

# *St. Luke's United Methodist Church*

## *Our Vision Statement*

*"Christian disciples called to transform our community and world through God's love."*

## *Our Mission Statement*

*"We, the members of St. Luke's United Methodist Church, are an inclusive, Christ-centered community of faith seeking through worship, prayer, service, education and fellowship to respond creatively to God's call to welcome, love, and care for others."*

---

## **CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**April 15, 2008**

**7:30 p.m.**

---

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Council Chair, Sam Motley. There were 21 members present.

### **HOUSEKEEPING MATTERS**

1. Members were asked to sign in on the Attendance Roster and sign up to lead devotions or provide refreshments for upcoming meetings.
2. There is no one signed up to lead the devotion or provide snacks for the May meeting.
3. The next Church Council meeting: **Tuesday, May 13, 2008 at 7:30 p.m.**

### **DEVOTION**

Ron Dorenbush led the devotion on the subject of "devotion".

### **VISION CASTING BY THE PASTORS**

Pastor Doug moved meeting from Room 21 down to Fellowship Hall, using a hollow square of tables. This facilitates meeting "face to face". The concept was well received and will be tried out for a few months.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes for the **March 11, 2008** Church Council meeting were **approved** as submitted.

### **ITEMS REQUIRING DISCUSSION FOR ACTION / APPROVAL**

1. **Motion from the Easter Egg Committee: Request approval of vision/mission statement and Recipients of 2008 funds for which vote was deferred from the March 11, 2008 meeting.**
  - a) Discussion of Easter Egg Project mission statement and policy was led by Service Ministry co-chair, Ron Dorenbush.
  - b) The Service Ministry made a motion that the policy be altered so funds from the project would be contributed to Christian Mission Projects only.

**APPROVED: May 13, 2008**

- c) The Easter Egg Committee will have a kick off meeting and select the recipients to be supported by the Project. The selections will be reviewed by the Service Ministry and approved by the Church Council.
- d) The above mentioned recommendations will take effect for the 2009 Project.

**Motion was unanimously APPROVED**

- 2. **Motion from the Communications Ministry: Request approval for St. Luke's to advertise for a fundraiser auction for Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center.**

**Motion was unanimously APPROVED**

- 3. **Motion from the Finance Ministry: Request approval for the following members to be authorized by the Church Council to sign checks on behalf of St. Luke's:**

*Kenneth "Bo" Walkley                      Robert "Bob" Dye      James R. "Sam" Motley*  
*Karen Berardini                              Betty Brummer*

*Ron Dorenbush will be removed from the authorized signature list.*

**Motion was unanimously APPROVED**

**REPORTS / ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

**Worship Ministry** (Brenda Ramsey and Kamela Verry)

- 1. Pastor Clara will be offering a **new eight week class on "Reconnecting Worship"**. This will begin on Thursday, April, 17 from 7:00-8:30pm. Consideration is being given to establishing another worship service with a time and day to be determined.
- 2. Sunday, June 1 will be **Confirmation Sunday**. Reception to begin at 11 a.m. and to continue until after the 11:00 a.m. service.
- 3. Sunday, June 15 will be **"United Methodist Women Sunday."**
- 4. One Sunday in May will be for **Acolyte Recognition**.
- 5. **Reviewed Holy week services**. Overall went very well. Large attendance which is wonderful!

**Board of Trustees** (Tom Sayre)

- 1. **Bus payoff** – In the process of making the first of two payoff payments.
- 2. **Parsonage porch** – By the time you read this, the boy scouts will have completed the front porch railing.
- 3. **Recycling program** – We're still heading toward green and the recycling program is going well.
- 4. **Trailer logo** – We should have the church logo on the trailer by next week.
- 5. **Bus roof** – We found two holes in the bus roof. Apparently from a limb or something. We're getting an estimate from Coxtons.
- 6. **Parlor upgrade** – Liz Tragle and Carol Comstock have begun fixing up the parlor. It's really looking great.
- 7. **Un-repairable pianos** – We are in the process of getting rid of the two bad pianos. We'll probably take them to the dump if no one wants them.
- 8. **Lend/Borrow church vehicles** – William Sutton and Trustees are discussing ways and means to lend our van and bus to other churches and to borrow vehicles from other churches. There are insurance concerns, so we will go slowly on this.

