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Latta United Methodist Church
Church Council
January 31, 2011

Members present: Glenn Greene, III, Carol Stoops, Lee Phillips, Marsden Cox, Henry Brunson, Rose Merry Bethea, Corky Lane, Percy George, Richard Gaddy, Becky Coleman, Millie George, Becky Gaddy, Sandra Roberts, Debra Finklea, Mary Cox, Houston Manning, Katie Stoops, Beth Griffin, Bryant Brown

The meeting opened with prayer by the chairperson, Glenn Greene, III.

Minutes from the October 25, 2010 meeting were approved as written.

Committee Reports:

PPRC- Marsden Cox

- Met in November to review the responsibilities of the custodian
- Met earlier in January to complete Advisory Response forms. The committee voted for Rev. Phillips to return for another year.

Trustees- Corky Lane

- Trustees have not met yet this year, but there is a list of things that have been and need to be done:
 - Storage Room has been added to Fellowship Hall
 - Decorative lighting has been added outside
 - Roof on Children's building and Chapel will be done this year
 - Fellowship Hall and Walkway roof will need to be done in next two years
 - Parking lot needs work
 - Air conditioning units in the church are old and will need to be replaced soon
 - Air conditioning unit in the Men's Hut needs to be replaced
 - Windows in the parsonage need to be replaced (either PPRC or Trustee money will be used to replace windows when it is determined who is responsible)
 - Wiring and outlets in the parsonage have all been redone

Finance- Percy George

- Percy sent a letter to the council regarding having Harold Kornblut do a review of our books each year. The letter included a proposal from Mr. Kornblut. The cost would be \$750.
- A motion was made and seconded that we let Mr. Kornblut do the review and pay him out of the General Contingency fund this year then add it to the 2012 budget and have it done every year.

Youth Activities- Becky Coleman/Carol Stoops/Katie Stoops

- Vacation Bible School planning is underway- would like United Methodist Women to help with kitchen duty.
- M&M's have split- M&M's include 4k-3rd grade (Alex & Carol Stoops lead that group) Another group led by Tim & Kim George called ABC's includes grades 4-6. Both groups have 8-10 kids each week.
- Youth are going on a ski trip in February, Acquire the Fire in March, Camping in May.
- Guest speakers are being lined up to talk to youth each week about various topics.

Adult/Family- Millie George

- Fixed full Thanksgiving dinner and helped with Christmas dinner
- Assists Evangelism committee with birthday dinners

Sunday School Superintendent- Becky Gaddy

- Polly Haselden and Dena Kitts are teaching Middle School Sunday School class while Jane Martin is taking a break.
- Sunday School Teachers are doing a great job.
- There are 13 children in the pre-school class
- There is interest in having a young adult class
- 5th Sunday offerings have been going to the Methodist Manor. A motion was made to change it so that the offering would go to children's ministries and alternate between Bags of Life and Epworth Children's Home. Motion passed.

Evangelism- Sandra Roberts

- First birthday dinner is done. Sandra appreciates those that help.

United Methodist Women- Sandra Roberts

- Our church will host the district annual meeting on October 9, 2011
- May need to discuss adding all women of the church to the list to call for fixing food for funeral meals.

Worship- Mary Cox

- Hanging of the Greens service went very well.
- Talk about having the tree delivered and put up

Missions- Debra Finklea

- Christmas gifts were appreciated by the county
- Remaining missions money went to help with Prison Christmas project
- Bags of Life Ministry is on-going. Thanks to all who help.

Presbyterian Church has extended an invitation to us to join them for Shrove Tuesday pancake supper and they will participate in our Ash Wednesday service. Council agreed to support that idea.

Meeting was adjourned with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Stoops, Recording Secretary

Latta United Methodist Church
Church Council
April 25, 2011

Members present: Glenn Greene, III, Lee Phillips, Marsden Cox, Percy George, Millie George, Becky Gaddy, Mary Cox, Krista Byrd, Lafon Legette

The meeting opened with prayer by Lee Phillips.

Minutes from the January 21, 2011 meeting were approved as written.

Committee Reports:

PPRC: Marsden Cox

Committee has met once since last meeting to complete church profile.

Trustee: Lafon Legette

- Storage Room and walk between Fellowship Hall and Men's Hut have been completed.
- Would like to add more outside lighting.
- Roof on Children's building has been replaced.
- Fellowship Hall and walkway roofs need to be replaced.

Finance: Percy George

- Review of books has been completed and the books balance.
- Computer agrees with the books
- Church overspent last year. Finance Committee should meet to look at income and expenses.
- Joe Powell reviewed the books and will help Alice Faye as needed with the computer. Errors found were clerical and all have been cleared up.
- Carol Stoops asked if money is budgeted for cleaning of parsonage and for pastor's moving expenses.

Youth Activities: Krista Byrd

- Everything is going good.
- Weekly guest speakers are lined up to talk to youth
- Youth have gone skiing and attended Acquire the Fire
- Youth participated in Juvenile Diabetes Research fundraiser
- Will go hiking and camping at Edisto State Park in May

Adult/Family: Millie George

No report

Sunday School Superintendent: Becky Gaddy

- Pleased with number of people in attendance
- Jane Martin is back
- Becky continues to work on selecting a bible to give to youth. Not satisfied with last choice.

Evangelism: Sandra Roberts

No report

United Methodist Women: Sandra Roberts
No Report

Worship: Mary Cox
All is fine. Easter was a busy time.

Missions: Debra Finklea
No report

Lee Phillips announced that the District Superintendent is coming in June to preach.

Meeting was adjourned with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Stoops, Recording Secretary
by Millie George

Latta United Methodist Church
Analysis of Revenues & Expenses - Detail Portrait-QTD
Year-to-date, Through June 2011

Note: The Report Option to include Open Transactions is selected.

Accounts	Annual Budget (This Year)	QTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Actual (This Year)
Expenses			
Staff Support			
SALARIES			
5001 - PASTOR'S SALARY	\$36,364.00	\$9,090.99	\$18,181.98
5002 - SECRETARY'S SALARY	\$14,029.71	\$3,507.40	\$7,014.80
5003 - ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR'S SALARY	\$8,885.52	\$2,221.31	\$4,442.62
5004 - JANITOR'S SALARY	\$9,217.29	\$2,304.25	\$4,608.50
5005 - SUMMER YOUTH WORKER	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
5009 - CHRISTMAS GIFTS	\$550.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
5010 - PPRC CONTINGENCY	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total SALARIES	<u>\$72,046.52</u>	<u>\$17,123.95</u>	<u>\$34,247.90</u>
PERSONNEL EXPENSES			
5105 - PASTOR'S PENSION CONTRIBUTION	\$2,400.00	\$600.00	\$1,200.00
5106 - PASTOR'S PENSION PROGRAM EXPENSE	\$9,265.00	\$2,315.22	\$4,630.44
5122 - LAY EMPLOYEE'S SOCIAL SECURITY	\$2,600.00	\$614.64	\$1,229.28
5130 - PASTOR'S HEALTH INSURANCE PAYMENT	\$9,648.00	\$2,412.00	\$4,824.00
5131 - PASTOR'S HEALTH INSURANCE EXPENSE	\$12,115.00	\$3,027.96	\$6,055.92
5135 - WORKER'S COMP. INSURANCE	\$1,200.00	\$134.25	\$437.50
5140 - PARSONAGE UTILITIES/EXPENSES	\$3,000.00	\$750.00	\$1,500.00
5150 - ANNUAL CONF. EXPENSES (LMAC)	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Total PERSONNEL EXPENSES	<u>\$40,528.00</u>	<u>\$10,154.07</u>	<u>\$20,177.14</u>
Total Staff Support	<u>\$112,574.52</u>	<u>\$27,278.02</u>	<u>\$54,425.04</u>
CC APPORTIONMENTS & ASKINGS			
5901 - EPISCOPAL FUND	\$835.00	\$208.75	\$417.50
5902 - DISTRICT SUPT. COMPENSATION	\$1,528.00	\$382.00	\$764.00
5903 - PENSION & INSURANCE ADMIN	\$2,726.00	\$681.50	\$1,363.00
5904 - EQUITABLE COMPENSATION FUND	\$705.00	\$176.25	\$352.50
5905 - CONFERENCE INSURANCE	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
5906 - DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION	\$1,103.00	\$275.75	\$551.50
5907 - DISTRICT PARSONAGE/OFFICE	\$1,009.00	\$252.25	\$504.50
5908 - SENIOR COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS	\$1,868.00	\$467.00	\$934.00
5909 - SPARTANBURG METHODIST COLLEGE	\$942.00	\$235.50	\$471.00
5910 - CAMPUS MINISTRY	\$891.00	\$222.75	\$445.50
5911 - METHODIST HOMES RESIDENT ASSISTANCE	\$832.00	\$208.00	\$416.00
5912 - CAMPS & RETREAT MINISTRIES	\$495.00	\$123.75	\$247.50
5913 - CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT	\$1,633.00	\$408.25	\$816.50
5914 - CONFERENCE BENEVOLENCES	\$3,410.00	\$852.50	\$1,705.00
5915 - CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATION	\$2,241.00	\$560.25	\$1,120.50
5916 - JURISDICTION MISSION/MINISTRY	\$238.00	\$59.50	\$119.00
5917 - WORLD SERVICE	\$2,975.00	\$743.75	\$1,487.50
5918 - GENERAL CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATION	\$325.00	\$81.25	\$162.50
5919 - MINISTERIAL EDUCATION FUND	\$1,005.00	\$251.25	\$502.50
5920 - INTERDENOMINATIONAL COOPERATION	\$78.00	\$19.50	\$39.00
5921 - BLACK COLLEGE FUND	\$401.00	\$100.25	\$200.50
5922 - AFRICA UNIVERSITY FUND	\$90.00	\$22.50	\$45.00
5923 - DISTRICT CHURCH EXTENSION	\$683.00	\$170.25	\$340.50
5924 - UNDESIGNATED DISTRICT SPECIALS	\$683.00	\$170.25	\$340.50
5925 - UNITED METHODIST CENTER ADDITION	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
5926 - Extra Miles for Colleges & Homes	\$372.00	\$93.00	\$186.00
5927 - Lake Junaluska Dam	\$31.00	\$7.75	\$15.50
Total CONF. APPORTIONMENTS & ASKINGS	<u>\$27,099.00</u>	<u>\$6,773.75</u>	<u>\$13,547.50</u>

Latta United Methodist Church
Analysis of Revenues & Expenses - Detail Portrait-QTD
Year-to-date, Through June 2011
 Note: The Report Option to include Open Transactions is selected.

Accounts	Annual Budget (This Year)	QTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Actual (This Year)
CHURCH MINISTRIES			
5210 - KITCHEN SUPPLIES	\$600.00	\$302.18	\$402.91
5211 - CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES	\$500.00	\$256.81	\$313.71
5212 - YOUTH ACTIVITIES	\$1,900.00	\$0.00	\$1,900.00
5213 - ADULT/FAMILY ACTIVITIES	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
5214 - SENIOR ACTIVITIES	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$20.00
5215 - VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL	\$3,500.00	\$583.65	\$2,894.45
5216 - EDUCATION	\$2,750.00	\$732.96	\$1,510.53
5217 - LITERATURE & SUPPLIES	\$2,500.00	\$190.18	\$617.36
5218 - EVANGELISM	\$1,000.00	\$204.15	\$250.15
5219 - WORSHIP	\$1,000.00	\$174.41	\$264.59
5220 - WORSHIP (MUSIC)	\$700.00	\$0.00	\$241.49
5221 - GRANT (LATTA REVITALIZATION)	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
5222 - COMMUNITY RECREATION/DRUG ED.	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
5223 - GRACE & GLADNESS	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
5224 - MISSION SUPPORT	\$3,500.00	\$500.00	\$1,700.00
5225 - SCHOLARSHIP FUND	\$1,000.00	(\$98.75)	(\$98.75)
5226 - EMERGENCY RELIEF RESPONSE	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
5227 - CEMETERY FUND	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
5228 - CONTINGENCY MISSIONS	\$2,500.00	\$330.98	\$969.66
5229 - MISSION ADMINISTRATION	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
5242 - Gideons International	\$900.00	\$0.00	\$225.00
5243 - HANDBELLS	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$49.37
5244 - CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES (M&Ms)	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$27.99
Total CHURCH MINISTRIES	<u>\$28,550.00</u>	<u>\$3,176.57</u>	<u>\$11,288.46</u>
PROPERTIES			
5310 - UTILITIES	\$16,250.00	\$2,699.88	\$8,977.44
5311 - GENERAL CHURCH MAINTENANCE	\$20,000.00	\$1,088.77	\$15,479.42
5312 - MAINTENANCE SUPPLIES	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
5313 - GENERAL PARSONAGE MAINTENANCE	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,333.44
5314 - INSURANCE (CHURCH & PARSONAGE)	\$9,900.00	\$2,266.25	\$4,632.50
5315 - GROUNDS MAINTENANCE	\$300.00	\$134.00	\$134.00
5316 - Trustee Account	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
5317 - LAND (2 lots) TAX	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
5318 - VAN (Ins. & Upkeep)	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total PROPERTIES	<u>\$49,650.00</u>	<u>\$6,188.90</u>	<u>\$31,556.80</u>
LOCAL CHURCH ADMINISTRATION			
5101 - REIMBURSIBLE TRAVEL/EXPENSES	\$8,500.00	\$2,166.73	\$4,076.51
5102 - UNREIMBURSED BUSINESS EXPENSES	\$500.00	\$89.95	\$89.95
5110 - PASTOR'S CONTINUING EDUCATION	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
5410 - OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$3,750.00	\$859.26	\$2,458.44
5411 - FINANCIAL CRUSADE	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
5412 - GENERAL CONTINGENCY (Misc.)	\$2,500.00	\$755.54	\$1,620.29
5413 - ANNUAL CONFERENCE (PASTOR)	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Total LOCAL CHURCH ADMINISTRATION	<u>\$16,250.00</u>	<u>\$4,271.48</u>	<u>\$8,645.19</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$234,123.52</u>	<u>\$47,688.72</u>	<u>\$119,462.99</u>
Net Total	(\$234,123.52)	(\$47,688.72)	(\$118,676.43)

LATTA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
2ND QUARTER
APRIL 1 - JUNE 30, 2011

<u>Account</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Spent</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
1. Youth's Special Activities	\$1,927.44	1,107.00	2,353.02	681.42
2. Young @ Heart	561.03	.00	.00	561.03
3. Local Missions	332.45	.00	50.00	282.45
4. Gifts to Conference				
Tsunami	350.00	.00	350.00	.00
SC Hungry	50.00	.00	50.00	.00
Epworth (Mother's Day)	.00	1,015.00	1,015.00	.00
Epworth (5th Sunday)	.00	53.05	.00	53.05
5. Handbell Fund	841.74	.00	.00	841.74
6. Cokesbury Orders	.00	98.75	98.75	.00
7. M.H. Cox Scholarship Holdings	.00	.00	.00	.00
8. Children's Special Fund	3,921.80	.00	186.75	3,735.05
9. Misc.	1,429.11	1,802.82	2,097.32	1,134.61
10. Wallace Family Life	.00	.00	.00	.00
11. Relay for Life	50.00	.00	50.00	.00
12. Church Van Fund	.00	.00	.00	.00
13. Special Organ Fund	1,323.00	.00	397.50	925.50
14. Society of St. Andrew	.00	.00	.00	.00
15. Camp Debbie Lou	105.00	590.00	695.00	.00
16. Bags of Life	2,361.74	70.14	507.53	1,924.36
17. VBS	1,456.72	635.00	363.00	1,728.72
18. Playground Maintance	2,500.00	.00	.00	2,500.00
19. Latta High School Bibles	.00	1,052.82	1,052.82	.00
Beginning Balance, April 1, 2011	\$19,397.22			
Received		5,356.62		
Subtotal		\$24,753.84		
Spent			8,745.32	
Ending Balance, June 30, 2011				\$16,008.52

Trustees'/Memorial Account: \$24,815.51

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Latta United Methodist Church
Church Council
July 25, 2011

Members present: Rose Merry Bethea, Bryant Brown, Marsden Cox, Mary Cox, Debra Finklea, Beth Griffin, Betty Jean Hunsinger, LaFon LeGette, Carol Stoops

The meeting was opened with prayer by Rose Merry Bethea, Vice-Chairperson, in the absence of our chair. Rev. Phillips was on vacation and was not present.

The **Minutes from the April 25, 2011** meeting were approved as written.

Committee Reports-

PPRC- Marsden Cox

- Committee has not met recently.

Trustees- LaFon LeGette

- **Insurance adjustor was called following some hail earlier in the summer.** The adjustor said that the Men's Hut, Youth Barn, Fellowship Hall, and storage building next to the Youth Barn need new roofs. A check in the amount of \$16,230.80 has been received from the insurance company for those roofs. The adjustor checked the new roof on the Education Building and Sanctuary and said they looked OK. When roofer comes to do the other roofs, he will check the other new roofs again. Adjustor is also looking at parsonage roof.
- **The PPRC has referred the inoperable windows at the parsonage** to the trustees. The trustees will have those windows replaced.
- **A subcommittee of the Trustees was formed to look at the sound system** in the sanctuary and also at having the Parlor and Ladies Chapel hardwired with speakers. A professional came to look and will recommend something for the sanctuary.

Finance- Percy George (not present)

- Percy made a great presentation/plea to the congregation to let them know that the church was behind comparing income to expenses so far this year and to ask the congregation to consider increasing their giving and/or their pledge to the church.

Missions- Debbie Finklea

- In March \$1700 was given to **three mission trips** (Hamer Manning, Paul Gasque, and Tiffany Phillips).
- \$400 was sent to help **Camp Providence** finish their summer program.
- There is a **balance of \$1400 for the rest of the year** to get through the holidays.
- Debbie is working with Laura Gasque on a **shoe drive (tennis shoes and flat sandals)** to be sent to the place Hamer Manning went.

Worship- Mary Cox

- Nothing happening at the moment.

Senior Adults- Betty Jean Hunsinger

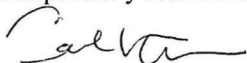
- Seniors are not meeting in the summer, but will start meeting again in September.

Sunday School Superintendent- Becky Gaddy (not present)

- Becky sent word that the Sunday School is doing fine.

Rose Merry dismissed the group with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,



Carol Stoops, Recording Secretary

**Latta United Methodist Church
Church Council
August 23, 2011**

Members present: Bryant Brown, Debbie Finklea, Becky Gaddy, Richard Gaddy, Millie George, Percy George, Glenn Greene, III, Beth Griffin, Betty Jean Hunsinger, Ken Kitts, Houston Manning, Lee Phillips, Carol Stoops

Chairperson, Glenn Greene, III, called the meeting to order with prayer.

Rev. Phillips gave an update from the Trustees:

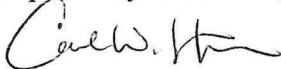
1. M&A Roofing will be working on all buildings
2. Windows in the parsonage will be replaced with vinyl windows
3. Pecan tree in front of the parsonage is dying and will be cut down

Finance Committee- Percy George

- Expenses have exceeded collections for the past 3 to 4 years. The operating fund is running close, but the designated funds are fine. Last year we spent approximately \$30,000 more than we took in. There are several reasons for the declining collections. Among them are the economy and the loss of several big givers.
- The Finance Committee agrees with the PPRC that salaries for 2012 need to stay at the same level as 2011 until we see how the finances come out for the year.
- The committee has asked members to consider increasing their giving to the church and to give special gifts to the operating fund of the church.
- Both the PPRC and Finance committees want to offer at least a cost of living increase to all employees and the pastor in the next 6 months or so depending on how the financial situation looks. The motion was made by Percy George and seconded by Debbie Finklea. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Carol Stoops, Recording Secretary

**Latta United Methodist Church
Church Council
October 24, 2011**

Members present: Rose Merry Bethea, Wade Brown, Sr, Henry Brunson, Krista Byrd, Marsden Cox, Mary Cox, Becky Gaddy, Richard Gaddy, Millie George, Percy George, Glenn Greene, III, Beth Griffin, Betty Jean Hunsinger, LaFon LeGette, Houston Manning, Lee Phillips, Carol Stoops, Lou Lane, Theo Lane

Minutes from July 25 and August 23 approved.

