

**First Methodist Church  
Church Council Meeting  
March 22, 2023**

The Church Council of the First Methodist Church met on Wednesday, March 22, 2023 at 7:00pm. Members present were Dykeman Baily, Loretta Baily, Claudia Beamon, Mary Day, ShannaDuMont, John Floyd, Larry Hughes, Joe Kirk, Alan Leary, Sandra Norris, Fletcher Poulk, Pastor Powell, and Sarah Williams.

Pastor Sarah opened the meeting with prayer and Fletcher Poulk presented a devotional. A motion was made to approve the minutes of the February meeting. It was seconded and all agreed.

**Finance Committee: John Floyd**

- John Floyd reviewed the February 2023 financial report.
- The Costa Rica Mission needs money in their restricted fund to subsidize the purchase of plane tickets. A motion was made to take \$10,000 from Abundance for these funds. The motion was seconded and all agreed.
- The church is still seeking a bookkeeper.

**Trustees: Dykeman Baily**

- Several electrical needs are being addressed, including flagpole lighting. ● The food truck is being wrapped. It will be rolled out on April 1 at Camp Albemarle. ● Duke Power will give credit if all church lighting is replaced with LED lighting. ● The church still needs to replace the church van. A motion was made to purchase a new 15 person mini-bus (walk in center aisle). The proposal from the finance committee was to use the Trustee Line item for van purchase and then completely payoff the bus with monies from Abundance. A second bus (24 person) is under consideration for a next purchase. A motion was made to purchase the new bus. It was seconded and all agreed.
- The residential property at 906 Bridges Street is for sale. The asking price is \$398,500 but the owners will accept \$380,000. The goal is for the church to own the property. A motion was made to make an offer to purchase in the amount of \$320,000 with a 30 day closing. The motion was seconded and all agreed.

**Staff Parrish:** No report

**Worship: Larry Hughes**

- There will be five services on Easter Sunday. One sunrise service, three traditional services (8:30, 9:45 and 11:00) and one contemporary service.
- A fund raiser luncheon to benefit the Hospice House will be held on Palm Sunday in the Fellowship Hall.

**Discipleship: Fletcher Poulk**

- Lenten Services have been well attended.
- Pastor Sarah reported that Sunday School attendance is growing but she would like to see more men volunteer to lead Sunday School and Sunday Nights.

**Waverunners: Claudia Beamon**

- The Waverunners made a trip to the Bellamy Plantation in February and to Edenton in March.
- Their next trip will be an overnight trip to the Billy Graham Library in Charlotte on April 18-19.

**Lay Leaders: Alan Leary**

- Our church keeps growing with new members joining each week.

**Shanna DuMont:**

- Volunteers have already signed up to help with Vacation Bible School. ●
- The church just ordered 20 bibles for the kindergarten group.
- Sunday night youth program is growing in attendance each week.

**Sarah Williams:**

- Youth are already registering for Project MHC which is scheduled for the week of June 11.  
There will be a volunteer meeting on April 23 at 6:30 pm in the Loft. There are many ways to volunteer.
- Nineteen people have signed up for the Costa Rica Mission. The trip is July 15 - 22.

**Pastor Powell:**

- The pastor of the Rhems Methodist Church is the presiding Elder of our district. The district meetings are usually held remotely via Zoom. The Rhems pastor needs a new notebook computer. A motion was made to donate \$4,000 to Rhems Methodist to purchase a new computer. It was seconded and all agreed.

Fletcher Poulk closed the meeting in prayer. The next meeting will be April 26.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandra Norris