

**Port Charlotte United Methodist Church  
Church Council Meeting  
Monday, April 7, 2014**

Bob Burr called the meeting to order. Terry Hixson gave devotions and prayer.

Pastor Brian presented a Synergy Plan for New Ministry which requests permission to launch a Book Club. Its purpose is to lead or draw non-believers to a relationship with Jesus as well as strengthen the relationship of believers with Christ. Its hope is that it could begin with a small group of church people who would then invite others. The Lay Person responsible for this ministry is Paul Chapdelaine, a new member of PCUMC. He is flexible regarding day and time for this ministry. Book selection will be cleared by either staff or Discipleship team or a combination thereof. He is open as to location – either church or one of the libraries. The goal is to have groups of not more than eight. It is self-supporting. Council voted on the Plan and it was approved.

The minutes from the March 3, 2014 meeting were approved.

**Salty Service – Chris Burr**

- . Chris gave a comprehensive status report to the congregation on March 30<sup>th</sup>.
- . The partnership with Trinity is working smoothly with Jim Eugenius preparing the food for them every other week.
- . Wanda Roberts, with the help of others, has received approval to run a used book sale on Wednesday evenings at WNO. This will help make up for the Habitat for Humanity deficit.
- . Health Ministry's next Lunch & Learn program is March 24<sup>th</sup> on arthritis.
- . There is concern about the children's summer lunch program as to whether we will be able to sustain it financially through the summer. Program is also two weeks longer than last year. Linda Bailey and Chris have been working on a letter to be sent to former contributors. We currently have enough funds to provide lunches for 2-3 weeks. Volunteers won't be a problem. Grants may be available. Chris was encouraged to contact the District Office.

**Discipleship – Linda Anderson**

- . Using the completed inventory of Adult Learning Material, Pastor Brian ranked the material so that a list of suggested learning material could be prepared to help Sunday School teachers in selecting future studies for their class.
- . Carol Hansen made a spreadsheet of all suggested Adult Learning Material.
- . Folders of the suggested Adult Learning Material were prepared and put in the mail boxes of the six adult Sunday School classes with a cover letter requesting that Linda be notified two weeks in advance of a new study so that it can be publicized to the congregation.

- . A stand-up board listing the current Sunday School study topics was made and put in the lobby in the hope of attracting those who might be interested in a particular study.
- . A spreadsheet of current study topics, time, location, start and end date, and facilitator was made by Frank Hansen and produced by Carol Hansen. This will continue to be updated as study topics change.
- . The goals for next month will be to prepare a list of substitute Sunday School teachers, in consultation with Pastor Brian. These substitutes would hopefully have two or three prepared lessons ready in case they are called upon. They would not be expected, unless they choose, to teach from the study being currently done in any class.
- . Another goal will be to provide a list of proposed new study materials to Pastor Brian for his approval to order some of them.

### **Hospitality – Marcie Marshall**

No report.

### **Staff-Parish – Tom Marshall**

SPR had staff presentations by Mik Vincze and Sean Bryan.

### **Finance/Treasurer – Fred Wagner**

- . Nancy Bosserdet indicated that income for March totaled \$96,000 – the highest amount other than December.
- . We paid 30% of our apportionments this month.
- . Fred mentioned the many success stories he has heard and gave kudos to our church for reaching out and bringing people to Christ. This, of course, helps the financial side because of what we all do.

### **Trustees – Mike Sniecinski**

- . We went over the cottage meeting agenda with Chuck Kinter. The total cost of Phase 1 should not exceed 1.8 million dollars.
- . The CWM orange room carpeting needs to be repaired or replaced.
- . Wireless access is operational.
- . The youth room which accommodates 20 needs expansion, as 30-35 are attending.
- . For safety's sake, we are getting a gate installed across the sidewalk on the west side of the youth room to prevent bike riders from driving from the sidewalk out into the driveway.

### **Worship – Karen Wenck**

- . Eleven committee members met on March 31<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 p.m.
- . The Ash Wednesday service was evaluated and determined to have been well received. We do realize that better lighting outside for the people manning the stations was needed.
- . On Palm Sunday, the children will process waving palms during the first hymn, "Hosanna."

- . On Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m., we will have the program “Jesus and the Passover” presented by the Jews for Jesus.
- . On Maundy Thursday, Paul Kisner will give the message “The Greatest Life.”
- . On Good Friday at 6:30 p.m. Pastor James’ message will be “Praying for your Life.” The choir will provide the music.
- . On Saturday of Holy Week, people will have the opportunity to walk the “Stations of the Cross” in the park.
- . Easter sunrise service will be in the park at 7:00 a.m., and Sean Bryan and the men’s quartet will provide the music. For the 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services, we will have the Bell Choir, Chancel Choir, and the Brass Ensemble providing the music.
- . The GEMS will provide flowers for Mother’s Day and we will have a cake for Father’s Day.
- . We will try to begin the announcements five minutes before the actual Sunday worship service begins. We also will do further research regarding the quality of the altar flowers.
- . The youth did a great job serving as ushers, liturgist, musicians, and giving testimony on Youth Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. Kudos to Paul Kisner for a great job working with the youth.
- . The next meeting will be on April 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

