

# *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."*

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## **CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**July 8, 2008**

**7:30 p.m.**

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### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m. by Council Chair, Sam Motley. There were 24 members present.

### **HOUSEKEEPING MATTERS**

1. Members were asked to sign in on the Attendance Roster and the signup to lead devotions or provide refreshments was distributed.
2. August Devotions: **Blair Ellis**
3. August Refreshments: **Tom and Elizabeth Lyon**
4. The next Church Council meeting: **Tuesday, August 12, 2008 at 7:30 p.m.**

### **DEVOTION**

Pastor Doug read Luke 17:11-19 and then read a thank you note from the Compassionate Friends group that meets at the church. This is one of the 21 non-church groups that meet on Tuesdays at St. Luke's. This Outreach Ministry provides these organizations a place to conduct a worthwhile community service or fellowship and provides St. Luke's a way to reach someone who may not have a church home or know Christ. The person that wrote this note is not a church member but like the story in Luke—one leper came back to say thank you. Often times we become active in a church because someone got us to come. Pastor Doug asked everyone to think about who it was that brought us to church the first time. He challenged us to write that person a thank you note too. Pastor Doug closed with prayer.

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

Pastor Doug noted that the Building Program is coming to the point where it will be presented to the congregation very soon so he once again asked the question, *"What will St. Luke's look like in ten years if God has God's way?"* He asked everyone to close their eyes and think of their specific ministry area with regard to these questions:

- Will the church building be on Ella Taylor Road? At another location? Both?
- What ministries are we *doing now* that we *will still be doing* in ten years?
- What ministries are we *doing now* that we *will not be doing* in ten years?
- What ministries are we *not doing now* that we *will be doing* in ten years?
- What ministry will each of us individually be doing in ten years?

**APPROVED: August 12, 2008**

- What people who are not here now will be here in ten years because they heard the gospel from us?
- How will we take these people from being unchurched and turn them into leaders for Christ?
- Through our building, ministries, people and our passion, what do we have to do to make this happen?

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from the **June 10, 2008 Church Council** meeting were **APPROVED with the following changes**: Under the Board of Trustees report item #2 in the last sentence it should read the . . . *this does **not** save water* instead of this does save water.

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

1. **There were no items presented for Action or Approval.**

## **REPORTS / ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

### **Education Ministry** (Theresa Butler and Betty Jane Turner)

1. **Education Committee meets the first Thursday of each month at 4 p.m.** The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 30 due to vacation schedules.
2. **Sunday School**
  - a) The Education Committee sent out a letter to all parents of children currently enrolled in Sunday School to invite parents to become more involved in the SS process as teachers or room parents.
  - b) All classrooms have been moved.
3. **Children's Church**
  - a) 11:00 Service – We want to add Children's Church at the 11:00 a.m. service; however, we haven't had much interest in adult help.
  - b) 8:30 Service – For the summer James Pace is teaching a class on Worship for K-5 graders in room 15 after children's moment.
4. **Bible Studies**
  - a) Melissa Magowan is offering a study on the Holy Land.
5. **VBS (July 14-17)**
  - a) It appears that we have all positions covered for VBS.
  - b) Adult Volunteers and Youth Volunteers are still and always needed. Sign up sheets are available across from the DDM office.
  - c) Registration forms are also available on the bulletin board at the "T."
  - d) We will be taking a limited VBS to Lackey the week of July 21 as an educational outreach program.
6. **Confirmation 2008-2009**
  - a) Put info in blurbs and newsletter about new class in September for any youth in 6<sup>th</sup> grade or above interested in confirmation – include day and time of class for parental planning purposes.
  - b) Parent's information meeting will be held as it comes closer.
7. **Mission, Mayhem & You Weekend 2008**
  - a) Friday, August 1, 3 p.m. – Saturday, August 2, 11 a.m.
  - b) Mission opportunity for 3<sup>rd</sup> thru 6<sup>th</sup> graders.
  - c) Information and Registration forms on bulletin board across from Associate Pastor's Office.

