.

2. Finance Committee – Tom Young – Tom Young was out of town and Julie Cole, FUMC administrator presented the financial data. The several forms of the data are included with the minutes in the FUMC office.

3. Staff Parish – Jim Knight –

a. Jim distributed copies of the revised Child/Youth Protection Policy and the Volunteer Leader Handbook. These came as a recommendation from the SPR Committee (no motion necessary from a Committee recommendation), and after brief discussion, the revised materials were accepted by unanimous vote. Official copies will be signed by the Chair of the Council and other officials of the Church, and they will be carried to the District Superintendent's office.

b. Jim announced that Carl Romey has resigned as assistant pastor because he has been appointed as the senior pastor of the First Nazarene Church in Gainesville. Carl's last Sunday with us will be February 5, when he will preach the sermon for that Sunday.

c. Jim finally reported that the SPR Committee had plans to meet with the District Superintendent on Tuesday, January 31, 2012 to discuss with her some of the characteristics we hope will be considered with the retirement of Harold Henderson and the appointment by the Florida Conference of a new senior minister. Jim said that FUMC would wait until we know who that person will be and then ask for his/her recommendation about an assistant or associate

minister. The list of characteristics for a new senior pastor that SPRC will discuss with the DS is attached to the minutes in the FUMC office.

4. Trustees – Sandy Evans – Sandy was not present, but John Bevis was present representing the Trustees. John said that no specific report was available.

5. United Methodist Men – Larry Shaw reported that meetings are held on a regular basis and that the next speaker at the UMM meeting will be Parker Lawrence, attorney, who will talk about organizing one's financial affairs, and gifts to the Church and charity. Larry said that the meeting would be open to anyone who wanted to come – not just men.

6. United Methodist Women – No report, as Mary Singley was absent.

7. Mission & Outreach – Peggy Halsey reported that FUMC will send about \$2200 to assist our sister Church in Cuba with the next group going there.

8. Other Committees or Individuals, as desired – no additional reports

**Staff Reports** – *Please limit your oral presentation to highlights; longer written reports may be presented to Jim Nation, secretary, and Leon Couch, webmaster, for the record and website.*

1. Carl Romey – Assistant Pastor – Carl was not present.

2. Julie Cole – Administrator – Julie indicated her pleasure at being hired as FUMC administrator, and said that she was beginning to organize and work on a variety of aspects that need attention. She said that the weekly bulletin needed to be done by a volunteer and she is actively looking for one or more persons to do that. Linda Knight, who is volunteering as the Volunteer Coordinator, will help identify one or more persons.

3. Amy Watson - Pre-School Director – A written report was handed out and is included with the copy of the minutes in the FUMC office. The census is down at the pre-school, in comparison with capacity, consistent with the current economic situation.

4. Randy Stacey - Helping Hands Clinics – Randy also handed out a brief summary of persons served by the Helping Hands Clinic on Monday afternoons and the Women's Clinic on Thursdays. That summary, which showed impressive growth in the numbers served, is included in the FUMC office.

5. Robert Jackson – Director of Music – BJ passed out a written report on the Music Program, and it is included in the office files.

6. Rachael Jordan – Youth Leader – Rachael had a verbal report of activities about the youth, who have been very active for the past two years. She reported a number of activities that will be conducted with the youth and with those in the Confirmation Class this year. She said that the Heifer Project was very successful, and about \$5000 dollars was raised (the initial goal has been \$1500). Rachael said that the Vacation Bible School (VBS) will be a joint endeavor

with Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in the summer. The Confirmation Class is planning a 30-hour famine project with Holy Trinity. In February, a few youth are planning to participate in a Leadership Team Building project.

7. Aaron Stegemoller – Children’s Leader – Aaron was not present; no report.

8. Harold Henderson – Senior Pastor – Harold was ill and not present; no report.

**Old Business**

1. “Voice It” Comments – Chair – no new concerns were submitted.

**Closing Prayer** – Dan Greathouse

**Next Meeting:** February 28, 2012, 7 PM

Minutes prepared by Jim Nation, Secretary for the Council.

Music Report  
Church Council – January 24, 2012  
First United Methodist Church

As I start laying out my plans for the new year, I can't help but think back at 2011 and am amazed at the number of changes that occurred or are about to occur within the staff here at First United Methodist Church. 2011 was a year of upheaval and major health related issues for so many of the staff. My prayer is that 2012 will bring us a much needed constancy in our staff and leadership.

But 2011 was also a year of growth for our music ministry. We saw increased participation in all areas – The Chancel Choir, the Instrumental Ensemble, Celebration Ringers and the Kidz Music Club. And from comments made by church members, it would appear we have also enhanced our musical presentations on Sunday mornings. Thanks be to God.

We have just concluded our third annual ecumenical service with Holy Trinity Episcopal where the combined choirs from both churches assisted in leading the worship of the two congregations. The anthems were two selections from the Festival of Choirs which both choirs participated in last October. I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to all choir members for their participation and willingness to go the extra mile to work jointly.

Below is a calendar of coming musical events:

February 22: Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Lenten season.  
March 10-11: 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Florida State Handbell Festival, Cape Coral, Fl.  
\*March 18: Bay Street Brassworks in concert (opening our 2012 concert series).  
April 1-8: Holy Week, beginning with Palm/Passion Sunday and ending with Easter.  
\*April 14: The Gainesville Pops in concert (Spring Arts Festival weekend).  
\*May 20: Kama Rasmussen, Piano Recital  
\*May 27: Pentecost Hymn Festival  
September 9: Steve Strite, Organ Recital

\*I have attached a copy of the Concert Series brochure which details all four events for 2012. You can also view this document on the church's web page.

Finally, I would also like to take this opportunity to publically express my deepest appreciation to Dr. Henderson, Lynn Sandefur-Gardner, the church staff, and the church membership, for allowing me time away and for covering for me during the months of October and November while I underwent and recovered from surgery. Although I returned to work more or less full time in December, the season was so busy I never had the opportunity to express my thanks for the concern and support I felt during that time.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Jackson

## **First United Methodist Preschool (FUMPers) Report**

-presented to the Church Council on January 24, 2012

### **Our Monthly Theme:**

During January, our days have been busy learning about different jobs people hold in the community, we also focused on MLK.

Our Hopping Frogs visited Publix and learned some behind the scenes surprises that the bakers use to make the deli treats.

Our Big Dogs learned about and celebrated Chinese New Year with a dragon parade through the church office area.

Tomorrow we will have a Wildlife Biologist to visit and teach us about pythons, then next week we will have a Dental Hygienist visit and teach us about good oral hygiene.

### **Our Bible Time Topics:**

During January, we have heard the story of Ruth and talked about fairness. Plus, we heard the story of David and how we need to depend on God. With God's help, we threw paper "stones" at a drawing of Goliath and talked about things that we are afraid of and how God can help us through them.

### **Our Monthly Community Service Project:**

During January, we collected gently used stuffed animals. Alachua Co. firefighters take these stuffed animals to frightened children after a fire rescue. We had a visit from Station #1 on the 18<sup>th</sup>. The children enjoyed climbing in and out of the fire truck in the rain!

### **Fundraising results:**

\$36.00 was raised by selling handmade candy cane ornaments for the scholarship fund.

\$435.29 was donated at Dickens Inn; this money is also for the scholarship fund.

### **Registration:**

We are currently ministering to 29 students at FUMPers including the one new student who joined us this month.

Thank you for your support of this ministry of FUMC Gainesville!

- submitted by Amy C. Watson

Director, First United Methodist Preschool

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