Trustees- LaFon LeGette

- New roof on Fellowship hall and covers, Men's Hut, Youth Barn, and storage building- all paid by insurance
- New shutters on windows in kitchen
- Men's restroom in Sanctuary building replaced faucet and stopped leaks
- Men's Hut has A/C trouble. Needs new wiring and insulation
- Ladies Chapel had leak in ceiling from A/C- repaired duct work and opened drain
- Sound system for Sanctuary and Chapel- Lee Phillips and Cindy LeGette are looking into it
- 2 bids on windows for the parsonage- work not started yet
- Limbs on trees outside parsonage to be removed

Finance Committee- Percy George

- Still watching operating account carefully
- Giving remains under budget to date

PPRC- Marsden Cox

- Met with District Superintendent before charge conference to discuss ministry of the church
- Will be meeting soon to do pastor's evaluation

Worship- Mary Cox

- Barbara Whitlow sold the Christmas Tree farm, but will continue to donate 14 foot Fir tree and Angel tree in memory of her father, James Earl Hayes.

Sunday School Superintendent- Becky Gaddy

- Nursery during Sunday School
- Young Adult class continues to do well
- Attendance is up

Senior Adults- Betty Jean Hunsinger

- Will go to the Methodist Manor in November

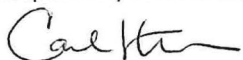
Adult/Family & Evangelism- Millie George

- Committees will combine efforts for the Thanksgiving/November birthday dinner on November 13.
- Evangelism committee to ask church members to bring canned goods to that dinner.

Henry Brunson spoke on behalf of the Latta Fire Department regarding having a fire drill at the church and addressing fire safety issues with the Trustees. The church needs to have a plan in place in case of a fire.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Carol Stoops, Recording Secretary

Latta United Methodist Church

Church Council

July 29, 2012

Members present: Rose Merry Bethea, Bryant Brown, Wade Brown, Sr., Henry Brunson, Krista Byrd, Rebecca Coleman, Rebecca Gaddy, Glenn Greene III, Beth Griffin, Corky Lane, Sylvia Lane, and Church Secretary, Beth Greene.

Chairman Lane opened the meeting with prayer, after which the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Committee Reports:

Trustees – Corky gave the report for LaFon. (See attached copy)

Finance – In the absence of the chairman, Corky reported that the church was no better off financially than we were at the beginning of the year. We need collections of approximately \$4500/ week to meet the budget. However, we are averaging only \$3590/week thus far this year. The total collected to date is \$107,856 with expenditures of \$97,567, but no apportionments have been paid. Our total apportionments for the year are \$27,096, which we normally pay quarterly.

The new accounting system was brought up in reference to a starting date, and it was decided that we should go ahead and get started now. This would give Beth time to run the two systems simultaneously as a check of accuracy. The vote to start now was unanimous.

PPRC – Reported that the drop-in for Alice Fay was a success and that she was quite pleased with being honored for her 27 years of service to the church.

PPRC also reported the hiring of our new secretary, Beth Greene, and is looking into lining up a substitute for times when Beth must be out of the office.

The committee is beginning the evaluation process of the pastor for the Charge Conference which will be in mid-September.

S.S. Superintendent – Becky Gaddy asked if she could move some of the unused equipment out of the Sunday School office so that they would have room to store current literature and supplies. Her request led to a discussion of the fact that we need to go through the entire church plant and get rid of obsolete items that could be sold at the flea market or thrown away if necessary. Corky thinks we need to have a fall clean-up and clean-out.

VBS – Becky Coleman reported that VBS was a success. She also mentioned that she wants to organize a children’s choir since that has been an outstanding program in the past for our children. Several council members recalled “fond memories” of their days as Children’s Choir members, and we encouraged Becky to pursue the idea.

Nurture and Outreach – Sylvia Lane reported that the first team of this committee had been called upon to serve a bereaved family (Frances Lane’s), and everything went well. All members of the team responded and no one was overly stressed. She thanked all who participated.

Henry Brunson reported that South Carolina has a new Bishop. Also, he reported that there is a new book in the church office that he gave to the church that has a lot of history of the SC Methodist Conference, and he encouraged everyone to read it.

Wade Brown checked on the light located at the front of the church during the meeting and said the light actually belongs to Progress Energy. But it should also be on, so we need to contact them to fix it.

Mrs. Alice Gaddy’s 100th birthday is September 21, 2012, and we are planning a drop-in to celebrate her on Sunday, September 23.

Corky mentioned that Lee had given him some information on pictorial directories and asked for our input as to whether we were interested in doing one at this time. He is going to give the packet back to Lee with the idea that someone needs to be asked to head up this project before proceeding.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose Merry Bethea, Sec.

TRUSTEE REPORT
LATTA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1. ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- A) The Church van has been fixed by Aaron Gandy at a cost of \$325.00.
- B) One of the two big air conditioner and heating units in the Sanctuary had been replaced at the cost of \$7400.00.
- C) All of the Parsonage windows have been replaced and wrapped at a cost of \$7039.00.
- D) A tree that was hanging over the Parsonage has been trimmed, as has the live oak trees located in the parking lot behind the Fellowship Hall.
- E) The air conditioner and heating unit at the men's hut has been replaced at a cost of \$3800.00.
- F) New locks have been put on the kitchen door, and shutters have been installed in the kitchen at a cost of \$280.00.
- G) The ice maker has been fixed.
- H) The sound system for the Sanctuary and the Ladies' Chapel has been installed for \$6500.00.
- I) A movable storage building sponsored by the Other Adult Sunday School Class has or will be placed for storage.
- J) Roofing on the Fellowship Hall, the walkways, the Men's Hut, the Youth Barn and the storage building has been replaced this year at cost of \$18,000.00.

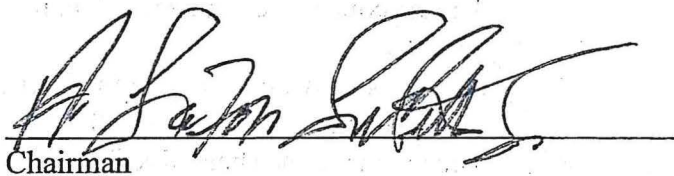
2. NEEDS:

- A) At sometime in the future, the big stained glass widows under the porch in the front of the Church will need attention and an estimate of repairing that window is \$2075.00. All other stained glass windows in the Church were inspected, but were found to be in a reasonably good state of repair.
- B) The Men's Hut needs to be rewired and insulated since in extreme hot days the new air conditioning system can not adequately cool the building.
- C) The new storage addition to the Fellowship Hall can not be adequately used, as there is no method or order of storage - you just have to see that for yourself.
- D) The new sound system needs a cover that can be locked on all of the controlling equipment.
- E) It will not be long before the trees in the parking area and in the playground area are going to need to be trimmed.
- F) The parking lot is in need of repair - preferably by recovering.
- G) The front doors on both sides of the Church and possibly other doors, that take the full heat of the sun, are looking bad and need to be refinished.
- H) The back door to the ramp has a metal casement, which is rusting and needs attention.
- I) The lights on the front of the porch need to be turned on sometimes. It is suggested that a timer be placed on these two lights.

- J) The Executive Committee has voted unanimously to install a new accounting system that can be readily accessible to those in need of information, and that there is a good possibility that additionally, we will, also need a new computer.
- K) It is anticipated that another large air conditioner and heating unit will be needed for the Sanctuary since it is almost 24 years old, and the other one has just been replaced.

Earlier this year, I received a statement of the Trustees' account located at First Bank. That statement is dated January 31, 2012. That statement indicates that the Trustees' account had a balance of \$25,050.51. I am attaching a copy as a part of this report.

Date: July 27, 2012



Chairman

A. LaFon LeGette, Jr.

Latta United Methodist Church

Church Council

Called Meeting

August 26, 2012

A called meeting of the Church Council was held on Sunday, August 26, 2012, with 12 members present. Rev. Phillips opened the meeting with prayer.

The main purpose of the meeting was to approve the 2013 salary recommendations for all staff as per the recommendations of the PPRC and Finance Committee. Our pastor will receive a 2% raise. The church secretary will receive a \$1.50/hr. raise in November dependent upon her job evaluation and another \$1.50/hr. raise in January which will still be less than the previous secretary's salary. The janitor and organist salaries will remain the same. On a motion by LaFon LeGette and second by Henry Brunson, the salaries were approved unanimously.

Corky reminded us that the church is planning a party on Sunday, Sept. 23, in honor of Mrs. Alice Gaddy's 100th birthday.

We are planning a church clean-up day for Sat., Oct. 20th, to clean out some items that have accumulated over the years and cluttered classrooms and storage areas. Things that have no usefulness or value will be discarded.

Corky also reported that he is working on organizing a financial campaign for the fall. The plan is to start in Sept. with personal written statements from various members as to why they give to their church. Then beginning in Oct. Lee, Claude, Laura, and Glenn III will make 5 min. presentations during the worship service, addressing the campaign. The pledge service will be on Nov. 18th.

Lee reported on how Rev. Knight wants to conduct the charge conference in Sept. He wants the report summary to be given by a lay person, and Laura Gasque agreed to do this.

Lee also introduced the idea of having a homecoming and revival, and the council voted to plan these for early next year, probably in the spring. We will decide on a date at our Oct. meeting.

Lee brought several plans for The Methodist Advocate subscriptions, and it was decided to present them to the congregation as a whole with a decision to be made as to which plan receives the most support.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

RMB

Rose Merry Bethea, Sec.

Latta United Methodist Church

Church Council

January 27, 2013

Members present: Blake Allen, Rose Merry Bethea, Henry Brunson, Krista Byrd, Becky Coleman, Mary Cox, Rhonda Dew, Laura Gasque, Kim George, Glenn Greene III, Betty Jean Hunsinger, Corky Lane, Theo Lane, LaFon LeGette, Paul Gasque (ex-officio), and Beth Greene (ex-officio).

Rev. Phillips opened the meeting with prayer and the minutes were read and approved. Committee reports were given as follows:

Trustees – LaFon LeGette, chair, proposed two new policies for approval and adoption by the Council pertaining to the expenditure of memorial monies and items or property donated to the church (see attached copies). After much discussion, Henry Brunson made a motion that the policy pertaining to the expenditure of memorial monies be adopted as amended. The 2nd was Glenn Greene III. The policy for acceptance of donated items was also approved as amended on a motion by Glenn, 2nd Henry.

LaFon also made a motion to have Beth Greene join the Council as an ex-officio member which would be very helpful to both parties and would keep a direct line of communication open between the two. Becky Coleman 2nd: The motion was approved.

Finance:- Laura Gasque read a letter of resignation from chairman Claude Graham to be effective immediately. In the absence of the chairman, Corky presented the proposed 2013 budget. There was considerable discussion along the lines of why certain items were cut in this budget, and there were some sticking points as to the cutting of certain mission items. The motion to adopt was made by Theo and 2nd by LaFon. The vote was 9 to 3 in favor.

Paul Gasque suggested that we need to have two people carry the money bag to the bank night deposit on Sunday after worship services for safety.

PPRC – Chairman Glenn Greene III reported that the committee met in December to conduct personnel reviews. Pastor Lee received a satisfactory review and was given a 2% increase in salary. The organist's and janitor's salaries remained the same. The secretary received a small increase, but her salary is still less than Alice Faye's was at retirement.

Glenn also reported that the committee requested to have Lee back for another year, and Lee expressed the same request.

Worship – Mary Cox said, "Christmas is over!" She thanked all who helped prepare all the decorations and said the cross made from the Christmas tree trunk would be put up during Lent.

Senior Adults – B. J Hunsinger reported that the seniors would meet through May then disband for the summer.

Missions – Rhonda Dew said there were some 75 stars on the Star Tree and all but ten were taken. She was able to handle the remaining ones, but, hopefully, that won't be an on-going problem. She also thanked Paul for his work with the Bags of Life ministry.

Children – Kim George reported that the 1st Thursday of the month is Skate Night and so far has been successful. She invited everyone to come out and enjoy.

VBS – Becky Coleman reported that things were coming together for this summer's program.

Corky brought up the idea of doing a new Pictorial Directory. He said Donna Bethea and Vickie Phillips have agreed to organize the project. On a motion by LaFon, 2nd by Rose Merry, the project will be done.

The next item brought up from Old Business was whether to have a Revival or a Homecoming this year. After some discussion it was decided that we would have a Homecoming in the fall, probably October. The final item on the agenda was a suggestion that we inform the congregation about the outcome of the financial campaign, as well as, distribute copies of the budget. The meeting was adjourned.

*Respectfully submitted,
Rose Merry Bethea, Sec.*

MONEY

Proposed Church Policy Concerning the Acceptance and Expenditure of Memorial monies donated to the Latta United Methodist Church:

1. All memorials received should be acknowledged by the Church secretary in writing to the donor and the family so the memorialized person.
2. The Church secretary must promptly record into the Church Memorial Account the acceptance of each memorial.
3. The family of the person memorialized may designate upon recommendation of the Church Trustees how their particular funds may be spent on local Church needs. Should this designation and expenditure not be made with (6 mos. Or 1 yr.) After receipt then the funds can be used by Church Trustees on Church properties as they deem necessary.
4. Church Trustees will make every effort to notify in writing the donor and the family of the memorialized person when these funds, when designated, are used.
5. No memorial funds will remain in the memorial account unused after a period of one year, and shall be paid over to the Trustees account.

ITEMS/PROPERTY

Proposed Church Policy Concerning Items/Property Donated to the Church:

1. Any item/property to be donated (valued over \$50.00) should be submitted in writing to the Church Trustees for their approval prior to acceptance.
2. Trustees are to consider future value and future cost related to the items/property before accepting.
3. If accepted, Trustees shall establish its usefulness to the Church.
4. Any items/property accepted or rejected by the Church Trustees shall be acknowledged in writing by the Chairman of the Church Trustees to the person or entity offering said items/property.

ITEMS/PROPERTY

Proposed Church Policy Concerning Items/Property Donated to the Church:

1. *VALUE OVER 5000*
Any item/property to be donated should be submitted in writing to the Church Trustees for their approval prior to acceptance.
2. Trustees are to consider future value and future cost related to the items/property before accepting.
3. If accepted, Trustees shall ~~determine the value of the item/property and~~ establish its usefulness to the Church.
4. Any items/property accepted or rejected by the Church Trustees should be acknowledged in writing by the Chairman of the Church Trustees to the person or entity offering said items/property.



MONEY

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Latta United Methodist Church

Church Council

April 28, 2013

Members present: Rose Merry Bethea, Wade Brown, Jr., Henry Brunson, Mary Cox, Rhonda Dew, Becky Gaddy, Richard Gaddy, Laura Gasque, Millie George, Betty Jean Hunsinger, Corky Lane, and LaFon Legette.

In the absence of the pastor, Corky opened the meeting with prayer.

The minutes were read, and LaFon, Trustee chair, asked for some clarification on the proposed Church Policy concerning items donated to the church as follows:
1. Any item/property, value of \$50 or more, to be donated should be submitted in writing to the Church Trustees for their approval prior to acceptance. 3. If accepted, Trustees shall establish its usefulness to the Church. (Refer to attachments to Jan. 27, 2013, minutes for items 2. & 4. which contained no changes)

LaFon also questioned item 5227 – Cemetery Fund from the 2012 Analysis of Revenues and Expenses (Refer to attached copy in Jan. minutes) as to why it was not paid and requested that it be paid promptly.

The Trustees Report listed several items that they have been looking at, all of which cost money, such as, refinishing the front doors on the church, doing work in the parking lot, front window (approximately \$1200 to repair) and swinging doors from choir room to sanctuary (having trouble finding someone to fix). Council members asked the Trustees to add several new items to their list: Repair or replace the light in the sacristy; check out the woodwork around the organ pipes to see if it needs cleaning or refinishing; and the office copier needs repairs or replacing. Beth reported that she has been in touch with Herald Office and there is a possibility of leasing the copier for \$56/month.

Finance – Wade, Jr. reported that we are looking better financially than previously, but cautioned that the summer months tend to slack off in giving.

Therefore, we need to continue to encourage everyone to give. See the attached Financial Report for specific details.

PPRC – No report

Worship – Mary Cox reported that we are planning a Homecoming on September 29th with Ron Pettit being the visiting preacher for that day.

S. S. Superintendent – Becky expressed a plea for teachers for the middle school age group, citing how important Sunday School teachers are in the life of this age group in particular. These young people need someone to mentor them, as well as, to teach them good Christian values.

Becky also asked if it would be all right if she has to be out on Sunday morning, for Josh Lane to conduct the S.S. business by himself. It was agreed that this would be fine.

Sr. Adults – B.J. reported that 16 went to Shuler's for lunch in April, and the group will meet again in May, but will disband for the summer.

UMW – Millie reported that the UMW is busy doing what they are supposed to be doing and more. The Susannah Wesley Circle has undertaken the Mission Project of knitting Prayer Shawls and presenting them to individuals who need a special boost at the time of the presentation.

Missions – Rhonda Dew reported the Conference Day of Service was held on April 13th and each Local Missions group was asked to participate. She collected canned goods for two Sundays before that date and donated them to our Feed the Need program. Also, she gave a gift card to Dollar General to a burned- out family to help them during this difficult time.

Corky reported that the men are continuing to build handicap ramps on a regular basis.

VBS – Becky Coleman has already purchased the basic materials needed for VBS, but still would like^{To} purchase a cotton candy machine.

Corky reported that Vickie Phillips and Donna Bethea have been working really hard on the Pictorial Directory, and it seems to be coming together.

Beth Greene reported that the new accounting system is running well, and as she gets more familiar with it things are working better and better.

Mary Cox is trying to find someone to refinish the brass. The previous person who did it has retired with no replacement.

Rhonda brought up Becky Carter and her living arrangements and feels that we should try to do something to help out. LaFon made a motion for Corky to form a committee to visit with Becky and look over the project to see what needs to be done to finish the building. Corky asked Henry Brunson to serve on that committee, and he plans to ask Dean Richardson to serve as well.

Dr. John Kirby contacted Corky on behalf of the new Ellis Performing Arts Center, asking the church to make a donation of at least \$2500 over a 10 yr. period with the stipulation that we would be able to use the building rent-free for various events. If we don't participate the rent will be \$500 per event. Corky said we don't want to miss out! Henry made the motion that we participate, and Millie 2nd. The motion was to pay \$250/yr. for 10 yrs.

Henry Brunson pointed out that the Advocate says we need to feed the hungry as a conference with local churches doing all they can. He also asked if anyone had a large A-frame ladder that he can use to change light bulbs in the sanctuary. Corky is going to check with Dilmar, because they used to have one.

A motion to adjourn was accepted.

Respectfully submitted,



Rose Merry Bethea, Secretary

MONEY

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ITEMS/PROPERTY

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Latta United Methodist Church

Church Council

July 28, 2013

Members present: Rose Merry Bethea, Krista Byrd, Allyson Carmichael, Rebecca Coleman, Betty Jean Hunsinger, Corky Lane, Theo Lane, Houston Manning, Sandra Roberts, and Vickie Graham.

Rev. Phillips opened the meeting with prayer, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Old business: Chairman Lane reported that the budgeted donation to Magnolia Cemetery for both 2012 and 2013 has been paid, the office copier has been replaced, and the altar brass has been refinished.

Trustees: Corky reported for Trustee Chair, LaFon LeGette, that the Trustees approved the refinishing of the choir rail, and discussed utilizing the garden area between the Ladies Chapel and the Children's Building for memorializing members. Also, he reported that the Parlor air conditioner is being replaced. The Trustees have obtained two bids on resurfacing the parking lot, both approximately \$22,000, but did not approve that.

Finance: See the attached copy.

PPRC: Met at the parsonage to do a walk-thru, looking at various needed repairs. There is a significant mildew problem in several different locations inside the parsonage, and the committee is attending to that.

Worship: As previously stated the brass is back from the refinisher and looks beautiful! The choir rail will be taken to the refinisher by Mary Cox shortly.

Senior Adults: Met in May and June with the June gathering being a farewell luncheon for the Mormon couple who have been in Latta as part of their ministry.

