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Ebenezer Bowman Church Council Minutes 2023

Ebenezer United Methodist Church, Bowman

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Ebenezer United Methodist Church Administrative council met on Sunday January 22 at 6 pm. There were 13 members present. Pastor Written provided the opening prayer.

Minutes from previous meeting read and approved.

Treasurer Report given by Stacy Weathers- Oct-Dec 2022 Quarterly Report was provided for review. \$10,000 check was sent for Rock Riser Medical Fund. Stacy will total donations received in church vestibule bank bag \$4600 and send check to Rock Riser Medical Fund. Stacy requested in the future if any decisions are made for the church to receive public donations for mission, she needs to be notified so that she is aware of the said donations. Direct billing has increased from \$595.91 to \$612.41 which was set up for auto-draft in January. Apportionments 100% is \$7,907 was approved to be paid in full instead of quarterly. Children/Youth Program budget is \$2000 annually and is currently available for use in 2023. There was discussion that Ebenezer may possible receive a bill from Wightman requesting payment for 1/3 of the landscaping bill from past 2 years which was providing pine straw around the parsonage. It was decided that if the bill arrives, a copy will be provided to Pastor Written to share with District Superintendent and a copy will be provided to Trustees to discuss with Wightman trustees.

Youth Program Report given by Ali Weathers-The children are continuing to participate in the Children/Youth program. Laurie provided a children's program during the first young women's meeting on January 15. She continues to provide children's church during the worship service. There will be an Easter Egg Hunt with date TBD.

Women of Faith Report given by Anne Weathers who stated that the number of women attending has been 5-6. There is a possibility that Women of Faith will be disbanded due to low numbers of attendance. The younger women of the church had their first meeting on Jan 15 for bible study and had 11 in attendance but no plans have been made for this group to become a part of Women of Faith at this time.

Trustees report given by Ben Riser- A request from Don West was received that the West family would like to move the Denny West Memorial stone to another designated area and place coping around it. The West family will pay for this project and it was approved. Freddie Judy will continue to provide lawn care and Caleb Patrick will be spreading the needed chemicals on cemetery grounds to prevent weeds.

New Business- There is a meeting scheduled on Saturday Jan 27 at St Andrews Church regarding Groundwork for Disaffiliation. Alton Whetsell and Tammy Smith are obtaining information regarding Global Methodist Church and the process that other churches are going through with disaffiliation. Anne Weathers and Bert Judy made a motion that the information Alton and Tammy receive will be discussed again at next administrative council meeting with no plan to begin 30 day discernment process at this time. The motion was seconded by Ali Weathers.

Next Administrative council meeting is scheduled for April 23 at 6pm. Pastor Written offered closing prayer.

Respectfully Submitted by Tracy Judy

Ebenezer United Methodist Church Administrative Council met on Sunday, April 23, at 4 pm. There were 10 members present. Pastor Written provided the opening prayer.

Minutes from previous meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer Report given by Stacy Weathers- Jan-March 2023 Quarterly Report was provided for review. Apportionment \$7,907 was paid in full. The total due was less than last year's apportionment. Landscaping for March and April of \$450 was paid to Freddie Judy.

Trustees report given by Ben Riser- It was noted that chemicals used on cemetery is working well. He will follow up with Caleb Patrick to find out when spraying may need to be done again. Insurance agent came to church and assessed church grounds stating that insurance policy coverage is adequate. Marty will follow up to find out what additional coverage will be needed for youth trips and cost.

PPRC report given by Anne Weathers- PPRC met Pastor Mary Everhart, who is expected to be approved as the new pastor at Annual Conference in June. Her plans are to keep her permanent residence in Summerton, but she may stay overnight at the parsonage at times if she is in meetings late at night and doesn't want to drive back home. Her first Sunday in Ebenezer will be the first Sunday in July.

Old Business- Wightman will not be requesting assistance for payment for landscaping at parsonage. There will be ongoing investigation and discussion regarding disaffiliation. Administrative Council would like to meet with Pastor Mary at her convenience, preferably in May, and Pastor Written will discuss with her at their May 2nd meeting.

New Business- It was brought up that Lyle Davis's brother Lawton Davis is undergoing cancer treatment trials and with his wife and young children could benefit from a donation. The motion was made, seconded, and approved to donate \$5,000 to Lawton and that a bank bag would be placed in the vestibule of church for 3 Sundays for members to donate individually as they feel led to. Anne will announce the opportunity to donate at church via Ebenezer families, and Pastor Written will place announcement in bulletin.

Ali Weathers resigned as Superintendent of Sunday School. It was discussed that the only Sunday school class being held regularly is the adult class, and Anne has agreed that if teachers need any support they could reach out to her.

Anne will also begin the role of supervising Laurie Branch, the Children/Youth activities director. She will assist Laurie as needed with planning and organization of the Children/Youth program. Anne has created a schedule for parents and other volunteers to assist Laurie with Children's church and she will be contacting those persons to ensure they are willing to assist prior to posting.

Marty Connelly has agreed to assist with the organization of the finance portion of the Children/Youth program. A motion for the development of a Children/Youth Advisory Committee was made, seconded and approved with members being Ben Riser, Alton Whetsell, Stacy Weathers, Marty Connelly, Anne Weathers, Tracy Judy and the pastor. Also approved was that the Children/Youth Advisory Committee will review for approval any requests for Children/Youth program needs between \$250-\$999. Any requests \$1,000 or above will be brought before full administrative council.

Children/Youth forms including Guidelines for Participation, Medical Authorization for Minors, and Permission slip were provided to council after being reviewed and approved by Frank Quattlebaum.

