

## **Minutes of the OUMC Church Council April 13, 2011**

In Attendance: Lois Hidalgo, Joann Edwards, Katie Hidalgo, Geddis Kerr, Don Hawks, Jack Dalaba, Willi Dallaba, Carol Friesen, David Chan, Leslie Margolis, Stan Ellis, Francis Ellis

The meeting was opened by Jack Dalaba at 7:30PM

Jack read a devotion from Paul---- Phil 2. 1-11

Pastor Don presented "The challenge and opportunity of funding ministry in these economic times". Willi Dalaba showed us artwork that was doodling from the "prayer in colors". The "prayer in colors" is part of the Prayer Vigil Workshop.

Pastor Don attended a workshop at Wesley Theological Seminary recently---The Lewis Center for church leadership..... He showed us some statistics:

We are aging. More 65+ in the population than other groups

Lack of interest in traditional religion in the 25-34 yr age group.

Examples were given. A video presentation of a talk was watched by Council members, given by David McAllister Wilson President of Wesley Theological Seminary at the church leadership workshop.. Discussion followed

Maybe we need to rethink how we present the situation on our church...time to hit the reset button...

\*Trends in church participation-We learned that many young people between the ages of 18 and 25 do not continue to attend church, even though they did during high school.

\*Those over 60 think attending weekly is necessary to regular attendance—those in their 20's think once a month is regular attendance.

\*Attendance increased the 5 weeks after 9/11. But has decreased every year since

\*Worshippers as a whole are attending less frequently

We need to "Reset" our church to get the tasks done that we want to do. We need to think about different priorities and how to get them done.

Pastor Don reported that he had asked to be sent to another church closer to home but it did not happen. He takes that as a sign that his work is not finished

here. Don called upon us to pray about "resetting".....to work better together...he read us Mathew. 18

### Reports from Committees

#### **Nurturing:**

Young Adults report that they are seriously considering another name for their group, since many if not most of them are in their 40's now---

Prayer Vigil---Fri. May 6<sup>th</sup>, 6-midnight and Sat. May 7<sup>th</sup>, 6am-Noon in the Chapel. The chapel will be used for prayer and meditation and the small hall will be used for prayer workshops. "Praying with Color" workshops for adults and teens will be held Fri 7:30-9PM and Sat. 9-10:30AM.

Sammye Justice could not attend but reminds us that VBS plans are moving along well. VBS theme this year is "Pandamania"

#### **Outreach**

The lamb center..we are still participating in delivering meals. Dawna Moussad is looking for a project where the church can participate.

**Witness.** Couldn't be here.

Trying to use the shepherd and flock program...to keep up with members

**Worship**...Pastor Don...

Maundy Thursday service and traditional Good Friday from noon to 3. We will once again have various speakers throughout the afternoon.

#### **SPRC**

Meeting....Leslie Margolis

---thinking about using "Reset" to take input from people and move forward.

Communications as a whole---needs to be better. She is currently preparing a letter stating that Don has been reappointed. We need to rethink using the bulletin newsletter website.....sometimes people don't get the right information ...We need better coordination---- Too many duplicate things scheduled for the same week. We need to first go to the calendar and see which dates are available, before we go forward with planning an event. If something is already on that day we need to find another day. We should be moving forward on our mission. Perhaps we can involve shepherds and flocks more in communication since they seem to work so well. SPRC is also looking at venues for Pastor Don to engage with groups....possibly plan socials or meetings with the individual shepherds groups.

Pastor Don added to communication..... Informing congregation about what happens at the council meetings...we need to get minutes out to them somewhere.

**Finance**...Stan....follow up on the audit....Stan told us that there itemization of items that should be put back into accounts and not itemized, reviewing OCPS to see if funds need to be transferred over from there.

Endowment Stan....growth is \$38,681 thru February...funds are available for consideration for ministries that are not already allocated.

OCPS---- Stan...program is healthy and doing well...tree fell on roof and there was a leak and mold and smell.....will be fixed during spring break....good head start on enrollment for next year

**Trustees**....Fix leak and room upstairs

**UMW** no report....

**UMM**....Geddis....Sat. 8am Mark Fahner prison ministers...Pastor Don will talk on highroad...

**Stephens ministry** no report

**Pastor**...nothing additional

Stan...oakleaves. All articles due by the 20th of the Month. Oakleaves always needs information...need to use it more. ....Leslie....bulletin...restructure it with important info first...

Church council has six meetings scheduled...do we need to meet in individual ministries? We decided that we would only do this if necessary.

### **New Business---Open Discussion---**

We have endowment money to use in our ministry....how can we use it...?

We have lots of people that attend Only a few activities...how do we get people to come back....how do we minister to them to bring them into the church...Leslie

Willi. People feel like they haven't measured up so don't come to church

David Chan....we need to be relevant.....what kind of resources do we have to be relevant to people in our neighborhood.....

Challenge the ministries to take that on.....pastor Don is willing to help.....

**Minutes**....Endowment correction...minutes approved as corrected

**Treasurers Report** -Stan....Written report

Stan plans to report basic finances regularly to the congregation.

Lois Hidalgo