

Port Charlotte UMC Council

April 4, 2016

Attending: Chris Burr, Salty Service Tom Marshall, Staff-Parish Fred Wagner, Evangelism
June Richards, CWM Brian James, Senior Pastor Linda Bailey, Discipleship
Paul Smith, Trustees Gary McCullough, Finance Nancy Bossardet, Fin. Sec.
Dean Winston, Generosity Gayla Pressner, Church Admin. Pat Winston, Recording Sec.
Terry Hixson, Lay Leader and Council Chair

Terry Hixson opened the meeting with a devotion on “Servant Leadership,” followed by the opening prayer.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were discussed and accepted.

Salty Service: Chair Chris Burr reported that she and Sue went to the Charlotte Foundation, which is operated through the Homeless Coalition. They will need training with entering data on the computer, but it will result in applicants for assistance being required to provide more detailed information. The Haiti Mission Trip was discussed and it was reported that Glenn and Sherry White will be traveling there in April or May to assess the facilities available. They will be doing a laundry soap sale as a fundraiser for the next 3 Sundays.

Finance: Chair Gary McCullough provided a detailed Finance Committee Report as of the end of February, citing a revenue over expenses of \$25,270.00, however this does not include payment of apportionments, which total \$60,320.00 for the year. Employees working 30 hours or more will qualify for insurance and pensions. The 2014 audit was approved. The 2015 audit is expected to be completed by the end of April. A new computer software system for the church was discussed. A day time custodian has been hired, and any pay discrepancy will be handled from the approved budget contingency. There are still outstanding pledges of approximately \$140,000.00.

Discipleship: Chair Linda Baily reported that they are looking for a more efficient way to save money on the amount of materials ordered for bible studies and ministries. The Upper Room and Bread of Life books have been moved to the portable book store. Pastor Brian James mentioned the need for someone experienced in retail to manage the book store. After discussion it was decided that Leaders need to ascertain the number of people attending, and attendees will purchase their own books for the class, which will greatly reduce the overages.

Evangelism: Chair Fred Wagner reported that they are doing well. New member classes will be the 3rd Monday of each month. The plan is to contact members joining in the last 12-18 months to see if they are involved in the church, and ascertain ways to get them more involved. He would like to have volunteers to be a “buddy” for the newer members and suggested bible study groups provide potential names.

Generosity: Chair Dean Winston outlined his strategy for increasing revenue by increasing members through small groups and communication. He would like to work with the media team to get messages out, and to create a passion in the congregation to demonstrate the “Know, Grow, Go” mission.

Trustees: Chair Paul Smith stated that the canopy is in progress, but is not a budget item at present. The door to the children's wing from the New Room is a security issue and they are looking into ways to make the doorways more secure. They are looking into magnets that tap into the fire alarm. The AARP income tax firm has informed the church that they will not be returning next year. Phase I of renovations is ending, and they are deciding what to include in the next phase. He mentioned the need for the sale of the 3rd bus. Financial Secretary Nancy Bossardet stated that one person seemed quite interested in the bus, but no offers have been made.

Staff-Parish: Chair Tom Marshall reported that the motorcycle group will no longer be training on the church property, which will result in a loss of revenue of \$11,000.00. Therefore, the bus sale price should be lowered from \$6,500.00 to \$5,000.00. Nancy will advertise it as such.

CWM: Representative June Richards reported that the Warren Willis summer camp will be July 4-9, with 20 children signed up so far. VBS will be held on Sunday mornings this year. The hours will be 9:00 a.m. until noon to allow for children with working parents to attend, and encourage parents to attend church. The pre-school is currently having their book fair. Graduation plans are being made, and the school is currently enrolling for next year.

Pastor Brian mentioned several inspiring instances where the church has touched the lives of people, after which he closed the meeting in prayer.

Submitted by: Pat Winston, Recording Secretary