

Virginia Beach United Methodist
Church Council Minutes
April 17, 2019

CLC Chair, Scott Poteet called the meeting to order. Those present: Steve Burich, Chuck Cassidy, Amy Arrington, Heyden Wittman, Joanne Griggs, Mark Miller, Scott Poteet, Edrie Pfeiffer, Fred Metz, Martha Jo Wilson, Brenda Stahl, Amy Simpson, Beth Lantz. Before the official meeting, Scott Poteet led the council members to the new youth area for a quick tour. Pastor Mark led the group in a prayer and blessing for the new facility.

Edrie Pfeiffer led the group in a devotion based on James 1:5-9: *If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. 6 But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. 7 That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. 8 Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do. 9 Believers in humble circumstances ought to take pride in their high position.*

After reading the scripture, Edrie read a devotion about seeking wisdom from God when confronting problems and learning with God's help to run to problems as David did with Goliath and not away from problems as Saul did with Goliath. But first, seek wisdom from God as stated in James 1.

Reports

19.9 Senior Pastor Report VBUMC will continue with 3 Worship Services on Sunday April 28, 2019. Most of the traffic congestion from *Something in the Water* will occur in the afternoon and evening. Chris Lane, our worship leader from 9:30 church will participate in a pop up worship service with *Something in the Water* directly after 11:00 a.m. service on April 28th. This service will be on 20th street and the oceanfront.

Pastor Mark continues to be encouraged by the good work that is being done in church and excited about our future. He reviewed weekly attendance numbers. Much of our growth is with young families. The number of children continues to increase for both 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in both worship and our nursery. Average adult weekly attendance is just under 600 for all 3 services.

Next Level Innovations: We are entering our next phase of Next Level Innovations Strategic Planning. The first phase was focused on local pastor with training, reading, workshops, learning how to navigate change in the church, and how to coach and mentor others. The second phase will be focused on our local church. We will have a Ministry Focus Event on Thursday May 16, 2019 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to

attend. At this event a consultant will be present to conduct surveys, input from members, etc. A team from Next Level Innovations will also review our database to look at trends. They will also send a team for a surprise visit to our church between now and November when the third phase will begin. In November the third phase begins with a strategic planning time with the congregation. On November 24, we will have a worship service with our consultants where our Strategic Initiatives and Goals will be revealed.

Pastor Mark reported that the staff is also working on clarifying processes and systems within our church such as the personnel handbook, job descriptions, etc.

Mark reported that the youth space is nearly complete and should be open in 1 to 2 weeks.

Staff meetings occur every Tuesday and include once a month lunch and learn meetings that include various community members to provide information on community ideas and events.

An all-day staff retreat was held and 2 goals were reviewed: revamping the church website and reviewing our guest path and how we track and monitor people with their first time encounter with our church to becoming a church member.

19.10 Grow Ministry Brenda Stahl reported that Discipleship is going well and all groups are meeting at this time except Holy Yoga which hopes to resume in May. A new Life Group is beginning on Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m. for our 20-30 something age group. This group is growing!

Brenda also reported for the Children's Ministry. A visioning steering team has begun. Children's Ministry is connecting with technology and with parents.

The Youth recently held a Middle School retreat and our youth will be attending Jeremiah Project this summer as a mission project. This year our youth have 5 confirmands participating in confirmation.

19.11 Serve Ministry Chuck Cassidy reported that our staff has been updated on offerings from our Stephen Ministry and how to refer persons needing a Stephen Minister.

Chuck reported that Harriet Dobb has a group that regularly visits shut-ins.

Also, Chuck reported that Mandy Cutchins our Interim Missions Director, has agreed to be the Mission's Director and is currently working with Potter's House and adding new opportunities for Potter's House. She is recruiting young people to work with our Potter's House mission.

Martha Jo Wilson and Chuck reported that SEA Fellowship has been meeting at Baylake UMC while our kitchen is out of commission. They have very much enjoyed their time at Baylake UMC and are very thankful for the people they have met and the facility they have been able to utilize.

19.12 Administrative Report Amy Arrington reported that the staff will have more training from a Shelby consultant during May.

Amy also reported that the sprinkler system has been brought up to current city code.

19.13 Staff Parish Relations Report Heyden Wittman reported that Mandy Cutchins has agreed to be Director of Missions and Outreach.

Justin Talk has offered his resignation as of June 9. He has been offered an opportunity that is better suited for his family at this time.

Maddie Crane has agreed to come in as interim Director of Youth through the summer. A reception will be held to celebrate Matt Potter's ministry with us on June 16.

Committee Reports

19.14 Finance Committee Joanne Griggs reported that we are in the black. We have General Fund Receipts of 1.3 million and expenses of 1.2 million with a positive balance of \$108,788.

Capital Campaign with current year to date receipts of 1.1 million

Seaside School has a positive balance

Finance Committee reviewed the budget for next year and a balance budget will be proposed. This budget will be finalized and brought to CLC for a final review and vote in June.

19.15 Stewardship reported that they did not see an increase in giving units, but did see an increase in giving. We have a very generous congregation. The committee also noted an increase in numbers of giving units in the five thousand-ten thousand giving range and in the one thousand - five thousand giving range which is very positive.

19.16 Trustees no report

19.17 Second Century Amy Arrington reported that building plans have been submitted to the city for approval. This process takes approximately 45-60 days for final approval.

New Business

19.17 A motion was made to receive an update from Terry Jenkins on current child care policy and strategies, to include child care costs, feasibility and strategic usage for child care at VBUMC.

Closing prayer was offered by Pastor Mark and the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.