### Service Ministry (Ron Dorenbush and Susie Small)

1. **Grafton Kiwanis/ASP BBQ** tickets for BBQ meals/sandwiches will be available from ASP volunteers on May 10.
2. The **FOGG ASP** will have 10 volunteers in Lee County, VA next week April 20-26.
3. April 6-12 there are 11 people who plan to go to Pascagoula, MS and **rebuild homes and lives** for those desperate for help. The next trip is May 14-21.
4. **Overseas mission planning** has been narrowed to Brazil or Mozambique for initial planning for 2009.
5. The **church trailer will not be equipped with tools**, but we will use responding volunteers' tools due to a storage problem.
6. **UMCOR Medicine Box** communications will start in April and the project is expected to be completed in early May.
7. A **SLUMC Refugee Day** being planned for this summer.
8. The **Good Samaritan Fund** for March 2008:
  - a) Receipts: \$2,577/\$5,741
  - b) Expended: \$1,470.04/\$4135.97
  - c) Balance: \$14,788.50
9. **Easter Egg Project:**
  - a) Produced 8,929 regular eggs
  - b) Produced 360 30-year commemorative eggs
  - c) Donated 353 regular eggs
  - d) The Service Ministry consensus is to end the Easter Egg Project Mission Statement after the words "Christian missions."
10. Discussion has begun on the **2009 Financial Plan to emphasize Christian Missions**.

### Youth Ministry (Katelyn Cianelli and Justin Torres)

1. The High School youth are trying **Thursday meetings**.
2. The **30-hour Famine Fundraiser** (plates on hallway walls) has raised about \$800 so far.
3. The youth group **helped out a Kiln Creek family** with a disability.

### Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) (Pete Prindle)

1. The **nursery director, Becky Sherman is being transferred** out of the area, so a search for a replacement is underway.

### Building Ministry (Blair Ellis)

1. The Building Committee continues to **work on plans** with design the firm.
2. The Committee **held informal meetings** to review preliminary plans with York County, Dominion Power, and VDOT and so far no show stoppers were detected.

### United Methodist Men (UMM) (William Sutton)

1. The **monthly breakfast** will be on April 20 with a program by Teen Challenge.
2. A **retreat** will be held in Hampton on May 3.

### Finance Committee (Bo Walkley)

1. **See Action Item #3 on page 2.**

**Treasurer** (Tom Lyon)

1. The **March Financial Report** was provided for information.
2. The Tom noted that line item 712 (church furnishings) had **exceeded the budgeted amount** and encouraged all leaders to be sure of their account balance before authorizing vouchers.

**Outreach Ministry** (Karen Berardini and TBN)

1. The **Outreach Ministry did not meet in April** due to spring break.

**Director of Discipleship Ministries** (DDM) (James Pace)

1. **Vacation Bible School** planning is under way.
2. The **Confirmation Class** went to Bruton Parish Church for an insight into our Anglican heritage. There were 27 who attended. Next month the class will visit a local synagogue.

**Associate Pastor** (Clara Gestwick)

1. Pastor Clara noted that we have an **enthusiastic confirmation class** of 56 this year.
2. She will be attending a continuing education workshop relative to use of **digital media in worship service**.

**Senior Pastor** (Doug Gestwick)

1. Pastor Doug noted that **worship attendance is up 8% from 2007** with an average of 545 in the first quarter. A highlight was the Easter attendance of 1,030.
2. In February 2009 we are planning **another trip to Israel**.
3. We will again **host an intern this summer** as part of the Calling 21 program (encouraging college students considering full time ministry).

**ADJOURNMENT**

1. Church Council members lifted up **Praises and Concerns** and Pastor Clara closed with prayer.
2. The **meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.**

*Submitted by Joe Vallow, Substitute Secretary*