#### **Men’s Ministry – Sid White/Rick McCullough**

- . A very successful Emmaus gathering was held at the church on March 15<sup>th</sup> which included dinner, singing and communion.
- . Several men have helped three different church families move from one residence to another and we will help the fourth family this week.
- . Our final pancake breakfast until the fall was held on April 5th which was attended by over 100 paying persons. Mr. Rabbit was in attendance for the children. Six breakfasts were served to people who could not afford them.
- . The men had their meeting at Perkins this morning. A new member was recognized as the 2013 Outstanding Volunteer at Fawcett Memorial Hospital.
- . Board Meeting to be held this Wednesday at 3:00 p.m. and all men are encouraged to show up at the church at 8:00 a.m. to help set up the Un-Egg Hunt event scheduled for Saturday.

#### **Youth Representative – Paul Kisner**

- . Paul took six youth to Riverside Camp for the SW District youth retreat on March 7-9.
- . On March 11<sup>th</sup>, ten youth spent three hours working around the church for community service day. The plywood sign by the road was painted; all the chairs and tables in the fellowship hall were washed; and the crepe myrtle beds by the east entrance were weeded and mulched.
- . The youth went to play mini golf at Fish Cove on March 12<sup>th</sup>.
- . Seventeen youth helped with Youth Sunday on March 30th. Kaitlyn Fisher and Brandon Touchstone gave testimonies, and Lanie James sang a song at all three services. Kyle Dunda played the offertory on the piano at the 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services. Ali Eugenius and Megan Keating were the liturgists for the 11:00 a.m. service.

- . April 13th will be Confirmation Sunday. Cole Mandrick and Ali Eugenius will be confirmed at the 11:00 a.m. service. Both attended confirmation classes twice a month on Sunday afternoons since December along with their mentors.

**Children’s Representative – Dawn Kisner**

- . The church-wide Easter outreach will be on April 12<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Every leader of this church should be there to welcome the community to our church. Be sure to pick up your red Know\*Grow\*Go\* shirts.
- . Vacation Bible School registration has begun. Register early as spots go fast.
- . CSI Jerusalem for Kids’ Worship has begun and the children are having so much fun. Also working on Easter week programs for children while their parents are in services.
- . GEMS has 30 girls, and Elizabeth and all the leaders are doing a wonderful job. Getting ready for GEMS Sunday on Mother’s Day.
- . Children sang at the 11:00 a.m. service on Sunday. Thanks to Elizabeth and Lanie for leading the worship time with the children.
- . There are a lot of new families and babies in the children’s area on Sundays. Please be in prayer for the families that are here and those coming.

**CWM Representative – Barbara Pennington**

- . This week is our annual book fair. The scholastic book fair allows us to not only purchase good books for our classrooms but it is a fun way for us to raise money for equipment too. This year we have invited the parents and grandparents to come have lunch with their little ones and then shop after lunch.
- . We are doing a lot of review as we are getting closer to the end of the school year. Our VPK students will be assessed at the end of the month so we can have a comparison from the beginning of the school year to now. It is always interesting to see how much they have grown and changed.

**Lay Leadership**

Just keep thinking and praying about who’s out there who could be part of your team or something to do with the whole idea of Knowing, Growing and Going. Ease their anxieties about what it means to sit down with the Lay Leadership Committee. We always meet on the second Sunday of each month right after church. We have six new members that we took in this past month. One of the things we have asked the new members to do is to write a little bio about themselves and this information will be published for the congregation. Start engaging new folks and introduce yourselves and tell them how vital they are to our church. Ann Van Hoose-Olsen told us that, in the past, new members had mentors who stayed close to a person or family for six to nine months. Ann suggested that maybe it was time again to take a more active role in integrating new church members. Chris Burr indicated that the Widows group has taken an interest and provided companionship to those who need it. Pastor Brian thought mentoring was a great idea. As mentioned earlier, the youth joining our church have mentors. This will be further explored.

### **Other Business**

- . Fred Wagner stated that beginning April 15th and every Tuesday thereafter for about six weeks there will be a brown bag brainstorming luncheon for anyone interested in coming up with ways that PCUMC can create revenue.
  
- . Carol Hansen handed out copies of the Called Church Conference Resolution for the April 27<sup>th</sup> meeting for Council perusal. Discussion followed and Council approved the Resolution.
  
- . Carol also had absentee ballots reiterating the Resolution which will be available to church members who cannot attend the April 27<sup>th</sup> Conference. The resolution, cover letter, pledge card, and giving step chart will be going out in the mail this week to all congregational members. Absentee ballots must be in by Friday, April 25<sup>th</sup> so they can be counted on April 27<sup>th</sup>.
  
- . There have been several occurrences of vandalism at the church. Discussion followed and it was determined that on Fridays, the doors will be locked at noon.
  
- . Dependent on the vote on April 27<sup>th</sup>, the Trustees will be meeting every Tuesday night at 7:00 p.m. to discuss various aspects of the renovation.

### **Closing**

Pastor Brian gave the benediction.

Minutes submitted by Joan Sniecinski, Secretary

