

First United Methodist Church of Orange
Church Council Minutes
Meeting of February 15, 2018

Attendants: John Warren, Sherri Fruge', Chris Abshire, Carol Allen, Theresa Beauchamp, Gary Bonneaux, Barbara Dardeau, Greg Defrates, Suzanne Magee, Ginger Williams. Absent: Betty Merchant, David Bridges, Tom Henry. Guests: Beverly Blalack, Jim Brown.

Beverly Blalack addressed the Council and mentioned the need for a person or persons to take care of small maintenance type requirements around the Church. She mentioned several areas that needed work that previously were taken care of by a large group of lay persons available for such tasks. Discussions were held about ways in which this could be addressed.

Chris Abshire updated the Council on the January financial results and mentioned that the actual income for month was approximately \$27,000 versus a budget of \$28,000 resulting in a net loss for the month of \$3,029. He stated that the Malloy rentals had not yet kicked off for the year and other expenditure areas were higher than expected. Gas costs are higher as a result of the colder weather in January. Greg Defrates mentioned that a transfer of maintenance expenses to memorial funds designated for this use will take place and improve the results of the general fund.

Chris Abshire informed the Council that the Slade Foundation will be donating \$18,000 per year and that \$14,000 is earmarked for a part time maintenance worker to assist with requirements similar to those indicated by Beverly Blalack earlier in the meeting. The plan is to hire this person and have the Building and Grounds team oversee the list of work to be performed. Greg Defrates agreed to review this matter further and present a recommendation to the Council.

Ginger Williams mentioned an issue related to the building rental fees that were updated in the last Council meeting and stated that the cleaning fee and deposits should be reviewed as the dollars may not apply to rentals of the smaller rooms. Sherri Fruge' made a motion to change the mandatory deposit to an amount that would be equal to the rental fee and to allow cleaning fees to be optional and subject to a waiver of the deposit should the facility require additional cleaning. The motion was seconded by Theresa Beauchamp and approved unanimously.

A review of insurance requirements was held and the Council indicated their concern over the costs of the various programs. Greg Defrates agreed to review and present a proposal to the Council through email correspondence prior to the next meeting. The Council agreed that time was of the essence in this matter since it was budgeted and communicated to staff members.

Jim Brown presented architect drawings of plans to update the Sanctuary to allow its use for both the Praise and Worship service and the Traditional service. The Council discussed the need for the update and the timing to present to the congregation for their input and involvement. Discussions were held to

present to the congregation over three Sundays beginning with February 25th and Jim Brown and Greg Defrates agreed to lead this effort.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.