

**First United Methodist Church of Orange**  
**Church Council Minutes**  
**Meeting of December 21, 2017**

Attendants: John Warren, Sherri Fruge', Carol Allen, David Bridges, Barbara Dardeau, Greg Defrates, Betty Merchant, Jonathan Vogt, Ginger Williams. Absent: Chris Abshire, Gary Bonneaux, Janice Gresham.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. and John Warren led the devotional and prayer.

Greg Defrates presented a recap of the financial report from November and stated that total income was on target as compared to the budget and is 91% of the total budget year to date. It was noted that pledges are down by 7% and overall nonpledged contributions and fees from use of the Malloy center have been above budget. It was discussed that the month of December typically has good contributions and we should meet the budget for the year. Expenses are below budget and YTD income has exceeded the budget by \$32,000. Mr. Defrates also reviewed pledges and stated that we should wrap up the pledges for the year by the second week in January.

John Warren updated the members of the Methodist Conference's interest in renting the Malloy center for the upcoming year. Discussions were also held surrounding the renewal of the Emmaus contract that expires in February and the need for an increase in the fees.

David Bridges updated the Council on the Trustee funds and stated that the investments have done well this year due to market conditions. He mentioned that repairs will be made to the roof that was damaged as a result of air conditioning problems and drains. Mr. Bridges also mentioned that scholarship funds are available and we should encourage graduating Seniors to apply.

Greg Defrates and Ginger Williams updated the members on the visit by the Architect, Julie Williams. A report with drawings will be presented soon. It was also discussed that the facilities should be reviewed for areas in need of repair at the time that we are considering upgrades to the facilities.

John Warren distributed a list of teams and leaders for the upcoming year. He mentioned that this information would be published in the January newsletter. David Bridges stated that members that have previously served in the 8:00 a.m. service should be approached to serve in other areas.

Greg Defrates stated that a review of areas involving security is underway and a report would be presented in an upcoming Council meeting.

John Warren mentioned that a service was being scheduled for March 18<sup>th</sup> to honor the Gresham's and the Bishop is scheduled to attend. Barbara Dardeau has agreed to coordinate a luncheon for after the service.

John Warren updated the Council on services in January and stated that a group from Texas A&M would be staying in the Malloy Center and has requested to lead the services on January 7<sup>th</sup>. On January 14<sup>th</sup>, our VCI coach, Marilyn Wadkins, is scheduled to preach in John's absence. John mentioned that Marilyn would be in town that weekend for the first 2018 meeting of VCI teams that weekend.

Barbara Dardeau mentioned to the members that there have recently been issues with the temperature in several areas of the Church. David Bridges agreed to review and that the problem was primarily in the Education building and Sanctuary.

Discussions were held regarding the recent problems with obtaining the required quorum for council meetings. Upon motion by Sherri Fruge' and second by Barbara Dardeau, it was approved by 7 votes for 1 opposed and 1 abstain to change the wording in the Guiding Principles to reduce the attendance requirement from 9 members down to 7 members for a quorum.

The Council next went into closed session for a SPR meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.