## Youth Ministry

1. Currently **holding the Youth Program together** with guidance from the staff and the support of parent volunteers. There are seven new resumes of qualified candidates being considered. It is hopeful that the Youth Director position will be filled by the end of the summer.
2. **Middle school youth mission trip** – Friday, August 22 – Sunday, August 24, 2008
3. **Summer Youth Activities scheduled for Tuesdays**
  - a) July 15 – No outing – Youth will assist with VBS
  - b) July 22 – Go Karts Plus in Williamsburg
  - c) July 29 – Ice Skating
  - d) August 5 – ~~Norfolk Tides Game DC~~ **CANCELLED**
  - e) August 12 – ~~Newport News Park~~ **CANCELLED**

## Nurture Ministry (Donna Dorenbush and TBN)

1. **Martha's Ministry** served a funeral reception on June 27.
2. All **first aid kits have been checked and refilled**. Thank you Elizabeth Lyon.
3. A **Red Cross Blood Drive** will be held on August 5 from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. Sign up for blood donors and helpers will be in the narthex mid July. Contact Margie Smith 868-0990 for more information.
4. **June and Patrick Pope will host the SL8 meetings** for the rest of the year.
5. The **next Nurture Ministry meeting** will be July 15 at 1:30 p.m.

## Service Ministry (Ron Dorenbush and Susie Small)

1. **ASP**—58 participants/9 teams had a very successful trip to Brenton, WV helping nine families make their homes warmer, safer and drier.
2. **Kits-for-Conference**—178 kits sent to VA Annual Conference.
3. **WAS4MH (We all Sing for Menchville House)** Concert planning is in full swing. Come enjoy all the local talented singers and music makers Saturday, August 2 at 7:00 p.m. in the church sanctuary. An offering will be taken and used to help the Menchville House pay monthly expenses. Refreshments will be served afterward. See the July Newsletter for more information. Ushers are still needed for this event.
4. Service Ministry will assist the Education Ministry **take the VBS program to Lackey**, on July 22-24.
5. There will **no meeting in August**. Next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, September 2 at 7:00 p.m.

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

### *Local Church:*

1. The **June 15 meeting of the UMMen was cancelled** since that Sunday was Father's Day.
2. The **next UMMen Fellowship Breakfast** will be July 20 in the Fellowship Hall and our program will be about the "Coast Guard Auxiliary." Members in our church that are involved in this much needed organization will be the presenters. Men and women are invited to this breakfast and program.
3. St. Luke's was asked by the District UMMen **to pray on the property of Heart Havens "Morrison House"** during the week starting June 15, 2008. Each UMMen's group takes turns with different weeks.
4. St. Luke's UMMen will hold a **Craft and Treasure Sales Bizarre** on Saturday, October 3, 8 am - 1 p.m. Space and tables are available for \$ 25.00 each and you keep the profit from your sales. Contact William Sutton for registration forms.

5. St. Luke's is scheduled to **host the General Meeting of the District UMMen** on October 27, 2008. We serve dinner and provide space to hold the meeting. All men are encouraged to attend since this is a home event.

***Peninsula District:***

1. As part of the Peninsula District United Methodist Men's efforts to **celebrate this 100 year Anniversary of UMMen in 2008**, we are intentional about doing things in 100's! The District UMMen coordinated with the Peninsula Pilots baseball organization to bring at least 100 men and their children and grandchildren to a baseball game at War Memorial Stadium in Hampton on Monday night, June 30.
2. There were **300 tickets sold by the UMMen for this event**. About 30 men gathered on the field with both ball teams for the opening ceremonies. Rick Jacobson, District UMMen President, was one of two men allowed to throw out the first pitch and William Sutton, District UMMen Chaplain, gave the opening prayer. The evening was a great time of fellowship and fun.
3. The **District UMMen have started to sell paving bricks** to be used to raise money for the Heart Havens home called the "Morrison House." Bricks will sell for \$ 75.00 each and be engraved with names for recognition. Forms are available at St. Luke's each Sunday through July.
4. The **next District General Meeting** will be July 28 at Williamsburg UMC. All men are invited to attend. Dinner starts at 6:30 p.m. with the program to follow.
5. The **District UMMen's Annual Prayer Breakfast** will be September 20, at St. James UMC., Hampton. Our guest speaker will be Myrtle Hatcher, District Superintendent, Peninsula District. Everyone is invited to this event.

**Board of Trustees** (Tom Sayre)

1. The **bus payoff is delayed** until August due to cash flow considerations.
2. We **replaced the hot water heater** which was located under the sink in the Library room 15.
3. The **Board of Trustees will meet again** on Monday, July 14.

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

1. The **Outreach Ministry team met Monday July 7**.
2. Our **grant proposal was approved**, and we will receive money for both a back-to-school and an Advent TV commercial. The team selected following two Igniting Ministry commercials to use: Back to School/September and The Journey/Advent.
3. Because there are not enough VBS volunteer tribe leaders, we are **not going to be able to have the Bus Ministry this year**.
4. We are still looking for a **coordinator for the Neighborhood Visitation** scheduled for September 13.
5. There is a **Newcomers' Seminar** scheduled for this coming Sunday, July 13. Ministry representatives are invited to make presentations. Let Joyce know if you will be staying for dinner.
6. The **Reading Ministry at Grafton Bethel** is recruiting now for fall tutoring.