Evangelism : Sandra asked if there was any funds available for the Homecoming dinner to be held in Sept. Corky assured her that we would find some extra funds if needed, and Sandra suggested that we may need to shift the date of the birthday dinner to spread things out a little more.

VBS : Becky reported that, once again, VBS was a big success! She indicated that she had some supplies left over that might need a permanent storage space at the church, but Corky said we really do not have any more space. She agreed for these items to stay at her house until she could find a need for them, perhaps at another church, or be used at VBS another year.

Historian : Houston reported that he had made some great pictures of VBS classes and activities and is planning to gather some pictures, etc., for a display at Homecoming.

Corky set the date of Sept. 21 for a fall clean-up to precede Homecoming. He also informed the council that the monthly newsletter will be on-line from now on.

Jessie Brown has been very helpful in setting up the church website on the computer, and Corky felt that she should be paid for her time and work. On a motion by Sandra Roberts, 2nd by Houston Manning, we decided to pay her \$200.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Rose Merry Bethea, Sec.

Latta UMC New Church Policies

Money - Acceptance and Expenditure of Memorial monies donated to Latta UMC.

- All memorials received should be acknowledged by the Church secretary in writing to the donor and the family of the memorialized person.
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Items / Property - Donated to Latta UMC.

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MONEY

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Latta United Methodist Church

Church Council

Called Meeting

September 15, 2013

The Church Council met after the Morning Worship Service on Sept. 15, 2013, for the purpose of approving the Pastor Parish Relation Committee's recommendation concerning salary increases for the 2014 budget. The recommendation is for a 2% increase for the pastor and all staff. The reimbursable expenses (such as, pastor's continuing education, travel, and annual conference) will not be increased. On a motion by Henry Brunson, seconded by Wade Brown, Jr., the recommendation was approved.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

RMB

Rose Merry Bethea, Sec.

Latta United Methodist Church

Church Council

October 27, 2013

The LUMC Council met October 27 with the following members present: Rose Merry Bethea, Wade Brown, Jr., Henry Brunson, Mary Cox, Millie George, Betty Jean Hunsinger, Corky Lane, Houston Manning, and Vickie Graham.

Rev. Phillips opened the meeting with prayer. The minutes were read and approved. Chairman Lane thanked several members of the Council for jobs well done since the last meeting - in particular, Mary Cox and Sandra Roberts for their preparations for Homecoming, and Donna Bethea and Vickie Phillips for their work on the new Church Directory.

Old Business:

Choir rail has been refinished and replaced. Fall clean-up was completed with a lot of help from a lot of people. The mildew problem in the parsonage is being addressed and, hopefully, will soon be cleared up.

Committee Reports:

Trustees - No report

Finance - Wade, Jr., presented the proposed budget (see attached copy) for 2014. After some discussion and explanation the budget was approved on a motion by Henry Brunson, 2nd by Millie George.

PPRC - No report. Lee did tell us the PPRC is going to be conducting a walk-through of the parsonage on Monday night in order to fill out their annual report.

Worship - Mary reported that all the brass is completed, the Christmas tree has been ordered, and plans are in the works for all of the end-of-year

holidays.

Sunday School - No report

Sr. Adults - Abbott Shelley will be the leader for the new year.

Adult/ Family - Will help with the Thanksgiving dinner

UMW - Millie reported that the Prayer Shawl ministry is going very well. She also said there will be a General Mtg. in November where the World Thank Offering will be received. Also, she and several other UMW members attended a Marion District meeting at Surfside Beach recently, and it was an excellent meeting.

Historian - Houston continues to collect pictures and historical items and would like to have a place for a rotating display.

There being no further business or reports, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

RmB

Rose Merry Bethea, Sec.

LATTA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CHURCH COUNCIL

FIRST 2014 QUARTERLY MEETING

JANUARY 26, 2014

PRESENT: O.C. Lane, Laura Gasque, Leslie Manning, Lee Phillips, Glenn Greene III, Theo Lane, Sylvia Lane, Rachel Brown, Ruthann Wooten, Rhonda Dew, Millie George, Abbott Shelley, Vicikie Graham, Donna Bethea, Paul Gasque, Debbie Finklea, Wade Brown, Jr.

Chair Corky Lane called the meeting to order. He welcomed new Council members, noting this was the first meeting of the new year. Acknowledged there was not much new business since the last meeting. He asked Rev. Phillips to open the meeting with prayer. Chair then asked that only those who had something to report or to request address the Council.

Staff/Parish Relations Committee: Comm. Chair Glenn Greene III reported there was a problem with moisture and mildew; Dale Williamson is helping to remove the biggest work, which is the parsonage. All forms completed to District Superintendent to keep the parsonage family

Missions: Rhonda Dew reported on the Star Tree. Went down this year to 20 children provided with a present; she reported all stars taken were not represented by a returned present, but she and some others covered for these

Finance Committee: Chair Wade Brown Jr reported the budget for 2013 didn't quite meet the budget in givings; but we showed less expenditures, so we actually "brought in" money as a result (see below); briefly went over 2014 budget, will go over again when figures are nailed down.

Wade thanked Beth Greene for her help.

2013 Budget - \$223,849.80

2013 Offerings - \$221,648.13

Difference = Shortage of \$2,201.67

2013 Expenditures - 209,629.35

Brought In - \$12,666.06 more than we spent

2012 Budget Receipts = 202,7225.00 (what was brought in in 2012)

2014 Budget = \$226,473.00

Trustees: Chair Abbott Shelley reported the Trustees had a short meeting this date; had request to paint mural in ABC's SS class, would be in-house; also stain door going into church Office; timers on lights on building itself

Chair Corky Lane stated that though not listed on the Church Council list of members, chairs of all committees: please be informed you are a member of the Church Council; only members of the Council are to attend the Church Council meetings

Chair Lane: Magnolia Garden Club member Amanda Huggins is Project ChairPerson for "The Legacy Tree Trail", a state-wide project. They will design and construct a tree project in Latta in 2014. A motion was made by Glenn Greene III to endorse this project; motion was seconded by Abbott Shelley

Chair Lane: Status of Performing Arts Center pledge. Decision made to continue pledge and pay \$250.00 this year and wait till end of year to discuss possible change

Paul Gasque: Provided hand-out and presented information on program "Jobs for Life", a program with a 70% employment rate for graduates of the program, using "soft personal skills" He asked the Council to consider this program as a new project for LUMC, in cooperation with the Latta Rotary. He has bought the program kit on his own. He proposed LUMC be the job site, but other churches, etc. would be involved. Funding needs are kits and transportation. Jonnie Leours

is an advocate and potential resource. Pastor Lee was excited about it, not just for the unemployed, but also for the underemployed. Paul requested to meet with Chair Corky Lane in discussing in more detail. Paul would take the lead role for our church; he requested to hear feedback from Council members as to what he/she can/will do. Chair Lane stated need to get word out to the church. Paul stated the "Rep" in Raleigh said he could come and present to the church. Rhonda Dew stated seeing this tying in with the focus and efforts of DJJ; will talk further with Paul. A motion was made by Abbott Shelley that LUMC be the site for the program; motion was seconded by Rhonda Dew.

There being no other business, the Chair adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Leslie", written in black ink.

Leslie C. Manning, Recording Secretary

**LATTA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL
THIRD 2014 QUARTERLY MEETING
JULY 27, 2014**

PRESENT: Ione Allen, Rachel Brown, Wade Brown, Henry Brunson, Rhonda Dew, Richard Gaddy, Vickie Graham, Glenn Greene, III, Corky Lane, Leslie Manning, Ruthann Wooten, and Beth Greene.

Council Chair Corky Lane called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

Ruthann Wooten took the Minutes of the April 28 Council meeting in the absence of the Recording Secretary; Ruthann read those Minutes which were subsequently approved as read.

Trustees Report: in Chair Abbot Shelley's absence, Corky was asked to report: exterior church doors are done; the new refrigerator and warming cabinets have been delivered to the kitchen, with the ladies who help in the kitchen being asked to locate where these new appliances should be placed; Abbot has lined up a dedicated line for the refrigerator. The roofing insurance company has looked at the damage not insurable; some shingles just slipped loose. In the parsonage: there is a mold problem: solution is to keep shrubbery and debris removed; a tree company has been contacted and is to cut some of the trees in the back.

Finance: Wade Brown reported the Committee met this past Monday. After providing a rather detailed report, Wade made the following recommendation to Committee Chairs: Don't spend if you don't have to. Wade will write up a "snap shot" to include in the bulletin of spending for July 2013 -vs- July 2014. In terms of "Giving Amounts": for the 2nd Week of July 2014: \$108,033 -vs- July 2013: \$115,600. Per Corky per the Finance Committee Meeting: Church attendance, smaller lately, is NOT the minister's responsibility.

PPRC Committee: Chair Glenn Greene III: have a meeting coming up, date not scheduled yet: Pastoral salary must be approved, etc. before Sept 25 Charge Conference.; Members can inform PPRC members of any concerns, etc. Decision concerning assignment will probably be made in March or April.

Worship Committee: No report
SS Superintendent: Chair. Rachel Brown: No report
Sr. Adults: No Report
Youth: No Report
Children's Activities: No Report

Mission's Report: Chair Rhonda Dew reported that Paul Gasque is no longer able to do the Bags for Life and no one has stepped up yet. Beth Greene stated that the group who used the parking lot had offered to help with bagging, delivering, etc. Also, have "stuff" for Camp Debbie Lou and Feed the Need. Feed the Need and Bags for Life needs more and continued church members' participation. Rhonda reported Bags for Life might not be done in August.

Evangelism: Chair Ruthann Wooten: No report

Outreach: Chairs Vickie Graham and Ione Allen reported things are doing well for providing meals for funerals; calling church members to fix dishes has been working out well; fed Salkahatchee group.

Beth Greene: Church Office - No Report

There being no other business, the Chair adjourned the meeting.
Respectfully submitted,
Leslie C. Manning, Recording Secretary





Ellis Performing Arts Center

205 King Street
Latta, South Carolina 29565
Website: www.ellispac.org

Eleanor Powers, Director
epowers@mail.dillon3.k12.sc.us
843-752-2442

Dear Donor:

Once again, thank you so much for your donation to support the Latta Schools Educational Foundation with the Ellis Performing Arts Center. Because of your generous donation, you are entitled to name two auditorium seats. Please choose from the formats below to personalize your two seats.

Sponsored by... (for your name or your business name)

In memory of... (to memorialize someone)

Dedicated to... (to honor someone or something)

Please list your two choices and return by November 3, 2014 to Ellis Performing Arts Center, 205 King Street, Latta, SC 29565

Donor's Name _____

Auditorium seat naming:

1. LATTA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
2. LUMC LADIES BIBLE CLASS

Sincerely,

Eleanor D. Powers

Eleanor D. Powers, Director

Ellis Performing Arts Center



**LATTA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL
FOURTH 2014 QUARTERLY MEETING
OCTOBER 26, 2014**

PRESENT: Ione Allen, Donna Bethea, Wade Brown, Henry Brunson, Vickie Graham, Millie George, Glenn Greene, III, Corky Lane, Sylvia Lane, Leslie Manning, Houston Manning, Jerry Martin II, Rev. Lee Phillips, Abbott Shelley, Ruthann Wooten, and Percy George.

Council Chair Corky Lane called the meeting to order and Rev. Phillips opened with prayer.

Millie George announced that this was Corky's last meeting as Chair. It was subsequently reported that Abbott Shelley will be the Chairman beginning Jan., 2015.

The Chair announced he had received a letter from Latta High School regarding an educational fund concerning the Ellis Performing Arts Center. Our church has made a contribution to the Center. Contributors can name 2 seats; names cannot be that of an individual: The names are due to the school by Nov. 3. After some discussion, Henry Brunson made a motion to name a seat in honor of the Latta UMC Ladies Bible Class and one in the name of Latta United Methodist Church. The motion was seconded by Houston Manning; motion approved.

Finance: Wade Brown Jr. stated the Council task is to approve the 2015 budget. He provided copies and answered questions. He stated that still have money in the account, but not doing as well as last year. In 2014, we didn't get in as much as expected, but didn't spend as much either, so "OK." After further questions and clarifications, a motion was made by Abbott Shelley to accept the budget; motion seconded by Henry Brunson; motion approved.

Trustees: Abbott Shelley discussed the wiring done in the Fellowship Hall: Paid \$903.65 for materials; labor provided at no charge by Wade Brown Sr. and Henry Brunson. Chair. Corky Lane thanked them and requested Beth Greene to put a recognition of them in the Church Bulletin.

Chairman Lane also stated the need to schedule a clean-up in November; our Sanctuary will be a part of the annual Tour of Homes (4-7:00) and that Vickie Phillips' young people will be doing a play at the church the same night as the Tour of Homes (7:00; Dec. 6).

Millie George stated there is need to schedule major cleaning as the church is hosting Mission workshop all day on January 24 and will be using many areas. After further discussion of needs and wishes, Chair Lane asked that the UMW make a list of needs and pass it on to the Trustees.

Church Historian Houston Manning announced that Vicki Phillips had asked him to do a write-up about our church for the Tour of Homes and to include the children's play.

PPRC Committee: Chair Glenn Greene III: have a meeting coming up this week, including a scheduled evaluation of the minister.

Worship Committee: No report Rev. Phillips did state the Hanging of the Greens seemed to well received and w/ good participation. Council agreed w/ continuing.

SS Superintendent: No report

Sr. Adults: Abbot Shelley: No Report

Youth: No Report Rev. Phillips stated the corn maze and carnival went well today.

Children's Activities: No Report

Mission's Report: No Report

Evangelism: Chair Ruthann Wooten: No report

Adult/Family: Sylvia Lane: No Report

Outreach: No Report

Church Office - No Report

History: Houston Manning: No report; stated he will put up table with "things" of interest; Rev. Phillips stated he found a box of "treasures", Chair Lane asked Houston to look through these.

Minutes of the 3rd Quarter, July 27, 2014 Council meeting were approved unread but as written.

There being no other business, the Chair adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie C. Manning, Recording Secretary

**LATTA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
February 3, 2015**

Present: A. V. Bethea, III, Donna Bethea, Henry Brunson, Allyson Carmichael, Rebecca Coleman, Marsden Cox, III, Paul Gasque, Millie George, Vickie Graham, Sylvia Lane, Lee Phillips, and Abbott Shelley.

Chairman Abbott Shelley called the meeting to order and asked Pastor Lee Phillips to open the meeting with prayer.

The minutes of the last meeting were read by Chairman Abbott. There were no corrections made, and a motion was made by Sylvia Lane to approve and seconded by Marsden Cox.

Chairman Shelley gave the Trustees' final itemized report for various projects which included carpet cleaning of Fellowship Hall and Men's Hut \$450, yard maintenance \$230, pressure washings \$150, painting front of men's hut \$150, painting front of church \$600, building storage cabinet \$1,500 and shelves \$300. The total cost was \$3,380.

S/PPRC—Chairman Marsden Cox said the committee would meet next week. No report.

LMAC—Chairman Henry Brunson reported the windows on front of the church were bowed due to loss of calking and needed attention. He had received an estimate of \$3000 minimum with a \$150 charge for an onsite evaluation.

Chairman Brunson reported that he had changed all the lights in the sanctuary. He was unable to improve the lighting in the Ladies Chapel. It was suggested that a desk light be attached to the podium to help the teachers.

Ellen Walker from Pisgah United Methodist Church in Florence donated a painting of Noah's Ark which has been framed and will be placed in the hall of the children's classrooms.

Council Vice-Chairman : Chairman Vic Bethea III: No report.

Finance-- Chairman Donna Bethea gave the finance report. The expenses in 2014 were less than the year before, but the 2014 revenue was short \$116.05. Chairman Bethea compared the previous two years budgets to the present budget: In 2013, it was \$221,654; In 2014, it was \$209,560; the 2015 (which was passed) is \$219,556. The membership list was down by 3 people in 2014. The bank balance as of 1/31/15 is \$22,575.34; the Agency account is \$13,950.45; and the Trustee Memorial Account is \$17,159.87

Adult/Family Activities—Chairman Sylvia Lane: No report.

Missions—Chairman Paul Gasque reported that there have been two distributions for Bags of Life, 25 children received gifts from Star Christmas, and one male and one female elderly citizens were taken gifts. Chairman Gasque has started a Missions Committee which will meet to help determine mission needs. The Missions Committee will be comprised of 6 or 7 people, three of which have agreed to serve at this time.

UMW: Chairman Millie George reported a busy last quarter. Plans began in November to host Mini-Mission u, as well as special Thansgiving projects. In December all circles came together for fellowship and to discuss Christmas projects. The Suzanne Wesley Circle gave a party at the Wallace Family Life Center and gave each child a knitted hat. On January 24, LUMW hosted Mini-Mission u. Chairman George thanked all who helped with this successful event.

Senior Adults: Chairman Abbott Shelley said 17 people attended the January lunch in Florence.

VBS: Chairman Rebecca Coleman reported that VBS materials had been ordered and plans had begun.

Chairman Shelley stated that he had requested help from the Ladies Bible Class and would ask for help in the church bulletin for the building of wheelchair ramps. He said *the Vidalia onion sale was the biggest fundraiser, but it was not enough to cover the expenses.*

Pastor Lee Phillips thanked all new and continuing Church Council members for serving.

Henry Brunson announced that a new 20 foot freezer will be delivered this week for the Fellowship Hall kitchen. The old freezer will be offered to members for sale.

Chairman Shelley read the list of Trustees serving for 2015.

There was discussion about problems with sound system and with the organ. Rebecca Coleman suggested that the organ problems be placed on hold. Donna Bethea asked about a new faucet for the Fellowship Hall kitchen.

With no further business, Vic Bethea made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Millie George, Acting Recording Secretary

**LATTA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL
SECOND QUARTER
April 12, 2015**

PRESENT: Donna Bethea, Henry Brunson, Rebecca Coleman, Tommy Coleman, Marsden Cox, III; Richard Gaddy, Millie George, Vickie Graham, Leslie Manning, Abbott Shelley, Ruthann Wooten, Ion Allen, Debbie Manning, Lee Phillips

Council Chair Abbot Shelley called the meeting to order and Rev. Phillips opened with prayer.

The February 3, 2015 Minutes were read and approved; being so moved by Henry Brunson and seconded by Donna Bethea.

PPR: Chair Marsden Cox announced that the word is out that Rev. Phillips is leaving. They have met the new minister, Marty Mason and his wife Joy; Marsden and Donna had a meal with them and took them on a tour of the church and parsonage. There is some painting, floor, carpentry and a little plumbing work needed to be done.

There is \$1,000 in the budget under "salary" for summer youth worker which will not be needed, could be used for parsonage. There is \$2,000 in the budget to move the new minister (coming from Florence). They will be bringing a lot of their own furnishings, which will save the church from buying. There was a motion made by Rebecca Coleman and seconded by Millie George to move the \$2,000 for moving expenses.

Henry Brunson announced that the church windows were put in "Friday." and the workers were very impressed with them. They were 3,000. as estimated. He stated the committee met this afternoon and have a number of things to do with the church. They asked and the Trustees agreed this date to give \$5,000 to do work at the parsonage and church: paint and carpentry (outside church windows). The money is extended to 1 year on Memorials made to church in memory of someone. He asked the Board to form a Parsonage Committee: reported the condition of the parsonage and furniture was poor; this Committee would have to start next year.

Treasurer - Richard Gaddy; no report

Finance - Donna Bethea, Chair: Donna thanked all members for a good year. However, started good in offerings, but not so good in March; \$3,404 less than last year. Committee met couple of weeks ago making following suggestions: Committee Chairs: if not using budgeted monies, could use for other projects=be thrifty.

She also announced that there now is a new faucet in the kitchen, and thanked Henry Brunson for installing it; Rocky Brunson bought the old freezer. She made suggestion of having open-house at parsonage, as many parishioners have never been inside; Chair Shelley asked for suggestions: do yearly, Rev. Phillips reminded members that this would need to Pastor's permission: the church owns the parsonage building, but it is the ministers' home.

Henry Brunson suggested asking new preacher what he wants to keep/not keep; to contact Marsden Cox about this.

