

The Arden UMC Council met on Monday June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 pm in the FLC with the following present: Jack Deardorff (chairperson) Jim and Sherry Whitacre, Doris Ann Fiddler, Ashley Horst, Brittany Young, Scott Boyd, Rachel Maston, Jerry Horner, Betty Catrow, Ron Nagley, Tom Bryant, and Anne Deardorff.

Doris Ann opened our meeting with a short meditation based on Matthew 16: 16, 18. We were reminded of the characteristics of a rock – hard to break, left and move. We often refer to things that are unmoving as “solid as a rock”. The church is built on rock – Christ Jesus! We, as his followers are continuing to add rock to that foundation through our faithful works in His name. Prayer that our works would be like ROCK was lifted.

### **Administrative Reports**

#### **1. Finance –**

In the absence of a finance chairperson, Pastor Sarah distributed General Fund Reports (generated from Kathy Burcham) for the months of March and May. We will catch up with April at the next meeting as it was left out.

- It was noted that a large check (\$4,946.76) was written to Church Mutual Insurance Company because they require that the first two of four quarterly payments be made together.
- The balance on the Money Market Account as of 5/31/2015 was \$28,224.41

Financial documents showing cash flow in General Fund are entered into Council records.

Jack reported that he had talked to several more candidates for the finance secretary position. There have been no volunteers.

#### **2. Staff/Pastor/Parish Relations Committee – Scott Boyd**

The SPPRC discussed the hiring of a paid nursery attendant. A job description was previously submitted to council and is part of records. The committee has given PS and Kaylyn Smith the approval to post and interview candidates; then recommend to the SPPRC. We would be have this person on board when the new Sunday School program kicks off in September.

While PS is on the Conference trip to Zimbabwe, pastoral care will be provided by:

Rev. Dr. Ken Walker, Pastor

Trinity United Methodist Church

304.263.9215 (church)

240.397.3368 (cell)

304.350.8696 (home)

[pastorkenw@comcast.net](mailto:pastorkenw@comcast.net)

PS will be out of the pulpit two Sundays. Carol Beebe will be preaching July 12<sup>th</sup> and Ed Tryon will be preaching July 19<sup>th</sup>. PS will return to the pulpit on July 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **3. Trustees – Jim Whitacre**

- There has been no interest from the congregation in purchasing the property. The next step will be to list the property for sale. First opportunity to list the property will be offered to a realtor in our congregation.
- Outdoor lighting upgrades to LED are being planned to save on utility costs.
- The water heater in the closet of the FLC will most likely need to be replaced. The breaker kicking it off is the result of lime buildup. Jim indicated that the life of our water heater has not been unreasonable.
- Work remains to be done on the bell tower – and will be.

### **Ministries and Programs**

#### **A. Beyond the Walls – Tom Bryant**

Tom is saddened that due to his health he has not been able to lead the gleanings as he once did. He thanked Doris Ann and Eddie Fiddler for taking the food donations from the church to the CCAP.

#### **B. Congregational Care – Sherry Whitacre**

A Homecoming picnic is being planned – tent date is 9/13.

#### **C. Worship – Ashley Horst**

This committee is actively meeting and discussing issues such as:

- Acolyte Program – new candles and lighting instruments are in the plan. The current tools using wax are causing problems with lighting. This makes the Youth nervous about participating as they are self-conscious when they have difficulty. The acolyte program has been opened to people of all ages and we will start seeing people of all shapes and sizes bringing in the light of Christ.
- Music – adding more contemporary songs to the 10:45 worship.
- Early Service – how to grow it and still meet the needs of those who are coming now.
- Schedule – With Sunday School start up in September, how will worship times and attendance be affected?

#### **D. Spiritual Growth – Doris Ann and Sue Nagley**

- VBS has been scheduled for July 20 – 23<sup>rd</sup>. Currently there are 29 children enrolled. The mission project for VBS this year is to raise money to purchase some outdoor tables for Mountain View Elementary School.
- The curriculum for Sunday School has been chosen from Cokesbury. The following members have volunteered to teach:  
Preschool – Position Open  
Lower Elementary – Meredith Denton  
Upper Elementary – Brittany Young  
New Adult Class – Erin Straley

#### **E. Youth – Ed Tryon**

Upcoming Events include serving a meal at Immanuel's House on June 29<sup>th</sup> and sponsoring a church wide swim party on June 28<sup>th</sup>.

**F. UMW – Elaine Bobo**

All the women of the church are invited to join the Rebecca Circle for dinner and theatre on July 2nd. They will be carpooling to Winchester to see the Summer Theatre production of the Adams Family.

The next blood drive is scheduled for September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**G. UMM – Tom Bryant**

Even though the majority of the group have been engaged with health issues, they managed to pull off the yard sale on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. The event generated \$2,134.00!!

They will be using some of the profit from the yard sale to purchase 5 lighter tables to be used next year. The older heavy tables are being donated to the Cub Scout group that Michael Parello is involved with. They are also making scholarship money available to Manidokan. It was suggested that adding windows to all of the Sunday School doors would be greatly appreciated, and that will be pursued.

**H. Young Adult Activities – Rachel Maston**

No report at this time.

**I. Family Ministries - Michael and Erica Parello**

No report at this time.

**J. Volunteers in Mission - Brittany Young**

The group is scheduled to travel to southern WV for any number of home repair tasks on August 9-15. An icecream social featuring homemade varieties as well as banana splits, sundaes and floats will be held on Sat. June 27<sup>th</sup> at 2pm in the FLC.

**K. Prison Ministry/Cluster News. – Ron Nagley**

- Ron was glad to report that he was getting back to the prison ministry after his recent surgery.
- The Cluster of United Methodists Churches of Berkeley County will be hosting the vesper service and picnic supper at the War Memorial Park on July 19<sup>th</sup>. Cooking will begin at 5:30 PM and he is looking for two grills and two persons to help with the grilling. The community is invited to bring a covered dish and join in an evening of fellowship and worship.
- New business from the Cluster – There will be a Young Adults Conference held at Queens Chapel UMC in Beltsville MD on July 24<sup>th</sup> – July 26<sup>th</sup>. Ron recommended to the Council that we cover the expenses of any young adult who would be willing to go. Brittany Young expressed an interest at that time.

**L. Pastor Sara**

- The old choir room has been emptied and reorganized. Thanks to Brenda Wroe and Ginny Butler for their help.
- A copy of the most recent brochure has been entered into Council records. It needs to be updated at the least.....what info do we want in a printed advertising piece?
- Charge Conference has been set for Saturday September 19<sup>th</sup> at 1pm at Trinity UMC in Martinsburg. Prior to this date, there is much to be done: salaries and lay leadership rosters for 2016; as well as reports from SPPRC, Trustees and finance must be ready at that time.
- Sam Tryon has prepared a conference summary and will be presenting it to the congregation soon.
- The curriculum for the young Adult Class starting in the fall will be A Disciples Path and it will follow the sermon series for the fall.
- The stained glass windows in memory of Mary and Ken will be dedicated on July 5<sup>th</sup> following the service.
- Over 100 people have completed the online membership information.
- Camperships – We have 4 youth who are going to camp – 3 adults who are working for the Camp – and others who are volunteering. There has been an update to the financial support being offered: Each camper will receive (between the Conference sponsor and Arden UMC sponsor) \$350.00 towards camp PLUS \$30 per camper and volunteer on their camp store account.

Council will meet on Monday August 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the FLC with an emphasis on Charge Conference preparation as well as our regular business.

PS closed with prayer and our meeting was adjourned.