

**First United Methodist Church of Orange**  
**Church Council Minutes**  
**Meeting of July 26, 2018**

Attendants: John Warren, Carol Allen, Sherri Fruge', Chris Abshire, Gary Bonneaux, David Bridges, Tom Henry, Suzanne Magee, Ginger Williams.

Absent: Theresa Beauchamp, Barbara Dardeau, Greg Debrates, Betty Merchant

Carol Allen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and John Warren began the meeting with a prayer and a devotional.

Chris Abshire presented the financial report and stated that pledge contributions were on target and non-pledge contributions significantly exceed the budget and are primarily related to contributions by attendants using the Malloy Center. Chris Abshire indicated expense areas that were exceeding budget to include office supplies, gas and yard maintenance which have been discussed in prior meetings. David Bridges pointed out that expenses at the Malloy Center were also significantly elevated as a result of the increased utilization and several maintenance issues must be reviewed. Discussions were held about the Malloy Center revenue and costs being included in the general fund and a motion was made by David Bridges and seconded by Tom Henry to breakout and report the revenue and expenses of the Malloy Center beginning January 1, 2018 and for future reports. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Discussions of the financial report continued and Chris Abshire indicated that the budget would be difficult to meet without increased revenue due to the expense areas that are exceeding budget. It was noted that the three conference apportionments that continue are mandatory. Discussions were held about contracts which will be renewed for use of the Malloy Center and at what point charges will increase. It was agreed that the contracts should be reviewed to confirm the termination date. The Council also noted that the Fall Fund raiser would be very important to generate required funds.

The next agenda item was to discuss the need for a Trustee Committee. David Bridges updated the Council on responsibilities to oversee the Trustees Fund and the need for more than the two representatives from the Council. Upon motion by David Bridges and second by Gary Bonneaux, it was unanimously approved to request that the nominating committee appoint a five person committee for the Trustees Fund. David Bridges indicated that he is familiar with five individuals that could serve on the committee and he agreed to make recommendations to the nominating committee.

The Fall Fund raiser was discussed next and John Warren suggested that Leighia Barron lead this effort with the assistance of others that have indicated interest. To date, 31 individuals from the 11:00 service have agreed to participate and John Warren stated that the 9:00 service will be canvased on Sunday, July 29<sup>th</sup> for additional names to participate. The Council discussed whether to consider venues other than the Church to have the event and it was agreed that other options should reviewed to enhance the

success of the event. Assignments were made of three additional venues to consider, LCM High School cafeteria, VFW Hall and Lutchter Theater.

Sanctuary renovations were discussed next and John Warren mentioned that a new leader should be considered for this effort due to time constraints of the individual previously in charge. It was agreed to review the individuals on the team and select an alternative leader for this task team.

Action items from previous meetings were reviewed. Suzanne Magee agreed to take on responsibility for establishing an education event (possibly Wednesday Night Live) for security measures for Church leaders and greeters. David Bridges updated the Council on insurance for incidents that would occur on Church property which include a \$1 million blanket policy and Sherri Fruge' updated the Council on contract requirements that are in the Emmaus contracts related to insurance which require that an insurance policy and indemnifications are in place. The Council discussed requirements by other attendants of the Malloy Center and Sherri Fruge' agreed to obtain the Rental Agreement and review the language. It was also noted that it would be helpful to have other individuals assist with a review to consider the legal language of the contracts.

For other items of consideration, John Warren mentioned a new APP that is being offered by the Orange Chamber of Commerce to promote utilization in the Orange area. It was noted that the earlier that businesses participate, they will come up first in the search by those using the APP. The Council reviewed several options of participation and upon motion by Ginger Williams and second by Carol Allen, it was unanimously approved to purchase the enhanced package of the ZCivic APP called Slice of Orange for a one-time fee of \$99 and an annual fee of \$299.

As another item of consideration, Ginger Williams mentioned needs of The Rainbow Room which is a group that assists Child Protective Services and provides clothing, shoes and other needed items for children up to 16 years of age. It was agreed by the Council that this should be promoted within our congregation and a donation box provided in a designated area.

General discussions were held about interviews for a part time maintenance person and it was noted that interviews have been held and there is at least one viable candidate.

The Council next met in closed session for SPR matters.

As a final, general discussion, John Warren mentioned that there is a conflict in August with a district meeting and it was determined that the next Council meeting would be rescheduled for Thursday, August 9<sup>th</sup>.

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