Children's Activities: Rev. Phillips reported in Chair's absence: Had about 20 children for the Easter egg hunt; VBS is coming; continuing w/ MM, MITs and Youth activities

Evangelism - Ruthann Wooten, Chair: - No Report

UMW - Millie George, Chair. - Will have General Meeting, probably last Sunday of April, to wrap up before summer break, in May, determining recipient of scholarship at high school. Had pictures of mission we support in Africa, will update.

Historian - Debbie Manning for Houston Manning, Chair - no report; has been taking pictures and keeping up with activities, etc. of church

Sr. Adults - Abbott Shelley - Went to Webster's in Mullins this past Wed.

Becky Coleman for VBS - will be June 15-19, from 9-11:30. Losing some teachers, "dire need" for grades 3-6 teachers. Will be asking circles about refreshments.

Ion Allen - Nurture/Outreach - committee ready when needed/as needs arise

There being no other business, Chair Shelley thanked members for a good job and adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie C. Manning, Recording Secretary

**LATTA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL
THIRD QUARTER
July 26, 2015**

PRESENT: Donna Bethea, Vic Bethea, Henry Brunson, Tommy Coleman, Marsden Cox, III; Paul Gasque, Millie George, Chelsey Hayes, Sylvia Lane, Leslie Manning, Abbott Shelley, Ruthann Wooten, Ione Allen, Rev. Marty Mason

Council Chair Abbot Shelley called the meeting to order and Rev. Mason opened with prayer.

The April 12, 2015 Minutes had previously been reviewed by members; Mins. accepted given the following corrections presented by members: 1) Marsden Cox and Henry Brunson, not Donna Bethea as recorded, ate with the new minister at his initial tour. 2) An additional \$2,000. was not moved in budget for minister's moving expenses as implied in the April Mins.; that money was already in the budget for moving; (\$1,000. was removed from the Summer Youth Program for use in work at the parsonage as recorded). 3) Correction of spelling of Ione Allen's name, add an "e" to the end of first name as previously recorded.

PPR: Chair Marsden Cox announced the Committee had a busy 2nd Quarter; the biggest task being getting the parsonage ready for the new minister and family. Marsden asked Rev. Mason that since there is no longer an official Parsonage Committee, he suggested that it go through the Committee of Lay Leadership (i.e. Nominating Committee); no sense of urgency. However, Rev. Mason suggested this be settled before the Charge Conference. After MUCH discussion, Rev. Mason stated there will be a need for this Council to meet before the Charge Conference. There was a suggestion made by Rev. Mason that the Lay Leadership, i.e. Nominating Committee, offer nominations for a new Parsonage Committee, and at the next Church Council meeting it will be determined whether or not to have a Parsonage Committee. This was made into a motion by Marsden Cox and seconded by Henry Brunson; motion passed.

In further PPR business, Marsden reported that funds are depleted for parsonage expenses. He asked for a motion to have a permanent, accumulative fund established as a line item; have Parsonage Maintenance now of \$1,000. Paul Gasque stated that his expenses for 2 churches were paid by both churches with each church paying the same percentage, as each contributed to the preacher's salary. Donna Bethea stated that the issue of church monies is a responsibility of the Board of Trustees, not the Church Council, etc. No resolution; issue to be discussed further.

Trustees: Henry Brunson announced receipt of \$2,000. from Rebecca Smith memorial. At their last meeting (last week), 1 member showed; 6 of the 8 members Henry was able to subsequently contact agreed to put the \$2,000 in the Parsonage Fund. He stated he had talked w/ Mt. Andrews and they will get back w/ him concerning their sharing parsonage expenses.

He stated he has a list of 18-20 items to be done around the church; will get list to the minister. Top 2 items are: 1) repairing rotten canopy (one going into the church) and 2) window sills in church office and minister's office are rotten. Others include: all windows need painting. Vic Bethea asked who ends up w/ the ultimate decision concerning monetary funds: Council or Trustees. Rev. Mason responded: The Trustees work w/ approved monies, but if they need more, it is up to the Council to approve additional monies; The Trustees' Chair's responsibility to keep the Council aware of buildings' status.

Henry reported that he and Wade Brown put fans in the kitchen and will put a light over the podium in the Ladies' Chapel. He also reported talking to a contractor ("yesterday") for mechanism for swinging door (between kitchen and fellowship hall), estimate of between \$300-400.

Council Vice-Chair: Vic Bethea: No report

April 2015

McGirt Family Outreach

Couches (3)
Love Seat
End Table
Table & Chairs
Refrigerator
Bedding & Curtains
Television
Clothes
Personal items
Meal & Food
Pots & Pans
Dishes
Motel expenses
Gift card for food (restricted use)

Lucille Davis - stroke in Dec or Jan

First round of medication paid for by a couple in the church

Ladies' Class raised over \$1,000 for her bills - Held by Iratine.

Transportation to Rehab by Jewell Benton

She had no insurance to pay for her medicine.

All donations. No mission money involved in this situation

May 2015

There is a family in need in the Mallory community that has come to the attention of the church and I am seeking input from the members of the Missions Committee as to how we should respond to this need. It concerns a request for help with rent.

Nicole Herring is a young mother of four children ages 14, 13, 11, and 9. The two older children are currently in some form of juvenile evaluation, but are scheduled to return home next week. Nicole recently lost her job as a cashier at Food Lion in Dillon and has no other source of income but food stamps. Her husband lost his job at Atlantic Shutters last year and has been working at "pick-up" jobs in construction, but no steady stream of income with any company. Nicole relates that her parents and grandparents are not financially able to provide much relief. She has applied for employment with Sav-a-Lot, a greeting card distributor, and is soon scheduled to take an assessment test with Walgreen's.

Nicole currently resides at a mobile home and her landlord is Vonda Miller. Her monthly rent is \$350 and Vonda has given her until Friday to have the rental fee paid. I made no commitment to her without consulting the Committee, but shared with her that we would be limited to any assistance we could provide, if any. I feel that we should treat this in the same manner as the church's policy on assistance with utility bills – evaluate the need on an individual basis and its merits confidentially, but not get ourselves into a position of having others seek help when there is no need.

I would suggest that if the Committee decides to help with this need, we should give the money (\$100-150 recommended) to Vonda Miller. I have worked with Vonda during my pastorate in Clio while she served as a manager at an apartment complex there. This would leave approximately \$1,150-1,200 in the Missions fund for the remainder of the year. I certainly welcome and appreciate any input you might have. Please contact me ASAP by e-mail copied also to the other Committee members in order that I might let the family know before Friday what our decision is.

Thank you for your consideration,
Paul

June 2015

I received a phone call from Joe Weatherford yesterday morning informing me that his AC had stopped working and that it was getting really hot in his home. This being an 83 year-old man who lives alone with very little financial resources, and the heat index predicted to rise above 100, I considered it an urgent matter that needed to be addressed quickly. I do not like to spend money from the Missions Committee Fund without first evaluating the need and getting input and approval from the committee, however, I felt that we needed to expedite this based on Joe's health condition. Therefore, I took the liberty to buy a window AC unit and arranged to have Allen Powers install it as Allen was able to start on it right away. Allen had to do some reframing work in a cinder block opening where the old AC unit was in order to get the new unit to properly fit. The cost for the AC was \$238.52 and the labor was \$80.00. I am asking to be reimbursed for these expenses from the Missions Committee fund, which I incurred personally, if the committee so approves. Please let me know ASAP

Thanks for you consideration,
Paul

**LATTA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL
FIRST QUARTER
January 10, 2016**

PRESENT: Ione Allen, Vic Bethea, Belva Britt, Henry Brunson, Becky Coleman, Marsden Cox, III; Mary Cox, Debbie Finklea, Paul Gasque, Vicky Graham, Sylvia Lane, Leslie Manning, Marty Nason, Abbott Shelley, Michael Roberts, Sandra Roberts, Ruthann Wooten

Council Chair Abbot Shelley called the meeting to order and Rev. Nason opened with prayer.

The Chair announced that an Ex-Officio does have voting rights on the Church Council. The July 26, 2015 Minutes, as previously made available for preview via e-mail, were approved as submitted.

The Chair stated the main purpose of the this meeting was the proposed 2016 Budget.

Finance: In absence of Finance Chair. Donna Bethea, Paul Gasque presented per Donna's request. Members were given a copy of the proposed 2016 Budget, with Paul giving briefing. He then asked for comments from Finance Committee members: Marsden Cox noted that Item 5005 (Summer Youth Worker-\$1,000.) should be deleted per July 26, 2015 Council Meeting. Marsden also brought forward the continuing issue of establishment of Parsonage Fund, via setting up as a new budget item. Paul Gasque stated that St.Andrews did meet on this. He stated it shouldn't be a problem, the two churches provide a total of \$2,500.00. There was further discussion, including: putting this in as seperate item under 53000 Properties; that the Chair of Finance should determine where/how to place this in the budget. See also "PPR" below.

Sylvia Lane noted that there was no money in the budget for Handbells (Item 52043), but that should not be problem: no longer have handbell choir; annual contribution not an issue.

Henry Brunson made a motion to accept the 2016 Budget, Marsden Cox seconded, motion passed.

PPR: Chair Marseden Cox reported recommendation that Marty Nason be re-appointed this year. It was also recommended to develop a Parsonage Committee; some discussion followed. Paul Gasque shared that he'd a a document on guidelines of "Parsonage Guidelines", and he recommended that these be used to develop ours, he would pass to Beth for copies to be made. Discussion included the new Committee be ade up of both churches. It was noted that this would not be a disciplinary committee, Paul's opinion being that it falls under the Trustees Committee. The Chair asked for volunteers; there initially being none, Henry Brunson (Trustee Chair) stated he would take care of it.

Trustees: Henry Brunson stated he has pretty well been solely responsible for cutting heat/air/lights, etc on and off for years every Sunday. There was a recommendation that the Ushers assume this responsibility, AND be at both front-side doors of sanctuary for people coming in AND leaving, to ensure all outside doors are locked (Chapel, door from ramp, etc). It was also recommended that the Usher lock the Sanctuary doors when the service begins and be seated at/near the doors during the service. Sandra Roberts stated she will talk with Johnny Dew (Head of Ushers) about this. Rev. Nason stated he would also have a meeting with the ushers.

Henry also brought up having a board/plaque at the front of the Sanctuary showing the page #'s for Hymns to be sung and previous week's collection. There was discussion about logistics: who posts/ when/ etc. There was some discussion, no resolution for change.

There being no other Reports or business, Chair Shelley adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie C. Manning, Recording Secretary

LATTA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL
FOURTH QUARTER
OCTOBER 30, 2016

PRESENT: Donna Bethea, Vic Bethea, Belva Britt, Henry Brunson, Marsden Cox III, Mary Cox, Debbie Finklea, Vickie Graham, Sylvia Lane, Leslie Manning, Rev. Marty Nason, Abbott Shelley

Chair. Shelley called the meeting to order; asked Rev. Nason to open with prayer.

A motion was made by Henry Brunson and seconded by Sylvia Lane to accept the July 31 Council Meeting Minutes as written; motion passed.

S/PR Committee Chair. Marsden Cox - reported from August there has been on-going dialogue: Clergy Assessment Form completed, few little items still to be completed. Stated Custodian James Brown informed him he'd do grounds, not inside of church, in part due to his wife's death as well as the amount of vacuuming required for the sanctuary. Vic Bethea made suggestion to look for someone to clean the church and keep the grounds. Resolution: Wait to hear...

Trustees Chair Henry Brunson - Vicki, Corky, and Wade cleaned the parsonage yard after hurricane Matthew; Andy Bryant is bringing in top-soil; caulking on canopy of west wide-some rotting, will paint both canopies, have the paint. Lyle Hayes is to submit estimate to do canopy. Need adjustor to look at roof-needs attention. Reports working on a lot of little odds and ends. Henry responded will have organ noise, as reported by Debbie Finklea, checked out. Henry reported the fallen tree/root ball at street is town's responsibility. He will see pecan tree at church playground will still be cut as approved. Henry has church ground's plat, will find boundaries. He has called man to look at parking lot, but man has not come. Henry also addressed concerns raised from last wedding held at church offered to non-member. After much discussion, (including suggestion that non-members using the church pay a deposit, also consider some document to cover non-wedding activities), Henry he stated he will talk to Beth about any existing document/form,etc, also checking with Dottie Brunson.

Subsequently in meeting: Henry stated they are looking into ordering a commercial vacuum cleaner; window sills in church office and over ac in the Fellowship Hall need repair: Lyle Hayes to submit estimate. Also, bottom of door at office is rotten, Lyle Hayes looking-need another door.

Needs OK from Trustees to act on these issues.

He also subsequently thanked the women of what they do for the church. He also stated that he and Donna cleaned up the kitchen after the storm.

Vice-Chair Vic Bethea- thanked and gave credit to Henry B., Corky L, and Wade B. for all the clean-up work they did after Matthew.

Finance Chair Donna Bethea - this quarter's report not as good as last quarter's but better than

same quarter last year, missed collections for 1 Sunday in Oct. due to Matthew; had been competitive with 2014, but not now. As of October 28, 2016:

Regular Budget Balance - \$15,528.11

Trustee Budget Balance - \$15,431.88

She reported payments on apportionments has not been completed.

Shared she hoped her being in office was helpful while Beth was out.

She reported that Custodian James does not do parsange or church yards. Paul Gasque reported he OK'd writing a \$60.00 check for some yard work; this issue is to be passed on to the P/P/R Committee, to work with Glenn Greene, III

Adult/Family Act. -No Report

SS Super and Co Super - No Report

It was reported that Susie Young is in charge of the the Angel Christmas Tree this year; contact her for info.

UMW President Debbie Finklea - She and Mille George and Rose Mary Bethea attended District Annual meeting yesterday in Bennetsville.

Sr. Adults Chair Abbot Shelley - Attendees has good time at last Young at Heart

Rev. Nason expressed his appreciation to and for the Council for taking care of the church. He also reported that the Trunk or Treat event today went well, had a good time, aabout 20-25 children attended.

There being no other business, Chair Abbot asked for motion to close the meeting: Henry Brunson made motion to adjourn, all other members seconded the motion.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leslie C. Manning, Recording Secretary

**Latta United Methodist Church
Church Council
Third Quarter
July 31, 2016**

PRESENT: Sylvia Lane, Donna Bethea, Vickie Graham, Belva Britt, Vic Bethea, Debbie Finklea, Ruthann Wooten, Paul Gasque, Laura Gasque, Abbott Shelley, Henry Brunson, Marsden Cox, Marty Nason, Glenn Greene, III, Ione Allen, Heath Fore

Council Chair Abbott Shelley called the meeting to order and Pastor Nason opened with prayer.

Abbott opened with the question as to the identity of the two visitors in church the last few weeks were.....determined to be Ruth Beamer's daughter and granddaughter.

The April 24, 2016 Minutes, as previously made available for preview via email, were approved. Glenn Greene, III approved and Marsden Cox seconded. The motion passed.

Laura Gasque asked to speak with the council. She pointed out the men have a Prayer Breakfast to attend and would like to start a Women Prayer Group....Perhaps the 1st and 3rd Wednesday evenings in the Women's Chapel. Vic Bethea approved and Henry Brunson seconded. The Motion Passed.

Laura also reported on the 5 pm Sunday School Class. They started with 5 people in February and the last three to four Sundays have had 10-11 people in attendance.

Lay Leader Glenn Greene - No Report

PPRC Chair Marsden Cox - No Report

Trustees Chair Henry Brunson had three issues to address:

1. Beth Greene needs relief in the office. Paul Gasque and Donna Bethea have volunteered to get with Beth to determine the needs in this area and will get recommendations from Beth as to who can help most effectively.
2. Our maintenance on the church grounds and inside the church facilities is not being kept up. James is 85 years old and needs assistance with the work. Paul Gasque noted that the Missions Committee and members of the church have given James financial assistance within the last quarter. Vic Bethea recommends that we look into finding other government financial assistance for James. The concerns will be addressed by the PPRC committee.
3. The parking lot needs attention and repairs. Vic Bethea will check on prices for repair instead of paving.

Henry also reported that some of the repairs on the church building and windows have been started. The columns under the canopy are being repaired.

The van has been donated to the Baptist Mission Headquarters in Virginia which has experienced total loss due to floods with the blessing of Marsden and Meryl Cox.

Council Vice-Chair Vic Bethea: No report

Finance Chair Donna Bethea: In comparing givings at this time last year, we are in the positive by \$3000, even better than 2014. She pointed out that we have no more 5th Sundays, but remains positive on the budget at this time.

Lay Leader Glenn Green III: Has requested that we consider opening our church accounts with Anderson Brothers who is moving to Latta. Marsden Cox made the motion to move accounts and Henry Brunson seconded. Motion passed.

Glenn also recommended not moving the cd's from First Bank until they mature.

Leslie Manning, Richard Gaddy, Beth Greene, and one additional person will be needed to make the transition.

Adult/Family Activities Chair Sylvia Lane: Reported that Mary Cox headed the committee for feeding the Salkehatchie group. They had 108 people total (87 campers and the rest helpers) and Henry's chicken bog was a hit.

Evangelism Chair Ruthann Wooten: No report

Worship Chair Sandra Roberts: No report

UMW President (Ex-Officio) Debbie Finklea: Reported that Carol Epps and she attended Mission-U in Spartanburg and Pastor Marty Nason was one of the instructors. Topics studied were "Climate Justice" and "The Bible and Human Sexuality" and Pastor Marty taught "Latin America, People and Faith".

Senior Adults Chair Abbott Shelley reported that the Senior Lunch will resume in September.

Abbott also brought up the fact that Houston Manning has put a lot of work into getting photo displays of our church members and events together and we need to find a place to display them permanently. He will look into some places in the fellowship hall that may work. It was suggested that maybe we could get a nice bookcase donated for the project.

Nurture/Outreach Chair Ione Allen: Reported that we had a nice dinner for family of Ms. Eloise and she is working on getting a leader to handle the next group.

Donna Bethea reported that she has been doing the kitchen clean up monthly and will reach out for assistance as needed.

Youth Activities Chair Heath Fore: No report

Pastor Marty Nason's closing comments : Jobs well done and finances are encouraging. Thanked trustees and chairs for noticing and taking care of the church and for the different things being accomplished. He pointed out that America is changing and that we do not live in a church culture, but we now live in a mission field. Thanked the ladies for attending Mission U and thanked the council for their time.

A discussion was brought up about the locking of church doors during the service for safety purposes. Many oppose the locking of doors and suggested we consider other methods. Paul Gasque stated SLED may have programs that they will share, he will follow up. Donna Bethea also said a group in Florence County would come and do an assessment and make recommendations.

No other business reported: Chair Abbott Shelley adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Finklea, acting for Recording Secretary Leslie C. Manning

LATTA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL
FOURTH QUARTER
OCTOBER 30, 2016

PRESENT: Donna Bethea, Vic Bethea, Belva Britt, Henry Brunson, Marsden Cox III, Mary Cox, Debbie Finklea, Vickie Graham, Sylvia Lane, Leslie Manning, Rev. Marty Nason, Abbott Shelley

Chair. Shelley called the meeting to order; asked Rev. Nason to open with prayer.

A motion was made by Henry Brunson and seconded by Sylvia Lane to accept the July 31 Council Meeting Minutes as written; motion passed.

S/PR Committee Chair. Marsden Cox - reported from August there has been on-going dialogue: Clergy Assessment Form completed, few little items still to be completed. Stated Custodian James Brown informed him he'd do grounds, not inside of church, in part due to his wife's death as well as the amount of vacuuming required for the sanctuary. Vic Bethea made suggestion to look for someone to clean the church and keep the grounds. Resolution: Wait to hear...

Trustees Chair Henry Brunson - Vicki, Corky, and Wade cleaned the parsonage yard after hurricane Matthew; Andy Bryant is bringing in top-soil; caulking on canopy of west wide-some rotting, will paint both canopies, have the paint. Lyle Hayes is to submit estimate to do canopy. Need adjustor to look at roof-needs attention. Reports working on a lot of little odds and ends. Henry responded will have organ noise, as reported by Debbie Finklea, checked out. Henry reported the fallen tree/root ball at street is town's responsibility. He will see pecan tree at church playground will still be cut as approved. Henry has church ground's plat, will find boundaries. He has called man to look at parking lot, but man has not come. Henry also addressed concerns raised from last wedding held at church offered to non-member. After much discussion, (including suggestion that non-members using the church pay a deposit, also consider some document to cover non-wedding activities), Henry he stated he will talk to Beth about any existing document/form,etc, also checking with Dottie Brunson.