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

1. **No Report**—The Worship Ministry did not meet in July.

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

1. **No Report**. The committee will meet on Thursday, July 10.

### **Communications Ministry** (Ken Engebretson and Walt Baskin)

1. **No Report**—The Communications Ministry’s July meeting was postponed.
2. **Audio Ethics, Inc. is working up a proposal** following the discussion of visual and audio improvements at the June 25 meeting.
3. The **August newsletter deadline** is Tuesday, July 15.

### **United Methodist Women** (UMW) (Katy Jones)

#### **Building Ministry** (Blair Ellis)

1. As mentioned in the June Church Council meeting, members of **Finance and Building Committees were going to meet to discuss the pros/cons of the three stewardship/capital campaign companies** (TLC Ministries, Cargill Financial Services, and RSI.) The three companies were discussed at some length and consensus was that we thought that RSI would probably provide the best value for St. Luke’s. However, before making our recommendation to Church Council, we are going to meet with Buddy Miller of RSI and talk with him—he is programmed to be our main RSI interface, should we decide to utilize RSI’s services.
2. We are currently **scheduled to meet with Mr. Miller of RSI** on July 22 at 7 p.m. and will provide a report to Church Council at the August meeting.
3. Finally, **as discussed in our June Church council meeting, we passed a motion** that—  
*“due to the many variables and the complexity of electrical power issues associated with St. Luke’s Building Committee planning at this point in the design phase, the building committee unanimously requests that the Church Council approve a more detailed study by Virginia Power which would work up “ball park” estimates for many of the proposed construction parameters with electrical power needs associated with the current design phase planning. Due to the uncertainty of when this project may begin, Virginia Power would charge St. Luke’s a processing fee. Request Church Council’s approval for this Virginia Power study. . .”* In coordination with A.D. Potts & Associates, Virginia Power, Doug Joyner and Joe Ragland reviewed our drawings and provided the following comments at no cost:
  - a) Doug Joyner, Virginia Power (distribution) sated that a ballpark estimate of relocation of power service would be approximately \$61,738.14.
  - b) Joe Ragland, Virginia Power (transmission) stated the he reviewed the plan and confirmed basic compliance with transmission line restrictions. In addition, he stated that a letter of consent must be consummated between Virginia Power and the church before any construction within the Virginia Power easement.

#### **Finance Committee** (Bo Walkley)

1. Bo Walkley talked briefly about the approaching **budget planning** process and informed Council that church leaders will soon receive information via e-mail or letter.

#### **Treasurer** (Tom Lyon)

1. The **Financial Report for June** was provided as information.
2. **Tom discussed the highlighted areas** which indicate over 75% spent. There were no new over spent areas this month.
3. **Sewage rates are** up due to HRSD not charging for several months last year so now they are catching up.
4. Approximately \$2,000 was received for the **Annual Conference Offering**.

### **Green Church Initiative** (Joe Posey)

1. Four single switch **sensor lights were purchased for the restrooms**. Efforts are being made to locate four sensor lights for double switches.

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

1. **Vacation Bible School is next week**. There will be separate programs for Grade School and Preschool. There are 80 grade school and 50 preschool children registered to attend. Decorations such as palm trees are being displayed throughout the church as a reminder of the upcoming program.

### **Associate Pastor** (Clara Gestwick)

1. **September is Open House month in the United Methodist Church**. St. Luke's will hold its Ministry Fair on Sunday, September 14. All are reminded that this event is not a venue for soliciting volunteers but rather an opportunity to provide information about the various programs and ministries at St. Luke's. Since this follows the Outreach Visitation on Saturday, September 13 we are hoping for a good turn out. Leaders are asked to begin thinking about how to promote their ministry areas keeping in mind that the event will not be held in the Fellowship Room this year so only a small space will be available.

### **Senior Pastor** (Doug Gestwick)

1. The **New Comer Seminars are going extremely well**. There have been 89 new members this year.
2. **It is a pleasure to have Thomas Lane as our summer intern**. He is actively involved in the Youth Program and will preach on July 27 while the pastors are away on vacation.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Ministry leaders were reminded that **when budget planning please review the ministry's policy** and inform Betty Brummer or the staff of any needed changes. Also notify someone if there are no changes needed so this can be noted on the policy.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

1. Church Council members lifted up **Praises and Concerns** and Pastor Clara closed with prayer.
2. The **meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.**

*Submitted by Debbie Fullhart, Church Council Secretary*