

**Port Charlotte United Methodist Church
Church Council Meeting
Monday, January 6, 2014**

Terry Hixson opened the meeting with devotions and prayer. Bob Burr chaired the meeting.

Pastor Brian spoke about asking the new membership class to write down everything that looks weird to them since we see things differently after awhile. He encouraged people to play to their strength, and find ways to engage new people and make our ministry work for them. He also elaborated on the upcoming congregational meeting on Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

The minutes from the December 2, 2013 meeting were approved.

Council Reports

Salty Service

No report.

Discipleship – Linda Anderson

- . Frank Hansen and June Richards have been working with Linda on the Discipleship team. Specifically, Frank will be managing the Sunday School classes and Linda is trying to obtain information about all other discipleship activities in the church. They are still in the “information gathering stage” at this time but getting closer. Any suggestions will be welcomed by Linda.

Hospitality – Marcie Marshall

- . Greeters for the 8:00 a.m. service are needed. A notice will be put in Sunday’s church bulletin.
- . Sue Edmiston prepared coffee and cookies between the 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Christmas Eve services.
- . Deb Valler called greeters for all three services.

Staff-Parish – Tom Marshall

No meeting in December, thus no report.

Finance – Fred Wagner

- . We have a deficit problem which looms big in front of us for the next year unless something is done. Tonight’s meeting resulted in forming a committee which will be looking into alternate means of developing revenue for the church. Another committee will be looking at effectiveness of programs.
- . Nancy Bosserdet emphasized the good news that the 2013 debt will be about \$60,000 rather than the anticipated \$90,000-\$100,000. Finance will continue to revisit the 2014 budget, looking at all aspects to improve revenue streams. If every giving unit increased their giving by \$1.00 per day, it would provide an additional \$125,000 per year. We are not in dire straits, but we do have a serious situation which we are looking at closely.

Trustees – Mike Sniecinski

- . No meeting in December.
- . An Overview Presentation on the renovation project was done on the first Sunday in December at all three services.
- . On Sunday, January 12th, at 2:00 p.m. there will be a congregational meeting to review the proposed renovation. This is not a church conference, but a gathering to review, question and comment on the project to date. A vote will be taken for permission to move forward to the next phase which will provide construction costs and a financial plan.

Worship – Karen Wenck

- . Meeting will be held at the end of this month.
- . Volunteers are needed to undecorate church at noon on Thursday, January 9th.

Men's Ministry – Joe Wilcek

- . Nineteen people attended the breakfast this morning. Sean Bryan answered questions about the 9:30 a.m. service.
- . A Valentine's dinner/dance will be held on February 14th. Tickets may be obtained at the church office - \$25/couple or \$15/person – or between Sunday services.

Youth Representative – Paul Kisner

- . The Youth Ministry had a strong December to end 2013; 39 attended the annual Christmas party on December 11th. On December 18th, there was a Youth Christmas worship service in the Port with carols and a Christmas message. On December 27-28th, 27 youth attend the Christmas break lock-in. In addition, 5 college students and 3 adults helped out for the night.
- . Wednesday night youth group will resume on January 8th. Summer camp registration will begin at the end of the month. Two confirmation classes will be held on January 12th and 28th after morning worship.

Children's Representative – Dawn Kisner

- . Training on Child/Youth Protection Policy and CPR training will be given to all staff and volunteers.
- . A meeting with Elizabeth Ziegelbauer for G.E.M.S. is scheduled for January 9th. G.E.M.S. will resume meeting in February.
- . Working on a schedule and curriculum for WNO "Life Together" group and Dinner and a Movie for 2014.
- . Starting to organize Easter and VBS outreaches.

CWM Representative – Barbara Pennington

- . The Happy Birthday Jesus celebrations on the 19th and 20th were very well attended by the families.
- . Last week we got our preliminary Kindergarten Readiness Rate score. Our VPK children are screened on two different measures upon entering kindergarten. Not all children took the tests, but we scored a 92 out of 100. The teachers are doing an excellent job.
- . We are back in full force today de-decorating and cleaning. Looking forward to the Lions Club doing some vision and hearing screening for us.

Lay Leadership – Pastor Brian

- . Interviews will be in February for lay leadership positions.

Other Business

Carol Hansen encouraged all to attend the Real Ideas Conference at Van Dyke Church in Lutz on March 20-21st. This conference offers practical training and ideas to implement in many areas of church ministry. In order to get the discounted rate, registration must be by February 7th.

Closing

Paul Kisner gave the benediction.

Minutes submitted by Joan Sniecinski, Secretary