Subsequently in meeting: Henry stated they are looking into ordering a commercial vacuum cleaner; window sills in church office and over ac in the Fellowship Hall need repair: Lyle Hayes to submit estimate. Also, bottom of door at office is rotten, Lyle Hayes looking-need another door.

Needs OK from Trustees to act on these issues.

He also subsequently thanked the women of what they do for the church. He also stated that he and Donna cleaned up the kitchen after the storm.

Vice-Chair Vic Bethea- thanked and gave credit to Henry B., Corky L, and Wade B. for all the clean-up work they did after Matthew.

Finance Chair Donna Bethea - this quarter's report not as good as last quarter's but better than

same quarter last year, missed collections for 1 Sunday in Oct. due to Matthew; had been competitive with 2014, but not now. As of October 28, 2016:

Regular Budget Balance - \$15,528.11

Trustee Budget Balance - \$15,431.88

She reported payments on apportionments has not been completed.

Shared she hoped her being in office was helpful while Beth was out.

She reported that Custodian James does not do parsange or church yards. Paul Gasque reported he OK'd writing a \$60.00 check for some yard work; this issue is to be passed on to the P/P/R Committee, to work with Glenn Greene, III

Adult/Family Act. -No Report

SS Super and Co Super - No Report

It was reported that Susie Young is in charge of the the Angel Christmas Tree this year; contact her for info.

UMW President Debbie Finklea - She and Mille George and Rose Mary Bethea attended District Annual meeting yesterday in Bennetsville.

Sr. Adults Chair Abbot Shelley - Attendees has good time at last Young at Heart

Rev. Nason expressed his appreciation to and for the Council for taking care of the church. He also reported that the Trunk or Treat event today went well, had a good time, aabout 20-25 children attended.

There being no other business, Chair Abbot asked for motion to close the meeting: Henry Brunson made motion to adjourn, all other members seconded the motion.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leslie C. Manning, Recording Secretary

LATTA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL
SECOND QUARTER
April 30, 2017

PRESENT: Donna Bethea; Vic Bethea; Henry Brunson; Rebecca Coleman; Marsden Cox, III; Mary Cox; Heath Fore; Paul Gasque; Glenn Greene; Leslie Manning; Marty Nason; Abbott Shelley; Ruthann Wooten
Guests: Joyce Bethea; Jeannie Shelley

The Chair. called the meeting to order and asked Rev. Nason to open with prayer.

The Rec. Sect. noted that there were no Mins. for the January 29 meeting. It was subsequently learned that a very brief meeting was held at earlier time to request approval of reimbursement expense for Rev. Nason.

Joyce Bethea had requested to speak to the Council about how our church expresses our love of God. She shared her concern about the loss of membership/attendance over the past few years, and that as a church we need to start thinking about what we can do. She noted that some of the good things being done, and the need to ask what else we can do, giving some examples: noting how John Wesley's hymns are actually mini-sermons. Some committees are working on some ideas. We need to have some way of letting members know what is going on in the church. She would like Council to come up with ideas to involve the congregation, to get the congregation involved. Paul Gasque responded that it has been brought up to the preacher about the hymns; agreed w/ Miss Joyce on their important role. Glenn Greene also spoke in support of the issue. Henry Brunson noted working on Veteran's Recognition Day.

PPR: Marsden Cox reported that Rev. Nason has been reappointed for another year. He also reported: custodian James Brown will now only do the church yards, not the church interiors. After looking at 3 prospects, Ann Johnson was chosen to clean the interior of the church buildings. James and Ann are now Independent Contractors. James is responsible for cleaning the outside rugs. The question arose about the up-keep of the playground. Henry Brunson stated he didn't know who was responsible for upkeep, but does need to be checked weekly; Marsden will mention to James Brown; per Henry, need new chips at playground or refresh them, he will check into. He also reported that Kathryn Carter has been hired as the new Church Secretary.

Trustees: Henry Brunson named all the work projects done in the last 4-5 weeks, including window caulking, repair and painting; office door refurbished; work in Fellowship Hall; work on East and West canopies; sound system in Ladies Bible Class-have to wait on Terminex contract concerning termite infestation; and work under the church in the left hand corner where the piano sits. He also reported that the parsonage roof has to be replaced, and insurance will not pay. He got 2 prices: 5,000. And 8,000; he will get back with the Trustees to decide.

Henry had also asked Jeannie Shelley to discuss Trustees discussions and proposal concerning non-members of church using fellowship hall. Jeannie presented highlights of a proposed "Non-Member Rental Agreement.". The Agreement covers 13 different areas. Fees collected would be put in to the Trustees budget. They are waiting to hear from the fire marshall about maximum capacity. Paul Gasque stated for consideration: In providing the number of Constituent Members (ie. non-members) on the Charge Conference form, are "to be treated as church members." After much discussion, the Council voted unanimously to proceed with the Temporary Rental Agreement.

Finance: Donna Bethea reported that the collections this year's collections is \$10,285.85 less than this time last year. Due to an anonymous donation of \$2,000., the current \$2,000. VBS Budget is now \$4,000.

Children's Activities: No report

SS Superintendent: No report

Evangelism: No Report

Missions: Paul reported there was a \$300. donation made to the town of Nichols; had request from Dillon School Drive for \$200./Year, but after consideration, committee decided not to do.

VBS- Becky reported she is in the process of ordering the materials; still need volunteers

Rev. Nason- Stated appreciation for Joyce Bethea's speaking and the Trustees now reflecting on updating guidelines and needs; that he is looking ahead to honoring the veterans, and preparing for Memorial Day, per the Executive Committee. He reported that he received about a dozen responses on his request for current issues to be addressed in sermon. He will address each one of the top 3 in June during the Sunday morning service: immigration; racism; and marriage. He thanked Council members for the time they have given to the church.

There being no other business, the meeting was dismissed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leslie Manning
Recording Secretary

Church Council Meeting

July 30, 2017

In attendance: Vickie Graham, Heath Fore, Henry Brunson, Abbott Shelley, Marsden and Mary Cox, Donna Bethea, Ruthann Wooten and Rev. Marty Nason.

Abbott Shelley asked Marty to open with a prayer. There were no minutes available from the last meeting. Marsden Cox, for the PPRC, had nothing to report. For the Trustees, Henry Brunson said that they were planning to have a work day in the fall. He has contacted someone about the walls in the chapel, the pastor's study and the front of the men's hut. For Finance, Donna Bethea reported that there is \$21,024.89 in the Agency account and \$14,813.88 in the Trustee account. Our giving is down \$16,765.49 from this time last year. We have collected \$97,582.16 to date. Marty Nason suggested adding a line in the bulletin with the amount needed to meet the budget (to date). Henry Brunson suggested a quarterly report to everyone to reach those who are not attending regularly but Donna Bethea pointed out that email would be more cost efficient. She also suggested publishing a calendar for the use of the fellowship hall. Ruthann Wooten thought it would be good to have the prayer chain on the website. Donna Bethea thought we could check with Carol Stoops to see if someone at the district office would know how to add the calendar and prayer chain requests to the web page. Mary Cox had nothing to report. Heath Fore noted that they would have several moving up to MYF this fall. Vickie Graham reported that she and Ione Allen, along with their committee, fed the family of Emily Shelley.

Marty Nason mentioned *Forward Focus* which is a program from the annual conference that will examine where the church is, who we are and what God is calling us to do. We may do an informational meeting about it in September. The third Sunday in September will be a Sunday of singing. Charge Conference will be on Monday, September 11.

Abbott Shelley asked Henry Brunson about the guidelines for the use of the fellowship hall that we discussed at the previous meeting. Henry said it hasn't been finalized yet. Donna Bethea commented that nonmembers should put down a deposit to use it and it shouldn't be used for a fund raiser that is not mission oriented. Marty said that the trustees should make a policy and bring

it to council. Donna Bethea thought it would be good to ask a lawyer who is a church member about the liability of letting nonmembers use it.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, in the absence of Leslie Manning, by

Ruthann Wooten

CALLED MEETING – CHURCH COUNCIL & CONGREGATION

November 12, 2017

6:00 PM

Present: 20 Council Members and 17 other church members, for a total of 37 present

Each person was handed an index card and Income and Expense Report/Jan-Dec. 2017 at the door.

Chair Abbott asked Rev. Nason to open the meeting with a prayer. Rev. Nason then turned the meeting over to Finance Chair Donna Bethea.

Donna: Have not received enough to pay expenses, stopped apportionment to pay salaries and utilities; have met with Finance Committee, Marsden, and Rev. Nason. Giving has been down each year for past 3 years- deaths, members moved, peoples' situations change, etc. Stated she should have brought to congregation's attention sooner. She stated she comes off as Chair next year [Jan. 2018]; this situation is a problem for all of us, it's a church problem. She stated there does need to be better communication about the church's financial status on more on-going basis. This meeting is to solicit ideas about how to resolve the current situation and how to avoid like one in the future. She asked people to put ideas down on index card and return no later than next week or so. As of 11/9/17, Personnel Expenses is \$5,242.35 short. The budget has been cut each of the last 2 years. We need to do something quickly. She noted that a lot of the budget is designated items; already cut budget as much as possible. Marty and Joy will be moving in June; will be needing to replace furnishings for parsonage that are their personal belongings and will be taking with them.

Glenn Green: Thanked Donna for "stepping up", and not to blame herself; others present indicated agreement. He also stated that in January we have \$3,000 quarterly insurance premium due. Church could sell 2 lots; have tried unsuccessfully in past.

Terry : Asked Donna how church creates/ed budget; noted downward trend recognized for last 3 years

Donna: Salaries are not negotiable; flexible item is Church Ministries expenses.

Vic Bethea: What is total figure of the budget determined in 2016 for 2017: need \$56,000 to balance budget

RoseMerry Bethea: We all just need to just contribute.

Donna: Not just a money issue; other ways to give that can contribute, and subsequently help financially, ie: cut grass, trim shrubbery, etc.

After some additional discussion:

Paul Gasque: Referenced Malachi: Bring the full into the storehouse, His blessings are contingent to our obedience. Paul stated that it needs to start right here; it is a faith community problem, we need to search our own hearts.

Donna: There are other church problems that need to be addressed; it's basically our own individual commitment.

Henry Brunson: Need Pledge program, we haven't done that in a while.

Donna: We're basically 4 months behind in apportionments. We need \$8,820. to get through the year; we have \$5000. in the bank right now---not enough to make salaries.

Vic Bethea: How much did we take in last 2 months? Donna: In Sept: \$14,600, and in Oct: \$12,960.

Houston Manning asked how much was collected last Dec; Donna stated \$19,383.

Terry suggested having monthly meetings.

Donna stated though she has a lot of professional experience in working with budgets, she had not served on the church's Finance Committee before being asked to serve as Chair of the Committee. She strongly advised that the next Finance Chair have previous experience having served on the Finance Committee.

Marsden commented to Donna that she'd done a good job.

Vic suggested having simpler budgeting system: have pledges and build budget and expenses from that: put it to the congregation.

Tracey Fore stated and reminded us that we need to get on our knees and take it to God.

Donna stated we need more on-going communication in the church; ie Newsletter, Website

Houston Manning asked when we started meeting full apportionment and response was about 20 years ago.

Rev. Nason stated he would preach on Malachi per Paul Gasque's earlier reference. He stated he had intentionally not asked for money so as to not run anyone off.

Donna re-stated that there needs to be a way to get the word out about what goes on with our church; that she takes responsibility for not getting this word out earlier. She mentioned that the Baptist church has regular, on-going weekly to monthly business meetings.

Houston commented that he believed that having this open discussion was good.

Vic asked what we're going to do about it, not just talk about it, do something.

Terry replied he did not think this was a terribly bad situation; resolve over time with fiscal discipline.

Donna replied that an analysis wasn't being done; Terry replied that that could easily be addressed. She also stated that the United Methodist Church in general does not promote Pledges. In response to Fred Ellis' question, she affirmed that the District Office is aware of our situation.

Wade Brown, Jr stated as previous Finance Chair, he saw that this is not a budget issue, it is a revenue issue; the majority of expense items are out of the individual church control.

Donna stated we should start looking for ways to save: better deal on insurance-and that means someone has to do something to do that, and that is a part of our problem. Can we cut our own grass?

Paul shared his thought that this is a covenant we make with one another tonight, and it comes down to who we are. Our plan has to include God.

Jim Ellis asked about putting church budget status in the bulletin: part is in the bulletin, but total expenditures is not beside collections. Louise Ellis stated if people aren't coming, they aren't giving. Rose Merry Bethea stated we're not responsible for those not here, just ourselves; explain it in the bulletin.

Kathryn Carter volunteered for she and Ronnie to cut the grass; but then realized and it was agreed that that would impact current yard keeper's income.

Tommy Coleman stated he's aware of the church losing 25-30 members since he joined the church.

Donna stated we've put off some needed maintenance work, and we keep putting it off.

Steve Coleman suggested putting needs out to the congregation and using our own skills and expertise instead of paying others.

After brief closing remark, the meeting was dismissed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leslie Manning, Recording Secretary

LATTA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CHURCH COUNCIL

SECOND QUARTER

APRIL 29, 2018

Present: Vic Bethea; Dottie Brunson; Rocky Brunson; Marsden Cox; Paul Gasque; Glenn Greene; Corky Lane; Leslie Manning; Rev. Marty Nason; Abbott Shelley; Ruthann Wooten

Chair Vic Bethea called the meeting to order; Rev. Marty opened with prayer.

Chair Bethea then confirmed no need for report from the Committee on Nominations.

Worship Committee - No Report

Scholarship Committee – no report

Trustees: Chair Henry Brunson reported the following: a total of \$9,300. spent on necessary work under the church building (including pipe break repair, mold, fans, sump pump, etc.); he had gotten 2 bids and went with the best. The parsonage roof was re-covered, \$7,300. Put new post on rail in Ladies Chapel. Some work done on playground-needs more. Swinging door going from sanctuary into choir area needs fixing: \$2001. for body part, \$1,200. For the body. He suggested anyone can go on Google and look up to see if can be found cheaper, Rixson Co. makes the parts. He reported the work that's been done has been paid for, leaving about \$5,000. Paul Gasque stated that church member Chris Martin has volunteered to fix everything in the playground, including: pressure-wash wooden pieces and stain; mulch; sail for ark; etc. Rose Merry Bethea is in charge of the project. Per Chair, he asked Paul to have Chris Martin call her.

Council Chair noted that bidding for property donated to the church by the Jerry James family is scheduled to be closed out at noon 4/30/18. There was some discussion about timing of bidding and Council approving selling the property. It was decided and acted upon that the Council vote on selling the property or not, and if passed to sell, proceed with bidding as planned. Dottie Brunson made motion for Council to vote at this meeting to sell said property; Marsden Cox seconded motion; motion passed unanimously.

SPRC Member Glenn Greene reported: Parsonage Committee did meet with the in-coming new minister and his wife, Mike and Beth Rouse on March 18. Rev. Rouse has been in the ministry 30+ years, has

been active in assigned church and community. He stated they will not be living in the church parsonage, have bought a home in Hamer. Glenn informed Council of parsonage situation: Rev. Nason has asked to rent the parsonage the first 2 months of his retirement; ie, July and August. Glenn stated the SPRC is in charge of the parsonage until the end of July 1, then the Trustees take charge. He stated the change of the church income with the new minister will save the church \$12,000. annually. Chair Bethea stated he found out that our insurance will cover the parsonage if, every month, any member "sticks their head in the door," makes their presence known. Henry asked Glenn if we could extend the 2 month limit for Rev. Nason indefinitely; Glenn stated it was OK with him. Chair Bethea made motion to accept proposal to rent church parsonage to Rev. Nason; motion seconded by Henry Brunson and Corky Lane; motion passed. Corky also stated that the congregation/church members need to be made aware of the agreement concerning renting the parsonage and how the details are/will be worked out.

Finance Chair Corky Lane: Finance Committee met about 1 ½ months ago and again today. He reported church finances look in "good shape—at the moment." He stated that Donna Bethea had worked hard as Finance Chair, got apportionments paid in full; piano needs met. Need \$4,165 in collections each Sunday in order to meet the budget. Potential concern: giving usually goes down in the summer. He stated the Committee will not follow up on holding a financial campaign until the new minister is on board.

Rev. Nason asked to speak before closing the meeting. He expressed appreciation for Paul Gasque providing the sermon this morning. He recognized that the church supported the Red Bird Mission, in part, with \$3,800 in donations. He stated he appreciated the work of the PPRC.

He stated that the Annual Conference will be Sun., June 3 – 6, in Greenville. He explained about "Retired Supply" and "Effective" Clergy. He shared that Wednesday, June 27 in moving day for clery.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leslie C. Manning, Recording Secretary

CALLED – CHURCH LOCAL CONFERENCE

LATTA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MAY 6, 2018

Present: Vic Bethea, Rose Merry Bethea, Leslie Manning, Ruthann Wooten, Henry Brunson, Dottie Brunson, Rev. Marty Nason

Rev. Nason announced receipt of e-mail from Dist. Supt. Tim Rogers authorizing him to conduct this called meeting in Rev. Roger’s absence. Rev. Nason also provided copies of the official written notice of the meeting: “Resolution to Authorize the Sale of Church Property-Marion District-SC Conference of the UMC.” He announced this as the sole purpose of this meeting; that the correct nomenclature for the Latta/Mt. Andrews Church Council meeting separately is “Church Local Conference.” He then opened the meeting with prayer.

Rev. Nason asked members present if there was motion to authorize the LUMC Trustees to sell the church property off Tobacco Land Road in Latta, SC. Vic Bethea made a motion to authorize the Trustees to sell said property; Henry Brunson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Rosemerry Bethea asked about the next step for the Trustees. Rev. Nason replied that it was for them to execute the sale; the property deed is in the LUMC office. He also replied that the money from the sale goes to LUMC, via the wishes of the Church Council.

There being no other business, Rev. Nason closed the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie C. Manning, LUMC Recording Secretary

Official Roll and Attendance Record

This form, intended for the entire year, is the official roll of officers and members of the Church Council and/or the Charge Conference. The names should be entered alphabetically. The columns captioned ATTENDANCE RECORD are to be used to record attendance at the meetings of the Church Council and/or Charge Conference. Insert the dates of the meetings in the blocks provided for this purpose.

LATTA Church

Marion District

South Carolina Conference for Calendar Year 2018

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL AND THE CHARGE CONFERENCE.

Ch. Church Council

Vic Bethea

V-Ch. Church Council

Leslie Manning

Recording Sec

Names		ATTENDANCE RECORD																		
Last	First	Date:																		
		3/27	4/28	5/6																
Bethea	Vic		✓	✓																
Carmichael	Allyson																			
Carter	Kathryn																			
Coleman	Rebecca																			
Coleman	Tommy																			
Dew	Johnny																			
Dew	Johnny																			
Finklea	Debbie																			
Fore	Heath																			
Fore	Tracey																			
Gaddy	Becky																			
Gaddy	Richard																			
Gasque	Paul		✓	✓																
Graham	Vickie																			
Greene	Glenn		✓	✓																
Lane	Corky		✓	✓																
Manning	Houston																			
Manning	Leslie		✓	✓	✓															
Roberts	Michael																			
Wooten	Ruthann		✓	✓	✓															

The foregoing officers and members were nominated and elected or approved according to the provisions of *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church.*

Cox	Marsden		✓		
Brunson	Rocky Henry		✓	✓	
Brunson	Dottie		✓	✓	
Nason	Marty		✓	✓	
Shelley	Abbott		✓	✓	
Allen	Ione				
Cox	Mary				

Signed Leslie C. Manning
Recording Secretary

alter

Latta United Methodist Church – Church Local Conference
Resolution to Authorize the Sale of Church Property
Marion District
South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church
May 6, 2018
6:00 PM

Whereas, Latta United Methodist Church currently owns a tract of land of approximately 16 acres, located on Tobacco Land Road outside of Latta, South Carolina, the deed to which is recorded in the records of Dillon County in Deed Book 597, page 122, and

Whereas, the church has no plans to use the property in the foreseeable future, and

Whereas, the Marion District Board of Church Location and Building, together with the Pastor and District Superintendent of Latta United Methodist Church have investigated the circumstances related to the proposed sale of the church property as outlined in ¶2540.3 of the 2016 Book of Discipline, and have given their approval to the proposed sale, and

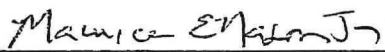
Whereas, appropriate notice has been given of a Church Local Conference at this time and place, pursuant to ¶¶ 2527 and 2540 of the 2016 Book of Discipline, to authorize the sale of the above identified property, now, therefore

Be It Resolved, That:

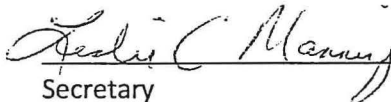
The members of the Church Local Conference of Latta United Methodist Church of the Marion District do hereby authorize the trustees of Latta United Methodist Church to sell the above stated property for a sum that in their discretion would be in the best interest of the church; and that

Any two members of the trustees of Latta United Methodist Church shall be authorized to execute any documents necessary for the sale of the above stated property.


