

**First United Methodist Church of Orange**  
**Church Council Minutes**  
**Meeting of August 9, 2018**

Attendants: John Warren, Carol Allen, Sherri Fruge', Chris Abshire, Gary Bonneaux, David Bridges, Theresa Beauchamp, Barbara Dardeau, Greg Defrates, Tom Henry, Suzanne Magee, Betty Merchant, Ginger Williams. Absent: No members were absent

Carol Allen called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and John Warren began the meeting with a prayer and a devotional.

The Fall Festival fund raiser was the first topic discussed to include an update of potential venues and team leaders. Suzanne Magee stated that pricing for the LCM high school cafeteria for the upcoming year is not yet available and Ginger Williams mentioned that Lutch Theater is not rented for these types of events. It was agreed that if pricing at the VFW Hall is not within a reasonable price range, this first event would be held in the Family Life Center. John Warren presented the Council with a list of individuals that have signed up to help and also mentioned that Leighia Barron has agreed to serve as a team leader with a "co-anchor" representative from the late service. Betty Merchant agreed to serve as the representative and "co-anchor". Sherri Fruge' agreed to take the lead on approaching a potential candidate from the community to lead the auction.

In the course of fund raising discussions, the Council also reviewed suggestions for an event in the Spring and brief discussions were held in consideration of a White Linen Festival or similar event.

Tom Henry presented the financial report and stated that pledge contributions were 61% of the yearly budget at \$479,207 as compared to budgeted revenue of 58% based on 7 out of 12 months. He continued by saying that non-pledge contributions also continue to exceed budget expectations. The Council noted that work is in progress to properly segregate, code and review revenue and expenses related to the Malloy Center and other areas, such as maintenance related expenses, to ensure a proper review of the financial status of the Church. Discussions were also held about maintenance requirements of the Church and David Bridges updated the Council on areas covered by the Trustees Fund. It was noted that the Trustees Fund has covered more expenses than in prior years and the breakout of expenses will be helpful for review and planning.

In a continued review of financial issues, John Warren mentioned that the Church is expecting funds for an Emmaus Walk and a Chrysalis Walk that were held in May and June, respectively. The Council suggested a review of the upcoming contract (renewing soon) to consider incorporating wording related to the timing of the payment for the building rental. David Bridges and Gary Bonneaux, as representatives of the Trustees Fund, would review the contracts. It was also noted that procedures should be in place within the Church to ensure that rental payments are received timely and not overlooked.

Other areas of discussion were related to the purchase of a new smoke alarm (David Bridges indicated this would be reviewed by the Trustees Fund representatives), an email received by a Church member (John Warren indicated this would be reviewed by the worship committee) and an offer made to an individual to serve as a part-time maintenance worker (employment testing underway). John Warren also updated the Council on the 11:00 worship service which has been held in the Slade Chapel and discussions were held about obtaining input from the congregation on utilization of Slade Chapel and the large sanctuary for the traditional services.

The Council next met in closed session for SPR matters.

As a final, general discussion, the Council discussed timing of remaining meetings for the year and all agreed that the second Thursday of the month was better. Upon a unanimous vote, it was approved to schedule meetings for the remainder of the year on the second Thursday of each month.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:25 p.m.