

New Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church
Council Meeting Minutes
November 19, 2009

A Council meeting was held Thursday, November 19, 2009 with the following in attendance: Reverend Sharon Lee; Council Chairperson Donna Smith; Charlotte Collins; Lois McGee; Bobbie Lawrence; Martha Darnell; John Wagoner; Eddie Cooley; Terri Cooley; Barbara Ruark; Howard Ruark; Jewel Amos; Ralph Amos; Larry Mock; Ollie Taylor; Deanna Brown; Jerold Teague; Paul Ferris; Xenia Ferris; Edsel Ruiz; Renee Taylor; Donna Yokeley and Elaine Teague.

Chairperson Donna Smith welcomed everyone and commenced with devotions entitled *Blessed are the Focused* based on 1 Peter 4:10. She followed with prayer and then called the meeting to order. An agenda for the meeting as distributed is attached to and made a part of these minutes. (Addendum I)

The minutes from the September 13, 2009 were approved.

At this point, Donna stated there are a few open leadership positions requiring Council approval. Refer to Addendum II. John Wagoner has been nominated for SPR chairperson. Donna asked for other nominations. Being none, she asked for approval of John serving as chairperson. 13 (majority) approved.

The position of Witness Chairperson also open and to date there are no nominations. Donna pointed out that the position does not have to be filled in order to progress. No nominations were made.

Larry Mock who currently serves as Cemetery Committee Chairperson has also been nominated to serve as Trustee through 2012. 14 (majority) approved.

The Worship Committee has open position for representative from the congregation. There currently are no nominations and Donna pointed out this is another area in which the position does not have to be filled in order to progress.

Tyler Burke appointed to serve as Youth Leader. 16 (majority) approved.

Donna stated she appreciates everyone stepping up to serve for 2010.

At this time, Donna called on Martha Darnell and Donna Yokeley regarding pictorial directory. Martha stated they are proposing a new church directory as the current one is out of date remarking a number of people listed are now deceased. Martha and Donna met with a representative from Olin Mills. There are a number of options available for a directory. It should also be pointed out that Olin Mills is recommended by Cokesbury. We would get \$2.00 credit for each directory which could be applied toward new brochure, etc. The representative proposed the dates of March 1st and 2nd (Monday and Tuesday) with hours 3:00 to 9:00 p.m. with completion date by Mother's Day. Each person having photo will receive a free 8 X 10 along with the directory and Martha also pointed out there is to be a minimum of 50 – 60 families in order to get free. Reverend Sharon Lee recommends using Olin Mills if the Council approves a new directory pointing out her former church elected another group and later regretted not using the services of Olin Mills.

A Council member questioned the cost to the church member to which the response was there is no cost to each member except in the event photos are purchased.

It was then questioned if Saturday could be an option for photo session to which Martha and Donna both had noted the representative did mention Friday and Saturday – possibly March 5th or 6th and further noting Saturday hours would be 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. It was then questioned if the congregation should be polled regarding preference to Monday/Tuesday versus Friday/Saturday to which it was pointed out that the Council serves as voice for congregation and primary purpose tonight is to determine if the group wants a new directory.

Following a brief discussion, motion was made to have a new church directory with photo sessions on Friday and Saturday – March 5th and 6th or the first available Friday or Saturday. The motion was seconded and approved.

Donna called upon Renee Taylor for treasurer's report. Renee reported a positive balance of \$2,500.47 and remarked that all bills in hand have been paid.

Ollie Taylor as current SPR chairperson welcomed John Wagoner to SPR and then gave a brief overview of 2009. She stated ministry descriptions for various ministry positions had been prepared (only a couple of positions have not been prepared to date) to help the Nominations and Leadership Development team; worked with Finance Committee regarding staff salaries which will remain the same; had the administrative assistant position opening which has been placed on hold. Ollie also stated the Committee had approved an intern youth director - David Miner - who will be coming in January. It was pointed out that while Sharon will work closely with David his mentor will be at another church. We are still awaiting the background check. It was further noted that this is a volunteer position and will work in conjunction with Amy Collins, and further noted that David will not be with youth without other supervision.

At this time, Larry Mock distributed the cemetery rules noting the rules were revised in 1997 and again in 2003 pointing out it's time to review. Refer to Addendums III and IV. Larry requested everyone to review and advise any recommended changes by the next Council meeting.

Donna called upon Lois McGee to report for Worship Committee. Lois reported it is that busy time of year commencing with Hanging of the Greens on November 29th, followed by the children's nativity on December 6th, the choir cantata on December 13th and then Lovefeast on the 20th. Sharon Lee pointed out the material that had been prepared listing all events. Refer to Addendum V.

Bobbie Lawrence reported for UMW and stated 60 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child had been prepared and delivered. Reverend Sharon Lee then stated there were actually 61 prepared as another shoebox came in after Sunday by a couple who were not in worship and she stated the couple would be taking the shoebox to a designated drop off location.

Donna informed the group \$68.00 had been collected in the pumpkin for donation to youth for the purchase of the goat which is \$70.

At this time, Jewel Amos also reported that the UMW set aside 10% of fundraisers to go toward global missions and the group had elected to purchase items from the Franklin Graham

Samaritan's Purse catalog which included the purchase of a several items including a goat, bicycles, balls to name a few.

Donna informed the group that a Christmas offering will be taken at the Hanging of the Greens service and will be held for another offering to be taken in February and there are plans to do something special at that time.

Donna then turned the meeting over to Sharon. Sharon stated she and Donna want to celebrate noting there is a lot of change in leadership from this year to next and wants today to be fun – and want to get through with business to have fun. She pointed out the cake with the light bulbs! Sharon stated she is often told that we pray for her and she prays for us. She then read scripture – Romans 15:13 and followed by reading her special prayer for us.

At this time, Sharon presented Barbara Ruark a gift in recognition of her service as Lay Leader.

Sharon pointed out that the church year begins this coming Sunday – and we can begin anew early - we do not have to wait until January.

Donna commented that in reflecting back on 2009 there have been numerous accomplishments and even celebrating the number in attendance at the meeting tonight.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Elaine Teague, Recording Secretary