Signed:



Pastor



Secretary



District Superintendent

5-16-18

Date

LATTA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CHURCH COUNCIL

THIRD QUARTER

JULY 29, 2018

Council Members Present: Kathryn Carter, Heath Fore, Paul Gasque, Vickie Graham, Glenn Greene, Corky Lane, Houston Manning, Leslie Manning, Michael Roberts, Ruthann Wooten, Henry Brunson, Marsden Cox, Abbott Shelley, Dottie Brunson, Ione Allen, Mary Cox, Rev. Michael Rouse. Also present were Sandra Roberts and Ronnie Carter. Additionally, the following Mt. Andrew Council members were present: Lisa Adams, Jewel Benton, Ann Byrd, Henry Hewitt, Michelle Hewitt, William Jackson, and Lauren Rogers.

In the absence of Chair Vic Bethea, Vice-Chair Marsden Cox opened the meeting by introducing our new minister, Michael ("Mike") Rouse, who offered an opening prayer.

PPR Report – Glenn Greene: Welcome again to new minister. James Brown, grounds keeper, retired. Bud McRae is cutting the church and parsonage grass while Glenn is getting 3 bids for permanent hire. He stated Committee is doing a walk-through of the parsonage and then will turn it over to the Trustees. He also reported that the storage unit needed to be cleaned out.

Finance - Chair, Corky Lane: Apologized for not realizing this was regular meeting, so did not have hand out. He reported we are a little behind, about \$10,000; not unusual but not "comfortable" place to be. We have paid 3 apportionments (ie through June), have 3 more. He referred to budget postings in today's bulletin. He noted it was encouraging that offerings have increased since Mike arrived. He noted that at last Council meeting, having a financial campaign was discussed; that if it is decided to have one, will probably start this fall.

Children's Activities- Chair, Kathryn Carter: M&M's and MIT's will start back meeting in August, she and Amy will be doing this, switching off duty

Evangelism- Chair Ruthann Wooten – No report

Missions- Chair Paul Gasque: He reported on two local situations that the committee voted unanimously to and did provide monetary assistance. Paul provided Recording Secretary with copies of his detailed written requests to Missions concerning these two individual's needs.

UMW-Ruthann Wooten, Chair: had last meeting in April, next one will be in the fall

Historian- Houston Manning, Chair: Reported he has talked to one Trustee about displaying some of the many church pictures, memorabilia, etc. he has. He suggested displaying in big bookcases at one end of the Fellowship Hall. He will talk to a few more Trustees.

Sr. Adults-Chair Dottie Brunson: Stated the group has just been going out to eat together once/month, except during the summer months.

Nurture/Outreach-Chair Ione Allen: Committee oversaw providing of meal to family of Doris Gaddy

Youth Activities-Chair Heath Fore: Activities will start back in the fall

Trustees-Chair Henry Brunson: Vapor barrier and repairs under church is done; lot of repair work in the playground (including ramp up to the Ark). Mike Medlin repaired the heating/air (leak) in the Ladies' Chapel, will fix in the fall.

Rev. Mike: Acknowledged the Mt. Andrew group of Council Members. He stated he wasn't aware of how the two church councils conducted their meetings; would look into. He shared some of his plans for the future: Fall Revival for each church, late Sept. or early October; to have a Stewardship Campaign for each church, not just about money, but on supportive efforts- could go on-line and look at what other very large churches are doing in terms of involving the community in the church. Need to think about school starting back, Aug. 20; aware that youth "is a tough place to go." He shared some of his own successful efforts in involving youth in the service and church. He urged the Latta church to go ahead with plan to present to hire a Youth Minister. Marsden Cox made a motion for the SPRC to move forward to establish plan for part-time Youth Minister; Glenn Greene seconded; motion passed. Rev. Mike also described "cottage ministry." He shared that he likes to preach sermons in a series, giving time to "dig in." He stated that "what happens on Sunday morning in worship is what drives the church." He shared that he preaches from the Bible; that we need prayer and scripture, stay in the word of God.

Ione Allen shared appreciation for the minister's singing in the service.

Rev. Mike also asked if Council were aware of the UMC Guidelines for each committee; he has ordered some for the committees; will be distributed.

There being no other business, Rev. Mike asked members to stand for closing prayer; dismissed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leslie C. Manning, Recording Secretary

LATTA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CHURCH COUNCIL

FOURTH QUARTER

OCTOBER 21, 2018

Chair Marsden Cox presided, making opening remarks remembering the church members who passed in the past several weeks. He asked Rev. Mike to open the meeting with prayer. The chair then dispensed written copies of the Third Quarter Council Minutes of July 29. A motion was made, seconded to accept the Minutes as provided. Motion approved unanimously.

Glenn Greene- Lay Leader Chair: "Bud" will be backing down on weekly grass cutting, Glenn getting 3 bids to begin yard maintenance next year, will also do parsonage. Also speaking for PPRC: Committee recently met to do minister's evaluation for last year, will turn in (looks good).

Corky Lane-Finance Chair: Provided members with copies of church finances via Finance Committee's last meeting. Stated there wasn't a lot of good news. In July we were \$10,000 behind, now 23,000 behind in budget givings, decreasing weekly. Good news is we're only \$9,000 behind what we're spending, can catch that up at end of year. He referenced Donna Bethea's (past Finance Chair) meeting last year when church was in dire financial straits. As addressed this a.m. in church, Rev. Mike is working with the Stewardship Committee on developing a program on stewardship (ie, devotional guide printed in house, more than about money) for the next 3 Sundays. Hopefully this will increase the present programs and development of new ones (we are losing members); which will cost money. Corky also stated that we did not have enough to pay the current bi-monthly apportionment; we don't want to be in that situation, have paid in full on time for over 20 years.

Ruthann Wooten-Evangelism: We will be celebrating Veteran's Day at the Nov. Birthday Dinner; have made surprise bags for Helping Hands Food and written Thank You notes for those emergency service people who assisted during the storm, that included those outside of the local area.

Dottie Brunson-Sr. Adults: Young at Heart has no min. or max. age limit, just go out and eat and fellowship.

Becky Coleman- VBS: successful VBS last year

lone Allen-Nurture/Outreach Chair: Committee met and discussed need to re-look at list of member helpers

Henry Brunson-Trustees Chair: No Report. Did add we need to have event to raise money for the Disaster Relief Fund; everyone agreed.

There being no other reports, the Chair turned the meeting over to:

Rev. Mike, who began by reporting on his meeting with the youth just before the Council. He reported they had a good time, with fun and laughter. He further stated on some things he'd like to see happen in worship service: having youth read in the service; emphasis on stewardship; hopefully start a Bible Study on Tuesday's, maybe 6:00 pm, before Thanksgiving; have a Christmas Eve service, with children singing, youth oriented; and that we need to start thinking and planning now. He asked about the feasibility of using the Ellis PAC for event to get the community more involved. His last issue was concerning a minister he knows who presides at a church in Horry County, lives in Bennettsville. His home was damaged by Florence. Rev. Mike asked about the feasibility of offering him the use of our parsonage while his is being repaired: all members agreed.

The Chair. closed the business part of the meeting, and Rev. Mike closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leslie C. Manning, Recording Secretary

LATTA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CALLED - CHURCH COUNCIL

November 4, 2018

Present: Kathryn Carter, Rhonda Dew, Becky Gaddy, Richard Gaddy, Paul Gasque, Vickie Graham, Corky Lane, Michael Roberts, Henry Brunson, Dottie Brunson, Abbott Shelley, Lone Allen, Rev. Mike Rouse, Laura Gasque, Ronnie Carter, Chris Martin, Sylvia Lane, Leslie Manning

Copies of the Fourth Quarter, Oct. 21, 2018 Church Council Minutes and the Lay Leadership Report: 2019-2021 were provided to each member.

Rev. Mike opened the meeting by asking Paul Gasque to open with prayer.

Rev. Mike then asked if there was any Old Business. He provided time for members to look over the Oct. 21 Council Meeting to see if anyone had any comments, corrections, etc. Rev. Mike did add that, as reflected in the Minutes, the Youth will start reading in the worship service soon. Dottie Brunson made a motion that the Minutes be approved, it was seconded, and unanimously passed.

Rev. Mike asked for any new Committee Reports:

Dottie Brunson commented on how good the service today was; many members agreed.

Paul Gasque reported that the Commissions Committee had reached out to several people in need and a family. Rev. Mike added that the Conway community is still suffering and in need of help. He also pointed that a new member was added to the membership: Ben Atkinson. He recognized this as a continuation of last week's emphasis on stewardship.

Lay Leadership Report: 2019-2021: Rev. Mike opened for review and discussion. 3 "blank" spots were filled: Chair SPRC: Dewitt Coleman; Disaster Relief Coordinator: Steve Coleman; Altar Guild: Sylvia Lane. Rev. Mike asked for motion to accept Report: Paul Gasque made motion to accept, Henry Brunson seconded, motion passed unanimously.

When asked the status about of parsonage: Rev. Mike stated that minister who was going to move in no longer needs it. Rick Kopituck was offered the position of Youth Director for Latta UMC; an outside donation was made to cover salary for the year. Rev. Mike asked the Council to approve the Committee's decision, per procedure, to hire Rick. Motion was made and seconded to accept Committee's decision, motion passed unanimously. Rick will probably

start in a couple of weeks. Rick and his family could benefit by moving into the parsonage. Henry made motion for them to move into the church parsonage, Louise Ellis seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Rev. Mike also requested that anyone aware of children/youth/grandchildren, etc. activities to please let church know, and will put in church bulletin to let all members know what/where youth are doing! He also stated that Kathryn Carter may be working on a church newsletter. He stated there is a need to pick up our giving, keep praying about it.

Becky Coleman announced that the 4th Graders are giving a concert, remembering Veterans Day, at the EPAC this Friday at 9:30 and encouraged attendance.

There being no other business, Rev. Mike closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leslie C. Manning,

Substituting for Recording Secretary

Jan 26, 2019

check debt

6:00pm

1st Quarter

11

- * Mass open
- * Music open w/ prayer
- council minutes
- * motion to approve mins - lafon move / HB second.
- * apology for not having sheet
- * Trustee report - H But 45 wks. not much done
ins. RW 2 DB clean out br. box & pantry in
kitchen. Only try done as of yet. fire extinguishers
checked - not checked since 2017. Ins. require
new. New do for passenge. - Marsten brings
up letter about grant. - Henry already knows.
- * Colby finance - Called meeting (change mtg)
last sun Dec. for budget approval. Very
few members present. Colby has available
copies for members. Passed out to those
who didn't have them. last yr. budget
2161c this yr 227. - Increase due to
new youth minister. Stats doing much. Donation
for youth budget part not in budget.
youth act. put in budget. Goal to do
fundraising activity. Good news for
budget. last year behind. Due to anonymous
1x donation for - budget was met &
Carry over was obtained. Had from

campaign - very successful. Status people need to continue to step up to support our church. Weekly giving provided regularly need \$1300 each Sunday to meet budget. 1st & 2nd Sunday. Amount 14, last 2 below. Clearly in yr. & having ppl who give in mounting basis also newents given 3 some who give at begin. & end of year encourage people to follow budget used in bulletin - no questions

* No evangelism
WmW - get care visits (Sunday) & sanitation workers in latter sanitation. will continue helping them. Hope to do something for whole day of prayer

* Enr. adults - we eat & giving. Web site in forum

* Mission committee sponsored angel tree. went well. 32 kids needed for dinner. Mission made donations to food & layers as well as men & women class. Fairly very emotional & thankful for love & support.

* Richard - no

②

* 8s - great. under control

* worship - Act of help for Advent tree
up & down next the tree at Easter.

* Mike - handout - 2/27 act in Seattle
& turnout is unknown. extremely controversial
can't walk away from issue about pattern
of UMC. free behind it - LGBT community.
yrs. ago. ministers challenged LGBT act
ordination. Active affair in every conference
by LGBT. Annual conf breakfast - no
charge - key break point - painful west
conf. - homosex. lady as bishop.
created crisis with disrupting church. Discipline
has certain procedure - not in good standing
conf has 1 year to react or if they keep
bishop, they must leave UMC conference that
followed - legal ~~state~~ issues annual
discipline of church. Council on Bishops
support LGBT.

ask
mike

second page - Tim Ryan is going to talk
to all members about details in future.
- status needs to be worked out, can't be divided.
- when asked of church what is council's?

↳ goer to Seattle, conferences & local churches will have to make a choice.

(3)

needed? → Congregational vote

* Refer to handout.

fred - What is the issue?

one plan - local church

two - conference of SC

* Mike w/ in favor of any plans.

* All 3 plans come back for local vote?

* Guidebook outcome - before voted. Eventually church will have its own judicial system.

Can take years.

* Paul - how many African Bishops involved? - conservative vote in church. - Mike not sure.

Change some part. Tomorrow?

* Mike - encourage to take home, think, ask questions. ^{paper} Ignatius Euzkate

* Any questions - Mike encourage prayer about these things. trying to grow church & deal w/ this - not happy about it. Nation built on Christian principles - when church is not under ministry it disappears & the church

(4)

reaps the consequences. lost 7 mil members
in 20 years. - went into category - non-aligned.

* Jane Martin - former - abnormal psychology -
ch. devoted homosexuality.

Church should let bishops work plans
so they are too tired to worry about
this.

* Fred - Disorganizing that Bishops don't have
evangelism on their mind. They're
worrying you & promote their cause.

* Dewitt - Black homosexuality is ↑ than
white.

* Fred - Church had to vote for homosexual.
future ordination? cross bridge when
get to it. no we have to worry. At
the bridge.

* Lefm - if it comes to vote, this church vs. Mt. Andrew -
each church get own way.

* Paul - thank Mike - great sermon & keeping
church alive. Know it's hard - "Lord give
us as though it" (MK).

Use cont chg Gods mind.

* MC. & - concerns about Vic Chair Council -
assessments & lay leadership - Any volunteers?
no

* SRK class in prayer w/ word prayer.

7:00pm

- DS Tim Rogee
- MR called conf to order
- opened w/ prayer
- TR gave options for 30 min version or 1 hour version.

- Ack. 100% apportionments both years
- Michelle Hewitt accepted MA
- C. Lane accepted Latta
- We had highest % of apportion. in conf. last year. TR very appreciative
- some money come back for food
- some comes back every year to use for churches.

- touch with many people never meet.
- pastor report. 5 categories none neg. w/te
- ① preach & bear word of God.

- singing
- participation

- Glenn Eneene - youth minister has special fund in Latta. ↓ won't impact the budget.

- TR hoped YM would be fruitful & good gift for churches
- need to take vote on members

TR uneasy - council can vote on member
acknowledges or everyone. read aloud. or change
into an APP & into from there.

- Q that doesn't change what's on paper.
- Salary same this year as last year -
 - any other discussion
 - = approve - unanimous
 - = disapprove - none

- TR concludes all voting.

- TR mentions 10,000 FEMA apps, 3000 homes flooded, 60 churches flooded. Trinity church destroyed. Niles telling almost exactly what happened 2 years ago. - choir, HVAC flooded

- Main St. McCall - seal around dome broken - damage - worship in fellowship hall. unsure what damage.

- Bethel in Boise - tear down fellowship Ashcroft on it, photo fix more than rebuild

- 2 paths flooded out of home - trying unway but back home new
- another unway trying to get ball in home.

- no course for # of members whose home & business flooded.

- 2 weeks ago wed. Bishop w/ cabinet took day off to work in homes damaged in Hurricane Matthew. 2 year Matthew storm - 2 weeks financial flood

- facing true disasters. suffer people suffer real damage not first to respond but first to lead.
- conf. asked to take over courses on lists to help rebuild & help people. help as many as can as long as resources & people that need help.
- TR states appreciate time & people here. any questions? no answer
- TR asked Mike to pray

11/27/18 meet w/ Mike & Rick

* Meet every Monday ~~9:00~~ 9am

* Discipleship ministries

* ~~growing~~ ^{maturing} in Christ, deeper in the word.

Actions, responsibilities, missions

WORK ON COUNCIL MINUTES FOR CHARGE CONFERENCE.

June 5, 2020

* Modified Council Meeting
for return to worship w/ in church *

- MR opened in prayer
- B Craddy, L Ellis, Clam, MRause, M Cox,
D Coleman, H Robinson, G Greene III, K Carter,
B Coleman
- Possible open June 14 - just church.
- C. Lane - SS - members want SS as much
as church.
- Possibly begin SS in 2 weeks.
- Bishop June 10th - concerns about staying
too soon & outbreak occur - causing lawsuit
or other legal issues.

• Conley - worried about it
won't let us ever start back.

• Sanitation assurance
disinfection procedures

- plan to continue facebook worship
- Boninson - see how one week goes & see what turns out.
- wipe down pews, books.
- entrance & exits / stations for handwashing
- no hymns, choir, socialization.
- Mask optional - social distance w/in pews & church.
- Louise point out church in Bethany UMC requirements masks, bathroom protocol, etc.
- no nursery, dinners, etc.
- likely to have less in church than at drive thru service.
- June 14th?
- point made about scheduling so in sanctuary during week.

- Henry - motion - first Sunday July church & ss. Another meetg before opening.
- ~~June~~ 22nd ~~June~~ another modified meetg about church return. 2pm
- MK hopeful for no social distancing or other requirements then.
- open 1st Sunday in July.
- Ushers meetg soon
- Gladly concerned abt church not be open for those who need them during these hard times. - Church is a comfort to people.
- Ellis - maybe designate pews for those who want to social distance.
- Mon & Wed service - m-rnw in / e-church
- Henry rescind motion for earlier date.
- Lane - some members in urgency for service →

complications but they aren't hiding.
Should have open checkers for help.

- 2 main services
- * • have checkers in blog & have radio broadcast
- facebook live?
- P. Williamson mly to help w/ broadcast
- June 14th - or 21st?
- Live outside clay service - "Sempro" - to clean & sanitize church. or "A#1"
- NO MORE MEETINGS.
- Emphasize cleanliness, 2 ways to worship w/ one service.

• Rick update: Begin new job 6/17/20.

• Live in Parkway - no rent as of now. not wone for church, pay rent? & trustee decision →

then approve by council. At least \$200/month but needs to be approved & discussed by Trustees before council.

- Donation for youth Director - notify benefactor of money left & let them know that we are seeking for new director.
- Possibility of Rice coming back? 2 wks/month to determine if he wants to come back.
- Way to entice him to come back w/ less duties? (less youth more admin work?)
- MK closed in prayer.
- meeting adjourned.

