

# *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**

**October 14, 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 22 members present.

### **HOUSEKEEPING MATTERS**

1. **Members were asked to sign in on the Attendance Roster.**
2. **NO NOVEMBER CHURCH COUNCIL meeting due to the Annual Charge Conference.**
3. **Annual Charge Conference:** Thursday, November 20 at 7:00 p.m.
4. **Next Church Council meeting:** December 9, 2008 at 7:30 p.m.
5. **December Devotions:** Megan Zahn
6. **December Refreshments:** James Pace

### **DEVOTION**

Theresa Butler shared a devotion about the fear of change from John Maxwell's book, *"The Winning Attitude"* where he references Deuteronomy 32:11. In this passage Moses uses the example of a mother eagle forcing her young to leave the nest and fly even though the baby eagle is afraid and wants to stay. We all make our own nests, get comfortable and become too afraid to leave and learn to fly. Below are some formulas that John Maxwell gives us for helping God help us handle fear and change. Pastor Doug closed with prayer.

#### **4 step formula to handle fear**

1. *Understand that God sees your problems*
2. *Ask for a filling of confidence and love that is greater than fear*
3. *Believe God is working a miracle in you*
4. *Be filled with the Holy Spirit*

#### **Formula for Spiritual Success**

- *If you want to be distressed – look within*
- *If you want to be defeated – look back*
- *If you want to be distracted – look around*
- *If you want to be dismayed – look ahead*
- *If you want to be delivered – look up!*

**DRAFT: October 28, 2008**

## VISION CASTING BY THE PASTORS

Pastor Doug noted how coincidental it was that Theresa would present a devotion about being afraid of change, when it is she that is embarking upon a major life change. He announced that Theresa has applied for candidacy to the Calling 21 program. Pastor Doug asked Council members to lay hands on Theresa as he prayed for St. Luke's to be a supportive, nurturing church and for Theresa as she takes the next step on her journey to answer the call to ministry.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the **September 9, 2008 Church Council** meeting were **APPROVED** as submitted.

## ITEMS REQUIRING DISCUSSION FOR ACTION / APPROVAL

1. **Motion from Pete Prindle:** Pete Prindle, Michael Artelli, and Tim Moon request approval to begin a Military Ministry at St. Luke's, as outlined in the following draft article for the November Newsletter.
  - a) This ministry would gather information and resources from the ministries already in place to inform military families of St. Luke's available programs, events and services.
  - b) This ministry would be added to the Church Council Agenda and with updates provided as necessary.
  - c) Pete Prindle has volunteered to be the temporary chairman of this ministry.

### **MILITARY MINISTRY**

*St Luke's is starting a ministry to our many military families! Military service today is unusually stressful because of the tempo of operations, frequent deployments, and a smaller military force. Our church has a long history of reaching out to serve its members, and it's time to focus some of that ministry on our military and their families, who are increasingly placed in single parent situations during lengthy deployments. If you would like to become part of this important new ministry at St. Luke's, please contact Pete Prindle at 874-0805, Mike Artelli at 223-1910, or Tim Moon at 868-1135.*

**Motion was unanimously APPROVED**

2. **Motion from the Service Ministry:** Request approval to use the BLURBS, Newsletter, and posters to inform St. Luke's UMC about Operation Christmas Child.
  - a) This is an opportunity for those whose heart, love and prayers go out to the children who will receive nothing for Christmas. All you do is fill a shoebox with toys and love for the children to share your love of Jesus at this time of the year.
  - b) Pastor Doug noted that there are similar projects within the United Methodist Church and UMCOR. Following much discussion, it was suggested that support should be given to these ministries before going outside to other programs.

**Motion was NOT APPROVED with a vote of 9 opposed and 7 Approved**

3. **Motion from the Service Ministry: Request for the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday School classes and the Sisters in Christ Circle to organize and host the “Stop Hunger Now” meal preparation program in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, May 3.**
- a) In 2007, the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday School classes raised \$4,710 to provide 23,552 packaged meals to direct food relief. This intergenerational event held in the fellowship hall was attended by many people in the congregation. To date this four star 501c charity has raised 100 million dollars to feed those in need in 55 countries.
  - b) The cost for each rice/vitamin/vegetable meal is 20¢. We would be asked to raise \$2,000 for a commitment of 10,000 meals minimum. The money raised will be used to purchase all supplies, and cover packing and shipping. St. Luke’s provides the labor.
  - c) Meal packaging would be done 10 a.m.-1 p.m. under the leadership of the “Stop Hunger Now” coordinators. Volunteers are asked to come anytime during this 3-hour window to participate.
  - d) The May 3 date is available on the church calendar and is the only date that works for both the church and the program coordinators.

**Motion was unanimously APPROVED**

4. **Motion from the Treasurer: Request that the Church Council adopt the revised 2009 budget.**
- a) Bo Walkley presented the revised 2009 budget with a reduction of \$62,189 from the previous presentation.
  - b) All ministry leaders reevaluated budget requests and looked at ways to make cuts. Substantial reductions were made from the Staff Parish Relations Committee, Communications Ministry and Board of Trustees.

**Motion was unanimously APPROVED**

## **REPORTS / ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

### **Finance Ministry** (Bo Walkley)

1. **No additional report.**

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

1. **The Financial Report for September** was provided as information.
2. **Tom discussed the areas highlighted in red** which indicate budget lines that are over-spent.
3. **St. Luke’s now owns the church bus free and clear.**
4. The **Stewardship program is underway** and Tom is hopeful that members will take advantage of this “Invitation.”

