

**Virginia Beach United Methodist Church
Church Leadership Council
October 21, 2015**

CLC Chair, Doug Knapp, called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. Those present: Dick Andrews, Janice Cagle, Chuck Cassidy, John Clarke, Chris Everly, Carolyn Fried, Joanne Griggs, Michael Key, Doug Knapp, Heather McEntee, Benson McGlone, Ken Miller, Lisa Miller, Tracy Miller, Edrie Pfeiffer, Ralph Rowley, Emily Ruppert, Brenda Stahl. Also present were Rosalee Jewell, Laura Ezell, Dusty Nickerson, Heidi Beauchaine, Kim Vakos, Tonya Brown, and Esther Whitesell.

Chris Everly gave the opening devotion, with scripture from Proverbs 11:28. Contrary to popular belief, leaves don't fall in the fall because of a change in weather. They change because of drought, and shrinking daylight leads to a lack of light absorption. It is easy to go through similar "dry spells" in our relationship with God when we focus on our own wealth. Without God, we wither and die, so it is important to keep our focus on Him and his ultimate plan for our lives.

New/On-going Projects:

15.49 Seaside School Proposal- Over the last several months, the Seaside - and Summer Splash programs and their budgets have undergone a thorough review. The Summer Splash program has incurred a \$12,086 deficit. Also, because of Safe Sanctuary staffing requirements and lower than expected enrollment, the School has incurred a \$12,932 deficit. Based on current enrollment, the Seaside School deficit is projected to increase. To help mitigate future losses and to increase revenue, a proposal is presented on behalf of the CLC Executive Committee. A lot of discussion about the program ensues, with information about the historical and current states of the program. It is determined that Seaside is an integral part of the ministry at VBUMC, and serves an important role in the community. Heidi Beauchaine, director of Seaside, added to the discussion that there is great demand for before/after school care that is currently unavailable. Opening up this option would be a great draw for raising current and future enrollment numbers. Many forms of social media, including Facebook and Nextdoor app, could be utilized to raise awareness of the program. The program would begin with a 2:00-6:00 p.m. after school time period, and as staff becomes available, a before school program would also be initiated.

A motion is brought forth to begin an after school care pilot program for Seaside school. Heidi B. will do her best to enroll the number of participants to make the after school care program profitable. It is voted on and is endorsed unanimously by CLC.

15.50 Seaside Adjustments to Safe Sanctuary Requirements- In order to make the Seaside program more financially stable, it is suggested that Seaside receive a waiver from following Safe Sanctuary requirements. State requirements for pre-schools require less staff when compared to Safe Sanctuary policies. It is noted that most pre-schools operated by the United Methodist Conference have moved away from SS requirements, citing that it is difficult to make the programs profitable when following SS. It is also noted that other children's programs operated by the church (Sunday School, choirs, nurseries, etc.) will NOT be receiving the waiver for SS. They will continue operating exactly as they are currently under SS policies.

A motion is brought forth to allow Seaside School to receive a waiver to operate without using Safe Sanctuary Policies. They are to follow the State requirements for

staffing classrooms appropriately for number/ages of children. It is voted on and is endorsed unanimously by CLC.

Administrative Reports and Other Business:

- 15.51 Stewardship- Stewardship Sunday is this coming Sunday, October 25.
- 15.52 Finance- Joanne Griggs gave a report on behalf of Finance. YTD receipts and expenses are right on track when compared to the budget thus far. The deficit is currently \$83,155, where it was budgeted to be \$82,292. This gives a small variance in the amount of \$863.
- 15.53 Trustees- John Clarke gave a report on behalf of the Trustees. The new doors have been installed on the sanctuary, and they look great! We are currently waiting on the new pews. The plaque honoring Dave Lundquist and Pat Bridges for their work on the Garden Party is currently being produced. On November 8, there will be an organ concert in the sanctuary. We should be proud to have such a beautiful organ, but it is seldom used for community concerts. Please come out on the 8th at 4:00 to support the event!
- 15.54 Pastor's Reports- Pastor Benson gave the first report on behalf of the pastors. Benson is encouraged by the young adult Bible study that he is leading. He is appreciative that a local business, Wasserhund, has been lending the use of their facility for the study every Tuesday. "Things are good!"

Pastor Ralph gave the second report on behalf of the pastors. Tom Melzoni and his capital campaign company, *Horizons*, is ready to assess the funding capability of the church for the North Wing Project. He will be here on Monday the 26th to begin the preliminary planning for the study. We, as a church, are only committed for the feasibility study, and then we can decide if we want to proceed further. The cost of the study is \$12K.

One of the 3 financial goals for the Giving Rocket program was to establish an Endowment. The Foundation was an existing program, and it has been merged with the newly established Endowment. There has been a task force established to look at and update the bylaws. The first order of business was to give some flexibility to the meeting time and frequency- it is suggested to meet quarterly instead of yearly. Perhaps there needs to be a representative from Trustees to assist with the goals of the Endowment.

November 9th is the date of the upcoming Charge Conference. Voting members of CLC may vote at the Charge Conference. CLC meetings will likely be held less frequently following next month's meeting.

Pastor Ralph expressed his appreciation for the prayers and support for him and his family during Marcia's diagnosis. She is scheduled to begin chemotherapy on November 3rd.

There being no more business, Pastor Ralph closed the meeting in prayer at 9:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Key, Secretary