

**First Methodist Church
Church Council Minutes
February 22, 2023**

Present: Fletcher Poulk, Dykeman Baily, Parker Morris, John Floyd, Alan Leary,
John Civils, Larry Hughes, Powell Osteen

Welcome and Devotion by Fletcher: a word from David Jeremiah about how we are to be “a peculiar people”

Minutes, reviewed. Motion by John, second by Larry – approved.

Conversation about our Mission Statement. The Global Methodist Church is using: “worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly.” Motion made by Dykeman, seconded by Parker to use this for First Methodist Church – approved.

Announcement of March 26th 4pm Global Methodist Church of NC Worship Service
At Covenant Church in Greenville. All invited!

Finance Report by John Floyd. Review of Final Year End 2022 with slight adjustments. Review of January 2023. \$198,000 was moved to a restricted account: Abundance 2022. Expenses slightly over giving for the month. The 2023 Budget is about 11% higher than 2022 – largely from Trustees, Missions, and new staff positions. The Generosity Emphasis season – awaiting responses from pledge cards. We are actively seeking a Finance person.

Trustees report by Dykeman Baily. Cabinetry for bathrooms to be scheduled. Plaster repairs scheduled. Shower floor remodel scheduled. HVAC for Fellowship Hall scheduled for June/July. Food Trailer – The Extended Table – being prepped. Discussion on purchasing of new vehicles. Fiber optic coming soon. Additional electrical outlets in kitchen scheduled. Additional Handrails for steps to sanctuary balconies – not feasible. New HVAC for 912 Arendell. Planning for covered canopy for Bridges entrance. Loft roof leak under warranty and repaired. New 50 amp electrical hookup to be added for outside use of Food Trailer. Parking Lot to be regraded and paved – hopefully in summer. New ramp to be poured from Fellowship Hall to Courtyard.

SPRC report by Parker Morris. Already discussed the available Finance position. Positive comments on the value added already by Phil, Dir of Music and his expertise in sound and video – for improvements in livestreaming worship. SPRC members will engage more with their staff prayer partners. More involvement in staff reviews.

Worship report by Larry Hughes. Lent has begun! Tuesday Lenten worship and lunches starting next week. Preparations for Holy Week and Easter. Consider putting “grape juice” in bulletin on communion Sundays.

Discipleship Discussion – highlighting the value of small groups! Greater support for Sunday School teachers – schedule, recruitment, alternates.

Pastor Powell shared on ELC new Director and improvements, the Holy Land group, our new staff, needed Nominations, 12 Cub Scouts in Religious Emblem class, Lenten series using The Pilgrim’s Progress.

Alan Leary closed in Prayer.