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

1. **Building presentations** to SLUMC members are moving along – 3 presentations to date.
2. **Next presentation** is Sunday at 12:15.

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

1. The Bill Boyers, our **new Business Manager, will start in November.** He will be a part-time employee working 20 hours per week.

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

1. **Recruited eight additional children** to be Acolytes.
2. Altar Guild to meet in the future for **planning of Advent Season**.
3. Discussed movement of when the **Choir will leave during service**. Will monitor for feedback from the congregation.
4. **Recruited Youth Lay Readers**.
  - a) November 2 – All Saints Day

### Outreach Ministry (Karen Berardini and TBN)

1. The **Advent TV commercial** will air December 10-20 on six local cable channels. It is titled “I believe” and can be viewed on the Igniting Ministry website.
2. The **Drive-Thru Nativity** is scheduled for Friday and Saturday December 12 and 13 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Sign-ups will begin this Sunday on the bulletin board at the T intersection.
3. The **next Outreach meeting** will be Monday, November 3 at 4 p.m.

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

1. **Child Protection Policies**
  - a) A class/refresher training will be held for all volunteers who work with children and youth in the next few months
2. **Confirmation**
  - a) Confirmation Class of 22 students
  - b) Mentors are needed for this class. If you know someone who is interested let James know. This only requires about one hour per month commitment through June 2009.

### Youth Ministry (Nate DeHart)

1. **Things are going well** including some great Sunday night meetings.
2. **Starting a Synag group** on Thursday nights at 5:00 p.m.

### Nurture Ministry (Donna Dorenbush and TBN)

1. **Martha’s Ministry** assisted the Real People Sunday school class in serving a reception after the memorial service on October 11 and a meal was sent to Brenda Ramsey in sympathy on the death of her father.
2. The **Prayer Shawl Ministry** has extended an invitation for new members. They meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at 6:30 p.m. No experience is necessary and it’s a great time for service and fellowship. There will be a Prayer Shawl blessing during worship on Sunday, October 26
3. **Wednesday Night Suppers** have been well attended with almost 100 folks every week. There is still a need for volunteers for setting up and taking down tables and chairs and to help at the check in table. This would require about an hour of time one Wednesday a month.
4. The **next Nurture Ministry meeting** is Thursday, November 6 at 1:30 p.m.

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

1. The **mission trip to Macon, Georgia** to help with long term recovery from damage caused by tornadoes on Mother’s Day 2008 was very successful. Three men attended this trip.
2. The **next trip is to D’Iberville, Mississippi, October 22-29**.

3. Five men from St. Luke's received their **certification as Early Responders**. They are: Joe Vallow; Joel Church; Tom Sayre; Frank Colandrea and Ron Dorenbush. Clara Gestwick was trained at an earlier date.
4. There is still a **tremendous need for early responders** in the Louisiana and Texas Conference areas after hurricanes Gustav and Ike.
5. **Kathryn Budzik will attend UMVIM Leader Training** November 21-22 to qualify her to lead the UMVIM trip to Brazil in 2009.
6. **Doug Dwoyer from NASA presented a program on Global Warming** and its affect on Hampton Roads following a potluck dinner this past Sunday.
7. There will be a **day trip to Suffolk this Thursday to help with tornado relief**. The group will leave from the church at 7:00 a.m.
8. The Service Ministry attendees **felt God was present in our four meetings of planning the budget**, and it may be that He is a little disappointed on how small the line items are compared to the overall budget.
9. The **next Service Ministry meeting** will be Tuesday, November 4.

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

1. Approximately **50 people attended Sunday's Effects of Global Warming dinner and program**. It was a very informative and eye-opening program.

#### **Board of Trustees** (Tom Sayre)

1. **Fred Sawin attended on behalf of the Board of Trustees** and reported that Tom Sayre is still recovering from surgery and doing very well.

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

1. The **deadline for the November newsletter** is tomorrow, October 15.

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

1. William Sutton is away on vacation but others reported on his behalf.
2. The **upcoming breakfast will be a business meeting** so there will be no program.
3. The **bazaar went very well** and may be consider as a fundraiser for next year.
4. **St. Luke's UMMen will prepare the dinner** for the upcoming UMMen District meeting.

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

1. The **Buckeye Sale** brought in over \$300.
2. **Three ladies attended the meeting** at Nolan.
3. The **next UMW meeting** will be a breakfast on Sunday, November 9. One of our district officers will present the program.

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

1. **James is attending classes on Thursday evenings**.
2. Pastor Clara reported that the **small group studies are going well** and that they are well attended.

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

1. Watch for upcoming special worship opportunities.

**Senior Pastor** (Doug Gestwick)

1. The **Annual Charge Conference** is November 20 at 7:00 p.m.
2. Pastor Doug **formerly welcome Nate DeHart** since he did not attend last month's Church Council meeting.
3. **Bill Boyers is our new Business Manager.** He has a degree in Business and Law and will bring a wealth of knowledge to this position.
4. **Laity Sunday is this Sunday, October 19.** Anthony Budzik will preach. Please pray for Anthony as he considers a call to ministry.
5. The **Staff Retreat was a great experience.** We all learned how fortunate we are as a staff that we work well together and enjoy doing so. We have agreed to develop a staff covenant and offer ways we can better support one another.
6. A group will be **taking a field trip to attend a contemporary worship service** and learn how to begin one here at St. Luke's.

**ADJOURNMENT**

1. Church Council members lifted up **Praises and Concerns** and Pastor Clara closed with prayer.
2. The **meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.**

*Submitted by Debbie Fullhart, Church Council Secretary*