

First United Methodist Church Orange
One Board Church Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 7, 2019

Carol Allen called the meeting to order at 6:05 P.M.

Pastor Lani Rousseau led a devotion taken from Ann Weems' poem, Our Lord is Called Hope. God calls us to go where the hurting are. She then led in prayer to open the meeting.

Members present were: Suzanne Magee, Jerry Pennington, Trisha Anderson, Carol Allen, Brown Claybar, Lani Rousseau, Sherri Fruge', Tom Henry and Greg Defrates.

Members absent were: Betty James, Betty Merchant, Theresa Beauchamp and Gary Bonneaux.

Financial Report from Tom Henry

For total congregational income thru October, we've received about 75% of yearly budget vs. expected 83% resulting in a shortfall of about \$31,000 YTD. Salary expense is on target YTD, while utilities expense is significantly under budget and maintenance expense is over budget primarily due to A/C equipment repairs. Resulting total expenses are about 10% under our YTD budget meaning we have saved about \$15,000 in expense that is offsetting the lower contributions coming in. If we could make up roughly \$16,000 in income between now and end of year and our expenses at least remain at budget, we'll end up balanced at year end.

Old Business

The air conditioning system is currently being repaired. Thank you to Jeff Fruge' for handling this. The bid came in lower than we expected. A part that shunts the air to the other part of the building had fused and is being replaced. The water tower repairs are completed.

Greg Defrates requested the trustees approve the approximate \$2,500 needed to replace the light fixtures all around campus for LED tube lamps instead of fluorescent ones. This will significantly lower utility costs. The new fixtures are easy to replace. Greg and David will assemble a crew to do the work.

New Business

Charge Conference Business:

Greg motioned and Jerry seconded that we accept and approve the Church's 2020 Annual **Budget** as presented. The vote was unanimous to accept it. Lani reminded us that the budget can be updated as needed. She also stated that nominations has determined a need for three Board members to serve on each Administrative Team of the One Board (SPR, Finance). This will reduce the number of at-large members by two.

Brown moved and Greg seconded that we accept and approve the signed **Compensation** Forms for our pastor. The amounts are the same as were approved this past August when Pastor Lani came aboard. It passed with a unanimous vote.

Brown motioned and Greg seconded that we approve the **Nominations** Report as presented. The vote was unanimous to approve it. There are two spots that are yet to be determined.

Other Business:

Greg Defrates recommended we purchase one of the “Oranges” for \$250 from the Chamber of Commerce. This Orange is a large cement outdoor fixture that will be set on the church property. A map will show where all the Oranges are in our community and tourists will be able to find them. It will be a work of art. We will paint it with our own design. Pastor Lani suggested our Tree Logo. Brown made a motion and Greg seconded it. It passed unopposed.

Pastor Lani reported that two persons were accepted as members from the 11 o'clock service. And a baby baptism is planned for little Eleanor Sanchez next Sunday, November 17 at the 11 o'clock service.

The TAC Generosity Workshop will begin on January 11 at West University UMC. Our church will form a 4 to 5-member Generosity Team. Horizon is putting this together for the Conference.

The District has requested all churches take up a special offering for the Vidor and Winnie Churches who sustained damage due to TS Imelda's flood. We agreed to do that.

Several Board members and staff will be attending the Charge Conference this Sunday afternoon at Wesley UMC.

Angela Abshire will use the church van to shuttle people at the Special Angels Rodeo this Saturday.

Carol requested prayer for baby Amelia Baker.

We are going to change the regular meeting of the One Board from the second Thursday to the third Thursday of each month.

Pastor Lani closed the meeting with prayer at 6:51 P.M.