

First Methodist Church

Council Minutes

November 29, 2023

The council met on Wednesday, November 29, 2023 at 7:00 pm in the large conference room. Members present were: Claudia Beamon, Mary Day, John Floyd, Alan Leary, Sandra Norris, Fletcher Poulk, Pastor Powell and Sarah Williams.

Pastor Powell opened the meeting in prayer and Fletcher presented a devotional. A motion was made to approve the minutes of the October 2023 meeting. It was seconded and all agreed.

Finance: John Floyd

- John reviewed the October financial report.
- A motion was made to add Mike Kinney as an authorized signor on all church bank accounts. The motion was seconded and all approved.

Trustees: Pastor Powell

- Getting quotes on signage for the box truck.
 - Painting is being done on the second floor of the Wallace Building. ●
- There is one tenant remaining in the Bridges Street house.
- The new sound system has been installed in the Sanctuary ● Sound system improvements to be done in the Fellowship Hall.

Staff Parish: Pastor Powell

- Staff Parish is receiving self assessments from staff. ● The lay staff IRA with 3% match will begin on January 1.

Worship: Pastor Powell

- A second Rise service will be added on Sunday, December 3 at 8:30. ● December 3 is Moravian Love Feast at 5:00 pm ● December 17 is the Chancel Choir cantata at 8:30 and 11:00 ● There are six Christmas Eve services on Sunday December 24. ● On December 31, New Year's Eve, there are only two services, 8:30 and 11:00. ● On Sunday, February 11, there will be a Service of One at West Carteret High School auditorium at 10:30 with a box lunch following

Sarah Williams

- The church delivered 236 Christmas boxes.
- Middle schoolers went to Busch Gardens in the new church van. ● High schoolers are going on a ski trip to Wintergreen in January.

Pastor Powell

- Choir Director, Ralph Wade will be retiring after 37 years of service. A motion was made to give a \$5,000 gift to Ralph for a Grecian cruise. The motion was seconded and all agreed.
- The flame and cross (symbol of United Methodist) was removed from outside the church and is being refurbished at a sign shop. It will be hung as a memorial.

Sarah Williams closed the meeting in prayer. The next meeting will be Wednesday, January 24, 2024.

Respectfully submitted, Sandra Norris