Guidelines for Bethany United Methodist Church

John Wesley's first Simple Rule was to "Do no harm." If you are sick or suspect you have been exposed to Covid-19, please do not attend. Church attendance is voluntary and we understand that many of our church family will choose to continue to stay home to protect their health. We support the decisions you make and encourage all of our church family to make a decision that is best for them. Because of our attendance numbers, reservations will be required. **Please note that these guidelines are fluid based on current information, we ask that you be flexible.**

- Please plan the appropriate amount of time to arrive to make your way to the designated entrances and be seated. All that attend will be seated and dismissed by an usher. All are to remain seated until the usher dismisses them. Ushers will direct those leaving one row at a time. Entering all worship spaces will be down the side aisles. To avoid passing within six feet of congregants, we will seat people in all worship spaces from front to back.
- The front entrance of the Sanctuary, front entrance of Spell Chapel, the doors in the Fellowship Hall, the door at the Business office, and in the downstairs Welcome Center will be the only access for our services. The elevator will be available for those that need it.
- **Masks** will be required for **ALL** in attendance. We encourage everyone to bring their own **mask**, however Bethany will provide a **mask** for those that do not have one. **Masks** should be worn at all times while on church premises.
- Six-foot social distancing will be practiced at all times. Six feet from the front, back and both sides will be adhered to, especially when entering and leaving the church. Family groups will be able to sit at a closer distance.
- Use hand sanitizer upon entering and leaving each worship space.
- No social gatherings before or after church. No coffee stations or refreshments.
- There will be no physical contact. No hugs, elbow bumps, fist bumps nor any form of physical touching.
- Weekly offerings will be collected in plates/baskets that will be placed at the exits and each individual will have the opportunity to share their offering before or after the service.
- All our worship services will be shorter in length and will average 45 minutes per service. We will provide music at a 15-foot distance from the congregation, and 6 feet from each other.
- We will clean surfaces and use our disinfectant atomizer machines between all worship services to maintain a clean, sanitized and safe space for all that attend our worship services. There will be no hymnals, pens, cards, etc. of any kind in our seating areas.
- There will be no nursery, children's church, or busy bags at this time.
- Restrooms are only for use if absolutely necessary.
- The 8:45 Word & Table service and the 11:15 Sanctuary service will continue on Facebook and YouTube on www.bethany-umc.com.
- All other activities will still be suspended until further notice.

Service times and capacity are as follows: Spell Chapel at 8 am – 50 people, Sanctuary at 8:45 am – 140 people, Word & Table at 8:45 am – 90 Sanctuary at 11:15 am – 140 people.

Updated 5/28/20

Latta United Methodist Church
Church Council
July 8, 2022

The meeting was opened with prayer by Donna Bethea. The roll was called. (Those present are listed at the end of the minutes.) The chair reminded the group that all church council meetings are open to any member of the church, but only members of the council have voice and vote.

The minutes from the June 26 meeting were approved with noted corrections. (See corrected copy)

Each member of the council was given a copy of the **church membership roll** and an agenda for the regularly scheduled meeting on Sunday, July 10. The church council is charged with auditing the church membership roll each year for charge conference. It's being done early this year so that we will have an up-to-date roll for the upcoming church conference. Please send Donna any updates. Red means not currently active and no contact information. Green means not currently active, but we do have contact information.

Cindy LeGette gave a brief report of the **Finance Committee**. They have developed accounting procedures and will present them to the church council at its regular meeting on Sunday, July 10.

At the meeting on June 26, a **small group was approved to recommend a resolution** on the issue with the embezzlement by the former church secretary, Kathryn Carter. DeWitt Coleman presented their recommendation in the form of a motion:

Kathryn Carter will pay \$131,000 in total or the church will go to legal authorities with the recommendation of Pre-Trial Intervention to pay a minimum of \$46,000 held in escrow with the balance to be paid as the court orders.

LaFon LeGette seconded the motion.

Discussion included LaFon LeGette explaining Pre-Trial Intervention and how it works. \$131,000 is what can be proven without a doubt.

The council voted and the motion carried.

The recommendation will be taken to a special church conference where each member of the church will be able to vote.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by pastor Matt.

Respectfully submitted,



Carol Stoops, Acting Recording Secretary

Those present:

Church Council Members:

Ione Allen
Jimmy Ard
Ben Atkins
Donna Bethea
Sheldon Bethea
Wade Brown, Jr
Henry Brunson
DeWitt Coleman
Becky Coleman
Steve Coleman
Johnny Dew
Rhonda Dew
Louise Ellis
Becky Gaddy
Richard Gaddy
Betty Jean Hunsinger
Corky Lane
Cindy LeGette
LaFon LeGette
Debbie Manning
Houston Manning
Jerry Martin
Abbott Shelley
Matt Scott
Ruthann Wooten

Others:

Jane Atkins
Michael Bethea
Rosemary Bethea
Rachel Brown
Bettie Carmichael
Bonnie Ellis
Fred Ellis
Jim Ellis
Glen Greene, III
Sylvia Lane
Jerry Martin, II
Michael Roberts
Sandra Roberts
Carol Stoops

Council Meeting

February 6, 2022

- Members present: Ione Allen, Ben Atkins, Donna Bethea, Dottie Brunson, Kathryn Carter, Ronnie Carter, DeWitt Coleman, Rhonda Dew, Louise Ellis, Becky Gaddy, Richard Gaddy, Corky Lane, Cindy LeGette, LaFon LeGette, Pastor Mike Rouse, Abbott Shelley, Ruthann Wooten
- Donna opened the meeting with prayer, welcoming everyone and taking the role.
- Opening Remarks
 - Email addresses and phone numbers were reviewed, as well as At-large members of the council. At large members who are present: Ben Atkins, Ronnie Carter, and Abbott Shelley. At-large members who are absent: Wade Brown, Jr, Henry Brunson, and Johnny Dew.
 - Discussed the importance of an agenda – Donna will try to email everyone with the agenda a week before the scheduled meeting time.
 - The yearly council schedule will be sent out to all members as soon as possible.
 - Minutes will be taken by Kathryn Carter at the meeting. Ruthann Wooten volunteered to take minutes in her absence. Thank you, Ruthann.
 - Before this meeting, all members listed on the Lay Leadership Report were emailed a list of members, phone numbers, and emails.
 - Partners in ministry team – Pastor, Lay Leader, Finance Chair, Trustee Chair, and Council Chair.
 - ✦ Two meetings were held previously to this meeting.
 - ✦ Suggestions were brought in to discuss ways to help the church. The goals were broken down into necessity and financial ability.
 - ✦ 3 “Feel good items” (Instant Satisfaction)
 1. Ensure parsonage is ready by June – mandatory
 2. Reduce utility cost
 3. Purchase and install sound and video system
 - Goals
 - ✦ Greet visitors as they arrive at church. It is suggested to have sign-ups for given months for those willing to volunteer to help with this throughout the church. – Approved
 - ✦ Add cell phone numbers and email addresses to the lay leadership report. Email and text are very important resource tools that we can use to help the church – Done
 - ✦ The happening segment in church worship service – a communication tool for the entire congregation. Mostly church council. Will occur after prelude and welcome to briefly give a brief update on areas within the church such as finance, missions, UMW, Sunday school, etc. – Approved – Schedule will be out soon
 - Previous council minutes from October 24, 2021, were distributed to members present.

- Lay Leader – Corky Lane
 - Nothing to report other than a few remarks from the Book of Discipline concerning the Lay Leader position and expectations.
 - Corky will strive to do what the Book of Discipline asks of the Lay Leader.
 - PPRC – DeWitt Coleman
 - Committee met on January 12 to discuss the new pastor who will be arriving in June and begin preaching July 1.
 - The new pastor will be a local pastor, this will lower the salary by about \$8,000. Examples of local pastors include Paul Gasque, Mike Summerlyn, Sam Clardy.
 - Committee met again on January 24 with DS Tim Rogers. Amount of pastor pay was approved – No members of Mt. Andrew were present at this meeting, LUMC pays 73% of the pastor salary, Mt. Andrew only pays 27%.
 - The parsonage was viewed on the January 30th meeting of Trustees. Tim Rogers noted that an air quality test must be performed on the parsonage before a new pastor can move in. Serv-pro in Florence can do this for the church. DeWitt will call and speak with someone tomorrow about this.
 - Serv-pro is expensive but thorough.
 - The new pastor will be announced to the church on March 20, 2022
 - Fred Ellis would like to donate a twin bedroom set to the parsonage and bookcase.
-
- Finance – Cindy LeGette
 - The finance committee met Sunday, January 30.
 - The need to lower utility costs was reinforced at this meeting
 - January expenditures for utilities is \$2000
 - Cindy has spoken with Jerry Martin and Donna has spoken with Robert McIntyre – the best is to have an energy audit performed to see where measures could be implemented.
 - A lot of energy is being used on days that the church buildings are unoccupied.
 - The committee will meet again to discuss results and make a plan to fix them.
 - Cindy has been working with the thermostats to help fix the problem immediately – hope to see some benefit soon from this.
-
- Treasurer – Richard Gaddy
 - No news
-
- Missions – Rhonda Dew
 - Mission News is presented in the newsletter.
 - Rhonda and Ruthann have been working closely to put together new missions within the local community, world, etc.
 - Nothing currently going on with missions, but works are being planned.
 - Donna – Missions are vital and everyone should be involved with helping others and hopefully bring exposure.
-
- Financial Secretary, Recording and Membership Secretary, Communication Coordinator – Kathryn Carter
 - No News
 - Evangelism – Debbie Manning
 - No News

- Nurturing and Outreach – Ione Allen
 - No deaths within the church since December 2020. Wonderful news
 - The meal for families includes every member of the church, not just circle members. All members are asked to contribute money or food to help provide food for the families.
 - Members must be prepared to be called to help with this outreach.
-
- Worship – Louise Ellis
 - Thankful to all who helped with Advent decorating
 - The next big task for worship is getting the Easter Cross ready.
-
- Senior Adults – Dottie Brunson
 - Pandemic has shut the senior group down.
 - Donna asked for a time frame for when the committee may start back? Dottie stated that she is unsure of how many members would be willing to get out. The two places that the members liked going most have shut down.
 - No plans have been made as no interest has been shown.
-
- Sunday School Superintendent
 - Nothing to report but concerns to express
 - Amanda Allen is coming twice per with Luke and each Sunday with Reid. Anne Marie Martin is bringing her granddaughter every other week. This past Sunday, there was only one child in Sunday School.
 - There is still no permanent teacher for the youth class.
 - The main concern is where are the children and how do we bring them in?
 - If anyone knows of a leader or teacher for the youth class, please notify Becky Gaddy.
 - Ben Atkins – attendance is a vital part of the church, but a lot of the attendance has to do with the lack of children within the church, Becky states there are a lot of adults who want to help teach children's Sunday school classes. How many people throughout the week ask others to join them in church on Sunday morning?
-
- Trustee – LaFon LeGette
 - The meeting was held on January 30. All members present except one who was sick
 - The number one issue at this moment is the parsonage.
 - After the meeting, all members went over to look at the parsonage and furniture. Some mold was noticed on some pieces of furniture. The flooring needs to be replaced. Hardwood floors are present beneath the existing carpet. It also needs to be repainted.
 - Other projects within the trustees need to be covered but at this moment, it is unclear if there is available money within the budget for these tasks.
 - Columns on the front porch of the church need to be repaired or at least patched to slow down the process of rotting within the columns.
 - LaFon spoke with Abbott Shelley about opening and closing the church and Abbott has agreed to take on this task. It is greatly appreciated.
-
- UMW President – Ruthann Wooten
 - Items are being collected for the Wallace Family Life Center – paper products, school supplies. The Sunday school class is working towards helping pay for new playground equipment for the center. Items will be collected through March and will be delivered.

- Pastor – Rev. Mike Rouse
- Thanked everyone for allowing him here. Expressed thanks for Kathryn and her work – Thank you, as well, Mike.
- Right now, June 12, 2022, will be his last Sunday as Pastor here at LUMC and Mt. Andrew.
- States that he loves Latta’s charge and is thankful for all within it.

- Closing statements
- The sound system within the church is very important and needs to be upgraded for those who are unable to come to church. This system will allow them to continue to be a part of this church even though they are homebound. If the people cannot attend church physically, they attend virtually and if we cannot reach out to them virtually, we may lose these members. This will be addressed this year.
- There will be a sign-up sheet for a “Sound System Committee” for those who are willing to help maintain and work on the sound system.
- It is very frustrating for those members who cannot attend physically not being able to hear or see the video clearly on Sunday mornings.
- Dottie Brunson asked that when the sound system is being considered for the sanctuary, a replacement sound system also be placed in the lady’s classroom and men’s hut.
- These are all goals for 2022 as Donna is sure we have members who will support this ministry.

- Donna thanked everyone for attending and reiterates that God has blessed everyone with talent, and everyone can help in some way to help grow the church. It doesn’t matter how little it is, the little things make a big difference.

- DeWitt stated that he is going to open the parsonage and invite everyone to come to look at the parsonage and see the inside before the new pastor moves in.

- Pastor Mike stated that the sound system has always been the trustee’s responsibility.

- Pastor Mike closed the meeting in prayer.

- Meeting adjourned.

I would personally like to thank you all for coming and for supporting our church during these troubling times.

*Sincerely,
Kathryn Carter*

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

April 10, 2022

Members present: Ione Allen, Ben Atkins, Donna Bethea, Becky Coleman, DeWitt Coleman, Steve Coleman, Rhonda Dew, Louise Ellis, Corky Lane, Cindy LeGette, LaFon LeGette, Ruthann Wooten

Donna Bethea opened the meeting with prayer. Her opening remarks are as follows:

- Comments about desire to get members to attend who haven't been coming.
- As per results of poll – remaining meetings will be on July 10 and October 9 at 4:30
- Minutes of last meeting
Corrections are as follows: Under 'Sunday School superintendent' the wording should be 'not a lot of adults...'. Also, Amanda Morrell's last name was listed as Amanda Allen.
LaFon LeGette made a motion that the minutes be approved with noted corrections. Ben Atkins seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- The District Superintendent, Tim Rogers, has called a charge conference to be held on Wednesday, April 27th at 5:00 in the Ladies' Chapel. The purpose of the meeting is to approve the salary for our new minister.
- Goals
Happenings segment of worship service has been implemented with good feedback.
Greeter sign-up: Corky Lane suggested that it be listed in the bulletin.
- Donna Bethea will email the agenda for future meetings to everyone except Corky Lane and Abbott Shelley, who do not do email. She will send the meeting minutes by mail to all members at her own expense.

Committee Reports

- Dewitt Coleman, SPRC chair, stated that our new minister, Rev. Matt Scott, will be here on May 3rd at 6:00 to meet with his committee and the corresponding committee members from Mt. Andrew. The district superintendent has requested that light refreshments be served. At a trustee meeting, Tim Rogers asked that we increase the salary from \$48,000 to \$50,000. In answer to a question, LaFon LeGette said that Mt. Andrew would pay the same percentage of the salary as they have paid in the past. Travis Jackson has been contacted about filling in on the one Sunday of each month that Rev. Scott will be with the National Guard. We will need to verify that and determine if there will be a cost. Tim Rogers has asked that the following things be done to ready the parsonage: painting, cabinets repaired, carpet cleaned and bushes trimmed. We should only have to pay his moving expenses from the state line but Corky Lane asked that Tim Rogers be contacted about that because of the distance from Pennsylvania. Louise asked about the cabinet repair.
- LaFon LeGette, trustee chair, stated that Mr. Hyatt has approached him about buying ice from our church and he has questions about how much/how often but has not heard back from Mr. Hyatt. Tony Gardner will be spraying the parsonage yard for fire ants. The contractor installing the cupola, which weighs 860 pounds, on the church roof is waiting for the winds to die down before installation. LaFon LeGette has tried to contact a structural engineer about putting that much weight on our roof. Mike Williams from B&W Auction will remove the furniture from the parsonage on Tuesday. Larry Jackson will clean the carpet and do repairs. Michael Medlin will check the heat pumps. A cover for the bus would cost between \$12,000-\$14,000 so this is on hold right now. LaFon LeGette stated that the church council should make that decision. He got a call about a light bulb that was out on the Fellowship Hall and he and Cindy took care of it. Henry Brunson has previously gotten a price of \$500,000 to repair the stain glass windows. Jane Atkins has found out about a vent which could be

installed in the plexiglass over the windows which would extend the life of the windows. We would need two vents per window.

- Cindy LeGette, finance committee chair, talked about the project that has been initiated with Duke Energy. This project has a cost of \$7,400 but Duke will pay 66% of that. Our portion is \$2,400. They have replaced light bulbs in 56 fixtures which will have a five year warranty. On April 18-19 the thermostats will be replaced and aerators added. Cindy stated that our givings are in the red now. We have paid no apportionments to date. She continues to look for ways to save money and identified several Sundays when flowers were purchased. Louise Ellis will talk with Kathryn Carter about this. Cindy stated that right now we are paying \$123 a month for WIFI in the office and \$123 a month for it in the fellowship hall. She will check to see if we can just do one.
- Donna Bethea, reporting on the audiovisual project, stated that the team working on that project is Jane Atkins and Donna and Michael Bethea. They have found that our existing equipment is working. She has been in touch with Rick Kopituk, who has been very helpful. He suggested getting a digital mixer board with automatic settings. Donna Bethea is getting prices from three vendors but will wait for our new minister before proceeding. The committee has made improvements so far without spending any money. The main problem now is with livestreaming. We need a video camera and a laptop. There is no reason to go forward with it unless we have at least three people who will make a commitment to running it. Louise and Jim Ellis have volunteered. The equipment needs to be secured. One suggestion has been to build a booth under the balcony. Another suggestion was to cut a window into the parlor and putting the equipment there. If affordable the digital sound board will eliminate the need for any construction of a sound booth.
- Corky Lane, Lay Leader, stated that there are a lot of needs.
- Rhonda Dew, missions chair, stated that \$1,600 has been collected for the Ukraine humanitarian relief. The last Sunday will be April 17. For Foster Care Appreciation Month in May, she will be getting together a gift basket for the foster care home which Epworth sponsors in our area. She is also partnering with the Latta Elementary School with their clothing closet. She has already worked to inventory what they have and we will be helping to replenish that as an ongoing project.
- Ione Allen stated that there was no report for the Nurture/Outreach committee. She is thankful that it hasn't been needed.
- Louise Ellis, Worship chair, reminded people to bring flowers for Easter Sunday to put on the cross. She will be throwing out unclaimed lilies on the following Tuesday.
- Steve Coleman was glad that there was no report for the Disaster Relief committee.
- Ruthann Wooten reported that the UMW is working on a dinner for Mike Rouse's retirement.
- Becky Coleman, music director, stated that the choir will perform a cantata on Easter Sunday.

Donna Bethea's closing remarks

- We need a church clean-up day, especially the closet in the fellowship building and the upstairs Sunday School rooms. Things need to be sorted, organized and/or trashed. She will pick a day and invite others to join her. Becky Coleman will check with Shelley Bethea about taking some of our unwanted items for the Christian school. We need a workday for the parsonage yard, with pressure washing, trimming etc. Donna plans to use one of the nursery rooms for storage and it was suggested that the room with the sink continue to be used for the nursery. Donna asked that we be in prayer for our church and our new minister. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted for Kathryn Carter,

Ruthann Wooten

**Latta United Methodist Church
Church Council
June 26, 2022**

The meeting was called to order and a prayer was offered by the chair, Donna Bethea. She called the roll of the church council and introduced special guests: Rev. Tim Rogers, Marion District Superintendent, Mrs. Kay Crowe, Conference Chancellor (Zoom), Mr. Randy Cooper, the Brittingham Group, and Carol Stoops, acting recording secretary. (Those in attendance are listed at the end of the minutes.) She stated that this was a called meeting of the church council and if there is a vote, only council members can vote.

The purpose of the meeting was to hear the timeline of activity since the resignation of Kathryn Carter, Church Secretary, to hear the report from the auditor of the church finances, and to establish next steps in the process.

Timeline:

- **April 25, 2022-** Kathryn Carter resigned and confessed to using approximately \$20,000 of church money for personal use. Rev. Rouse contacted the District Superintendent for advice.
- **April 26, 2022-** The leadership team of Donna Bethea, Mike Rouse, Cindy LeGette, LaFon LeGette, Corky Lane, and DeWitt Coleman contacted Mr. Randy Cooper of the Brittingham Group in Columbia to audit the church finances.
- **April 29, 2022-** Donna Bethea, Cindy LeGette, and LaFon LeGette met with Kathryn and Ronnie Carter. At that time Kathryn presented them with a list totaling approximately \$57,000 in personal expenditures. She cooperated in answering questions about office operations.

During this time, James Parham, Cindy LeGette, and Donna Bethea have kept the church office open.

