

Lafayette United Methodist Church  
Church Council Meeting Minutes  
May 13, 2015 -- draft

Present: Interim Chair Pat Hershey. Pastor Marylee, Doug Cowden, Joe Darrell, Renee Emerson, Nancy Flood, Judy Garvens, Ginny Horner, Ginny Leavitt, Leslie Murray, Dale Newcomb, Sue Renno, Robyn Roberts and John Slosser.

Pat Hershey called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m., offered an opening prayer, and asked for a moment of silence for the people of Nepal suffering the effects of earthquakes.

Pastor Marylee reminded the Council that the new church courtyard serves as a river of beauty telling us who we are, and as a portal to God. She and the entire Council thanked Robyn and Dale for their extraordinary efforts as members of the courtyard construction committee, and she presented them with framed photographs in appreciation.

Pastor Marylee led the Council in a responsive reading: "We Are God's Handiwork."

The Council noted the following upcoming calendar items:

- May 20: Coffee & Chat
- May 24: Pentecost Sunday
- June 7: 2nd Milers
- June 14: Youth Confirmation Sunday
- June 21: Choir Sunday
- June 22-26 & 28: Vacation Bible School
- July 25: Food Bank Service Opportunity
- July 19, August 9 & 23: Membership Classes
- August 16: Worship in the Park
- September 13: New Member Sunday
- September 25-27: Women's Retreat

### Special Ministry Reports

Robyn for the Outreach Team described the Methodist Church's extensive work to eradicate malaria, and reminded the Council that this effort would be the focus of the upcoming Sunday service, with a special offering to be taken.

Sue described the science theme for the upcoming Vacation Bible School and said that she expected strong enrollment. She asked the Council to offer ideas on ways to connect the families of the children attending to our church. Council members offered a number of ideas, including daily notes to families featuring church members with children, more use of social media, more direct interaction with parents as they pick up their children, an activity for children several weeks after VBS, and an invitation to

Worship in the Park. Sue encourages all church members to email additional ideas to her at sprenno@comcast.net.

### Ministry Discussion (Highlights and Proposals)

Those present shared with the Council highlights in their ministries, shared any concerns, and brought to the Council any proposals needing approval, as follows:

#### Staff Parish

Judy Garvens reported that Karla Lewis, currently a Joyful Beginnings preschool aide, has been hired as Sunday caregiver for children during church services.

#### Worship and Evangelism

Judy Garvens summarized for the Council a written report provided by Janet Thompson which described subjects discussed at the May 11 meeting of Welcome and Evangelism, with particular emphasis on the new member classes scheduled for July 19, August 9 and August 23. Judy said that these classes were open to all. That would include those interested in membership, those who just visit LUMC regularly and want to learn more about spiritual gifts inventory, Methodist values, or the church, or to anyone who would like to learn and refresh themselves on these topics.

#### Finance

The council reviewed the April financial statements. John Slosser, Finance Committee Chair, reported that while April net income was under budget, revenue year to date was above budget. He reported that income from the rummage sale was approximately \$6,600 to date. He reported that the Finance Committee was closely monitoring expenses, including copier, telephone, utilities and pastor's reimbursement account. He reported that overall the finances of the church are healthy at the present time.

Pastor Marylee requested that the practice of including a brief statement of financial status in the bulletin be resumed, and that the results of special offerings also be included.

#### Endowment

Doug Cowden reported that Endowment Committee recommends to Church Council that the following 2015 grants be approved:

#### Outreach

\$150 Imagine No Malaria  
\$150 Hannah Straw Uganda Project  
\$100 Cantare Con Vivo Children's Choir  
\$100 Shower Passes for Winter Nights

#### Inreach

\$2334 Capital improvements for fellowship hall entry way and men's restroom  
\$500 trellises for courtyard  
\$500 Faith Formation TV and DVD

\$400 Church reimbursement for Winter Nights expenses.

Doug reported that additional grant recommendations are under consideration.

A motion was made, seconded and carried that the recommended grants be approved.

#### 2nd Milers (Senior Adults)

Ginny Leavitt reported that the 2nd Milers have decided to try a "Coffee & Chat", scheduled for Wednesday, May 20 at 10:00 a.m. The format will be simply a casual get together, with no specific agenda. Ginny also reported that Janet Thompson and Karen Chuck will be offering a presentation with insights into living alone, and will schedule visits as requested to senior care facilities in the area.

#### Women's Ministry

Nancy reported that the recent annual women's picnic at Julia White's house was a big success despite the rain. The next meeting will be on Thursday, September 3. Donations have been made to Imagine No Malaria, Winter Nights, and missionary Katharine Parker. Women's Ministry funds have also been transferred to an account on the church's balance sheet.

#### Stitch-in-Time

Ginny Horner reported that the Dress a Girl Around the World project is underway again.

#### Other Ministry Team Reports

##### Trustees

Leslie reported that consideration was being given to water conservation measures at the church facilities. She also reported that in an effort to improve the church's recycling efforts changes as well as an education program are underway.

##### Pastor's Report

Pastor Marylee reported that she will be a clergy presenter at a Walk to Emmaus gathering in Redding, California during the coming week, and hopes to use the experience to look for ways to grow spirituality in our church.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:25 p.m. The next meeting of Church Council will be Wednesday, June 10 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joe Darrell, Secretary