Board approved the use of these forms and Anne Weathers will work with Laurie Branch to ensure forms are completed for each child/youth and one copy is stored in church records and one copy will be kept by Laurie during activities/trips. Marty advised that all persons should provide proof of vehicle insurance prior to transporting children/youth for church activities/trips. Tracy Judy and Marty Connelly will work with Laurie in the case of a credit card being needed to provide for activities or trips for Children/Youth group.

Next Administrative council meeting is scheduled for July 23 at 6pm. Pastor Written offered closing prayer.

Respectfully Submitted by Tracy Judy

Ebenezer United Methodist Church Administrative Council Meeting

June 11, 2023

A special called meeting of Ebenezer UMC Administrative Council was held with Pastor Mary Everhart. Her husband Steve accompanied her to the meeting. There were 11 members present. Pastor Everhart provided the opening prayer.

Pastor Everhart will have office days in the parsonage on Mondays. She will conduct member visitations on Tuesday afternoons. She will ask a member of each church to accompany her on home visits. Anne Weathers and Linda Quattlebaum have agreed to accompany her for Ebenezer visits. Pastor Everhart attends a class each Tuesday from 10am-12noon. Pastor Everhart prefers to communicate by email. Email address: bowman_charge@yahoo.com. Her cell phone number is (843)833-2037 and mailing address is 1101 Triangle Dr., Summerton, SC 29148. She has created a public Facebook page to share information with all 3 congregations named The Bowman Charge United Methodist Church.

Pastor Everhart plans to conduct Children's sermon after the Doxology and then children will leave the sanctuary. She would like information to be included in the bulletin submitted to her by Thursday of each week. The Homebound and Illness/Injury/Sickness list on the bulletin will be cleared and a new list will be created once members notify the Pastor. John and Linda Quattlebaum will continue to pick up the bulletins on Sunday mornings to bring to Ebenezer. If Pastor Everhart is running late for the service, she would like for someone to lead worship until she arrives. Anne will ask Adult Sunday School teachers if they would assume this duty on their respective Sundays. Pastor Everhart plans to take 5th Sundays off. Anne will plan the worship services on those Sundays and reach out to members for assistance. Administrative council meetings will continue once a quarter. Communion will not be held on July 2nd due to this Sunday being the pastor's first Sunday in the Bowman charge. Pastor Everhart prefers offering Holy Communion once per month but will hold once per quarter if that is the wish of the congregation.

Pastor Everhart requests her checks by mail to her Summerton address on the first of each month. Stacy will send it. Council approved \$500 check with thank-you note be presented to Pastor Written on June 25th during church service. Tracy will present the gift.

Devotion books for the kindergarten graduates will be presented on Sunday, 6.18.23. Tracy will inform the pastor.

Prayers were lifted at the end of the meeting for Margaret Weathers.

The regularly scheduled meeting of Ebenezer UMC Administrative Council met on October 22, 2023 at 7pm. There were 12 members present.

Opening prayer was offered by Anne Weathers.

Minutes from previous meeting were read and approved.

Charge conference was held at Wightman on October 4, 2023. Six members from Ebenezer were present. Discussion regarding presentation from DS Rev Ken Nelson was shared.

PPRC Report- Anne provided information regarding one-time payment of \$4,000 to Pastor Everhart to reimburse for expected salary due to not needing conference health insurance as promised by DS. Lyle Davis was elected Chairman of Charge PPRC.

Treasurer Report- Quarterly treasurers report was given by Stacy Weathers. Grounds maintenance will no longer be deducted from Cemetery fund. A separate line item has been placed in the budget for this expense. Approval to give person providing Santa services \$150. Stacy will utilize 7 boxes of tithing envelopes prior to ordering another supply if needed.

Children/Youth Report- Anne will remind children/youth program of expected time frame necessary for reimbursement or payments needed. Program has been serving children on Sunday mornings and at least 1 activity per month. Collections and donations are being accepted for Christmas Shoebox ministry.

Fall Festival was held today 5-7pm with large crowd enjoying the meal and festivities.

Trustee Report- Jamey Harris inspected church and recreation hall for fire marshal. It was reported that 1 more fire extinguisher is needed in church and in recreation hall. Exit signs need to be placed over doorways in Sunday school rooms. Ben will place signs and purchase fire extinguishers. AED was ordered American Red Cross but may take up to 6 months for delivery due to backorders. Decision was made to have carpet cleaned and dehumidifier placed in church due to allergy symptoms of members during church services. Frank will reach out to Rodney Faulling for carpet services and recommendation for dehumidifier. Plans were made to have air quality/mold assessment in January 2024. Mark's Music completed work on speakers and microphones purchased for \$1,825. Piano was tuned by Stan Lorick with payment made of \$175. Church and recreation hall cleaning costs are \$275 per month.

Church Disaffiliation Process Discussion- copies of disaffiliation paperwork provided by DS Rev Ken Nelson was shared with council members. Decision was made to move forward with disaffiliation process. Checklist for Closure and Separation in 2024 was reviewed and tasks were assigned to members of council for documents needing to be provided to Annual Conference Trustees, c/o Beth Westbury by December 1, 2023. There may be a brief council meeting necessary prior to the deadline to ensure that all documents have been obtained. Church members will be notified of public information meeting regarding Disaffiliation to be held on November 12 at 11am.

The next regularly scheduled Administrative Council meeting is scheduled for Sunday January 7 at 5pm.

Closing prayer was offered by Tammy Smith.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tracy Judy