- **May 23, 2022-** Kathryn and Ronnie Carter obtained legal counsel and deposited \$46,000 into an escrow account to be used as settlement. The church has not accepted that money.
- **May 26, 2022-** The leadership team received information from Tim Rogers and Kay Crowe on embezzlement procedures.
- **June 23-** Randy Cooper, Donna Bethea, and Mike Rouse met with Kathryn Carter to present audit report.

Mr. Cooper then presented the audit report. A copy will be kept on file in the church office, but will remain private until the investigation is complete. Mr. Cooper reported that the total including bank fees and his firm's fee was approximately \$196,000.

Cindy LeGette reported for the Finance Committee. They met on June 23, 2022 for the purpose of creating a policy to prevent this from happening again. They will present their policy to the church council at its next meeting.

Rev. Tim Rogers, Marion District Superintendent, spoke to the group and encouraged the church to spend time on what comes next and what is the right pace to help the church heal and become a healthy church again. The reason it's taken approximately 60 days for this meeting to happen is so that there could be as much accurate information as possible to report. The final decision on what happens will be decided by a church conference where all professing members of the church will have a chance to vote. The next step will be to designate a small group to work on a proposal in the form of a

resolution which will first be presented to the church council for adoption and then to the church conference.

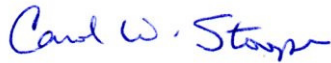
Rev. Rogers then introduced **Kay Crowe, Conference Chancellor** who was present by Zoom. Mrs. Crowe spoke to the group about frequently asked questions in cases like this. She encouraged the church trustees to review current insurance coverage, to make sure individuals who handle money are bonded and that there is employee dishonesty coverage. Also for the finance committee to make sure there are online banking controls. Mrs. Crowe reminded the group that things discussed at this meeting should remain confidential.

Selection of small group:

Mike Rouse made a motion that the small group to work on the proposal and resolution be the leadership team: Donna Bethea, Cindy LeGette, LaFon LeGette, Corky Lane, DeWitt Coleman, and the pastor. Corky Lane seconded the motion. After some questions, the motion carried. The small group will bring the proposal and resolution to the next regularly scheduled church council meeting on July 10, 2022.

Rev. Rogers offered a prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Carol Stoops, Acting Recording Secretary

Those present:

Church Council Members:

Ione Allen
Jimmy Ard
Ben Atkins
Donna Bethea
Sheldon Bethea
Shelly Bethea
Wade Brown, Jr
Dottie Brunson
Henry Brunson
DeWitt Coleman
Becky Coleman
Steve Coleman
Johnny Dew
Rhonda Dew
Louise Ellis
Becky Gaddy
Richard Gaddy
Betty Jean Hunsinger
Corky Lane
Cindy LeGette
LaFon Legette
Debbie Manning
Houston Manning
Jerry Martin
Mike Rouse
Abbott Shelley
Ruthann Wooten

Others:

Denise Ard
Jane Atkins
Michael Bethea
Rosemary Bethea
Betty Carmichael
Casey Castle
Mima Castle
Gayle Coleman
Tommy Coleman
Bonnie Ellis
Fred Ellis
Jim Ellis
Debbie Finklea
Margaret Fore
Millie George
Claude Graham
Vickie Graham
Jane Martin
Jerry Martin, II
Michael Roberts
Randy Cooper, The Brittingham Group
Kay Crowe, Conference Chancellor (Zoom)
Tim Rogers, Marion District Superintendent
Carol Stoops, Acting Recording Secretary

Latta UMC Council Meeting
July 10, 2022

The Latta UMC council met at 4:30 on July 10, 2022 with the following people present: Lone, Allen, Ben Atkins, Donna Bethea, Henry Brunson, DeWitt Coleman, Gayle Coleman (non member), Johnny Dew, Rhonda Dew, Louise Ellis, Richard Gaddy, Betty Jean Hunsinger, Corky Lane, Cindy LeGette, LaFon LeGette, Pastor Matt Scott, Abbott Shelley and Ruthann Wooten.

Donna Bethea, council chair, welcomed everyone and opened with prayer. The minutes of the April 10, 2022 meeting were approved as written. Donna gave the following update on church goals:

- Parsonage – Pastor Matt thanked the church for the fresh coats of paint and mentioned that the attic steps need repair.
- Utility costs – Cindy LeGette said that we have not been able to run any new reports since the new lights and thermostats were installed but looking at the CP&L report that compares usage to the previous year, it shows that is down from last year.
- Sound & video system – We had put this on the back burner but Pastor Matt has knowledge in this area and is willing to help.

In individual reports:

- o Corky Lane, lay leader, said that people are pleased with Pastor Matt's sermons.
- o Richard Gaddy, treasurer, had no report.
- o Rhonda Dew, missions chair, has written guidelines for the two missions accounts (contingency & mission support). There will be an application process with checks and balances. There will also be an emergency crisis application. The drafts are finished and she is looking for additional people to be a part of this committee. Corky Lane volunteered to help as a representative of the handicap ramp project of the men's Sunday school class. She also talked about the partnership with Latta Elementary School. We will provide some school supplies to start the year.
- o Louise Ellis, worship chair, noted that there are still three dates (Oct. 16, Nov. 13 and Nov. 27) where we need flowers for the sanctuary. Lone Allen agreed to take November 13. Sylvia Lane has taken over notifying those who have Alter Guild each month and Louise Ellis is notifying those who have responsible for flowers and communion, since there is no regular secretary in the office at this time.
- o Betty Jean Hunsinger said that there is interest in restarting the Young at Heart but no plans have been made. Donna Bethea suggested having a speaker come to the church.
- o In the absence of Becky Gaddy, Sunday school superintendent, Donna Bethea said that we would be looking into new materials for the elementary class. She asked if the adult classes were satisfied with their materials and several responded that they were satisfied.
- o Ruthann Wooten, UMW president, said that circles will resume meeting in September and hope to make a trip to visit our members at the Manor.
- o DeWitt Coleman, SPRC chair. Pastor Mike said that there is a problem with the dishwasher in the parsonage.
- o Cindy LeGette, finance chair, has worked with her committee to create guidelines for many procedures such as Sunday morning offerings, counting money, paying bills and audits (She

passed out copies of these procedures) They have a schedule of people to count the offerings. She said the accountant and the auditor have both recommended that we consolidate our three accounts into one. She reported the following balances:

- o Operating account - \$19,803.69
- o Agency account - \$8,845.70
- o Trustee's memorial account - \$7,828.84

Louise Ellis made a motion that we approve the new forms. Corky Lane seconded it and it carried. Henry Brunson made a motion to combine the three bank accounts into one account. It was seconded by Corky Lane and it carried. We will have an accounting firm reconcile our bank statements. We will have an external audit monthly and annually. She wants to add DeWitt Coleman, SPRC chair and LaFon LeGette, trustee chair to the finance committee. She also noted that the auditor has been paid.

- LaFon LeGette, trustee chair, said that his committee had voted through email to dispose of the old organ in the fellowship building. The church and parsonage yards have been sprayed for fire ants. The bus has been returned to the church property and the cost of a shelter, should we decide to build one, will be approximately \$8,00 - \$12,000. The cupola, weighing 860 pounds, was delivered in February and is being stored. Monroe Carter has agreed to install it but before that happens LaFon would like to get a structural engineer to confirm that the roof will support the weight. Some exterior doors need to be refinished and the door on Marion Street has been repaired. LaFon commended the volunteers who worked on the yards. He reminded the council that Henry Brunson had gotten an estimate of \$100,000 to repair the stain glass windows. Jane Atkins has done some research and has found that we could install vents between the plexiglass and the windows to help with the problem

- Louise Ellis, worship chair, brought up a recent problem with the lilies and poinsettias given in memory and in honor of people. After discussion it was decided that there should be only one listing for each plant **that could be for one name or one couple (Mr. and Mrs.)**. This will be put in the guidelines.

- Pastor Matt stated that he likes to preach in series and plans about six months ahead.

- Lone Allen, nurture and bereavement chair, said she is working on her four groups for bereavement dinners.

- In other discussion it was decided that we discontinue letting the Latta Rotary Club meet in our fellowship building.

- Donna Bethea talked about the work being done to update the church roll and said this will be done each year. She encouraged everyone to go to the United Methodist Church website and read the description of their position. She said she hoped that Pastor Matt would find mission projects right in Latta so that more people would be willing to help and that this would make our church more visible in the community. The church conference will be held on July 21, 2022 at 7:00. The district superintendent will be in charge of this meeting. Our next regular meeting will be on October 9, 2022 at 4:30.

- After a question about items that had been left in the parsonage, Pastor Matt closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruthann Wooten

LUMC Church Council Quarterly Meeting October 9, 2022

The Church Council met on Sunday, October 9, 2022, at 4:30 p.m. in the Ladies Chapel.

Members Present: Ione Allen, Ben Atkins, Donna Bethea, Dottie Brunson, Henry Brunson, DeWitt Coleman, Rhonda Dew, Louise Ellis, Betty Jean Hunsinger, Corky Lane, Cindy LeGette, LaFon LeGette, Houston Manning, Pastor Matt Scott, Abbott Shelley, Ruthann Wooten

Chair Donna Bethea welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened with prayer.

Chair Donna Bethea reviewed the corrections to the July 10, 2022, minutes. Ben Atkins made a motion to approve the corrected minutes with a second by LaFon LeGette.

Announcement of the Annual Charge Conference for Latta UMC and Mt. Andrew is Monday, November 21, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in the Latta United Methodist Church Sanctuary.

Chair Donna Bethea provided an update on the upgrade of our audio/video system. Donna is working on a plan to present to all church members via email or snail mail to solicit funding for the continuation of this project.

Chair Donna Bethea gave an update on the ongoing audit of the church membership roll. A few additional updates have come in but still need contact information for non-active members on the roll. The historian committee is assisting with this project.

Council Member's Reports:

1. Lay Leader Corky Lane had no report but commented how nice it is to see all the activity going on within the church.
2. Lay Delegate Jerry Martin – not in attendance so no report.
3. Church Treasurer Richard Gaddy – not in attendance so no report.
4. Church Missions – Rhonda Dew reported that she and Pastor Matt had met and discussed working with the Fair Meadow Apartments on Marion Street. Rhonda has spoken with the apartment manager about some possible needs and activities. There are 24 apartments currently housing 18 women and 6 men. A couple of ideas are assisting with paper products and becoming a sponsor for monthly dinners. Rhonda will provide more information on this project and other projects through the church newsletter and church bulletins.
5. Evangelism – Debbie Manning – not in attendance but did call Houston during the meeting and verified she had no report.
6. Nurture/Outreach – Ione Allen – no report
7. Historian Houston Manning and his committee are meeting each Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. to work through all the church documents, pictures, etc. He invited anyone to drop

by and lend a hand. His team has also started displaying some of our historical items most noticeable in the fellowship hall.

8. Worship – Louise Ellis reported that she and Pastor Matt have met and started planning for the upcoming Advent season. She asked different ones to assist calling people who served as ushers, acolytes, on the alter guild, preparing for communion, and donating flowers to see if they would serve again for 2023 and if not help with replacements. These helpers have completed this and reported back to Louise.
9. Children’s Coordinators Sheldon & Shelley Bethea – not in attendance so no report.
10. Youth Directors Sheldon & Shelley Bethea – not in attendance so no report.
11. Senior Adult – Dottie Brunson & Betty Jean Hunsinger reported that the Young at Heart met and have made plans for the rest of this year. The group will meet on Wednesday, October 12th at 10:45 a.m. to go eat at the Mayflower Restaurant in Darlington. The group hopes to go to the Carolina Opry in Myrtle Beach on November 10th for the Christmas Show and brunch. To get a discounted ticket price of \$51 a group of 22 is required. Donna announced that both Dottie and B.J. are resigning and the church is looking for one or more people to fill this position. Until it is filled the group will plan activities as best as possible.
12. Sunday School Superintendent Becky Gaddy not in attendance so no report.
13. Disaster Relief Coordinator Steve Coleman not in attendance so no report. Donna communicated that Pastor Matt is certified in Disaster Relief; therefore, this position will terminate at the end of 2022.
14. United Women in Faith President Ruthann Wooten reported that the 3rd quarter meeting was held the previous Sunday. The Latta Elementary School Reading Buddies program coordinator spoke about the program and the need for volunteers. A recent visit to The Manor was enjoyed by all. Ruthann also said that plans were being made for the upcoming Christmas get together.
15. Trustee Chair, LaFon LeGette presented to the council a proposed policy for the use of the church bus. Corky Lane made a motion to accept the proposed poliby aith a second by Louise Ellis. Motion approved unanimously.

Trustee Chair, LaFon LeGette presented the updated Church Policy Concerning Items/ Personal Property Donated to the Church from the Trustees. After some discussion regarding appraisal values specific to gifts of land, the policy was rewritten as:

ITEMS /PERSONAL PROPERTY

Church Policy Concerning Items/ Personal Property Donated the Church:

Any item/ personal property valued of \$50 or more to be donated should be submitted in writing to the Church Trustees for their approval prior to acceptance.

Trustees are to consider future value and future cost related to the items/ personal property before accepting.

If accepted, Trustees shall establish its usefulness to the Church.

Any items/ personal property accepted or rejected by the Church Trustees should be acknowledged in writing by the Chairman of the Church Trustees to the person or entity offering said items/ personal property.

A motion was made by Henry Brunson and a second by Louise Ellis to accept the revised policy as listed above. Motion approved unanimously.

Trustee Chair, LaFon LeGette then presented an update on the policy concerning money given in memory of church members.

MONEY

Proposed Church Policy Concerning the Acceptance and Expenditure of Memorial monies donated to the Latta United Methodist Church:

All memorial received should be acknowledged by the Church secretary in writing to the donor and the family of the memorialized person.

The Church secretary must promptly record into the Church Memorial Account the acceptance of each memorial.

The family of the person memorialized may designate upon recommendation of the Church Trustees how their particular funds may be spent on local Church needs. Should this designation and expenditures not be made within (six (6) months or one (1) year). After receipt, then the funds can be used by the Church Trustees on Church properties as they deem necessary.

Church Trustees will make every effort to notify in writing the donor and the family of the memorialized person when these funds, when designated, are used.

No memorial funds will remain in the memorial account unused after a person of one (1) year and shall be paid over to the Trustees' account.

After much discussion regarding the tracking of item number 5, Pastor Matt requested that the Trustees review this policy again, so no vote was taken on this policy.

Trustee Chair, Lafon LeGette presented a recommendation to implement a Work Order Form for repairs and projects needed at the church. A motion by Corky Lane and a second by Ben Atkins was made to approve the new form. Motion approved unanimously.

16. SPRC Chair DeWitt Coleman provided an update on the vacancies for Office Administrator and Choir Director/Organist. The vacancy for Office Administrator has posted in the LUMC and Mt. Andrew bulletins and The Dillon Herald. It was discussed that both vacancies be posted in additional area newspapers and/or a large advertisement within The Dillon Herald. After a suggestion from Chair Donna Bethea, it was decided to post both on the LUMC Facebook page.

SPRC Chair DeWitt then presented a recommendation to increase salaries for the Pastor and Choir Director/Organist. Ben Atkins made a motion and Henry Brunson seconded and both increases were approved unanimously.

17. Finance Committee Chair, Cindy LeGette presented a recommendation from the Finance Committee to open a savings account with Anderson Brothers Bank for the money received from Kathryn Carter. The earnest money (\$56,500) minus the auditor's fee (\$8,500) plus the quarterly payments (\$2,100) received would be held in this account and gain some interest yet easily accessible by the church if needed. Henry Brunson

made a motion to open the savings account for Kathryn Carter's restitution payments and a second was made by Houston Manning. Motion approved unanimously.

Finance Chair LeGette stated that nothing has been paid toward the 2022 Apportionments. The Finance Committee recommends that the church pay 25% of the total before the end of the year out of the operating budget and if the operating budget is short the amount to transfer from the savings account approved for Kathryn Carter's restitution payments. Houston Manning made a motion to pay the 25% with a second from Rhonda Dew. Motion approved unanimously.

Finance Chair then presented the 2023 budget to council (Attached). The handout highlighted all differences between 2022 and 2023 proposed budget amounts. Pastor Matt indicated an \$6000 error in the account under the heading of Local Church Administration. It was determined the error was due to moving Janitor's Salary of \$6000 from Salaries to Properties since cleaning services are done through a vendor and not an employee. Additional discussion on the budget regarding the Scholarship Fund resulted in an amendment of the 2023 Budget of \$258,019.00 to remove the Scholarship Fund from the Operating Budget as it is funded through two CD's: Anna Margaret Williams Scholarship and Marsden Cox, Jr. Scholarship. A motion was made to approve the corrected budget of \$258,019.00 by Houston Manning and seconded by Ben Atkins. Motion approved unanimously.

18. At large members: Ben Atkins present but no report
Henry Brunson present but no report
19. Pastor Matt Scott presented the 2023 Laity Nominations report (Attached). He highlighted those rotating off committees and their new replacements. A motion by Cindy LeGette and seconded by Louise Ellis to accept the report as presented by Pastor Matt. Motion approved unanimously.
20. Council Chair Donna Bethea expressed concerns that the church has no functioning nursery. As a means of trying to help fund the much-needed remodel, an auction of some stored items that are no longer used is planned for the near future.

Donna Bethea also thanked SPRC Chair DeWitt Coleman, Trustee Chair LaFon LeGette, and volunteer Recording Secretary Ruthann Wooten for their service and support. Their terms end in December.

21. Having no other business, Council Chair Donna Bethea asked Pastor Matt to dismiss the group with prayer.
22. Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Bethea and Ruthann Wooten

Church Council Meeting November 13, 2022

On November 13, 2022, there was a called meeting of the Church Council in the fellowship hall. The meeting was called to order by chair, Donna Bethea, who then opened with prayer. She turned the meeting over to DeWitt Coleman, SPRC chair. DeWitt said that after he, Corky Lane, Cindy LeGette, Leslie Manning, and Pastor Matt Scott interviewed applicants for the position of administrative assistant, the SPRC committee has selected Lisa Driggers. DeWitt made a motion for the church to hire Mrs. Driggers. Ben Atkins seconded it. After discussion, the vote was taken and was unanimous in favor. Then DeWitt brought up the salary for the position. The SPRC has recommended that her salary be increased from \$15.93 per hour, which is what was budgeted for 2023 to \$17.50 per hour. There was some discussion about the possibility that she may need more time to complete the work. At present her hours will be 8:30 – 12:00 Monday through Friday. DeWitt made the motion to increase the salary to \$17.50 per hour and it was seconded by LaFon LeGette. The vote to increase the salary carried unanimously. The 2023 budget will have to be amended at the upcoming charge conference. After a closing prayer, the meeting was adjourned by Donna Bethea.

Proposed Church Council Meeting Dates for 2023

Date	Day	Time	Location
January 22, 2023	Sunday	6:30 p.m.	Ladies Bible Class
March 26, 2023	Sunday	3:30 p.m.	Ladies Bible Class
May 28, 2023	Sunday	3:30 p.m.	Ladies Bible Class
July 30, 2023	Sunday	3:30 p.m.	Ladies Bible Class
September 24, 2023	Sunday	3:30 p.m.	Ladies Bible Class
November 26, 2023	Sunday	3:30 P.m.	Ladies Bible Class

Please add the above meeting times to your personal calendar to assure full council member attendance as much as possible.

Additional called (unscheduled but necessary) meetings are possible during the year but I will notify you of dates and times via email as quickly as possible.

I thank you for your efforts to attend and participate in all Church Council Meetings.

Latta United Methodist Church
Budget Worksheet

EXPENSE	2023
Salaries	
PASTOR'S SALARY	\$23,250.00
SECRETARY'S SALARY - Amended 11/13/2022	\$15,925.00
ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR'S SALAR	\$12,000.00
YOUTH DIRECTOR SALARY	\$12,000.00
CHRISTMAS GIFTS	\$2,000.00
PPRC CONTINGENCY	\$2,000.00
Total Salaries	\$67,175.00
Personnel Expenses	
PASTOR'S PENSION CONTRIBUTION - Amended 11/22/2022	\$1,550.00
PASTOR'S PENSION PROGRAM EXPENSES - Amended 11/22/2022	\$1,435.00
LAY EMPLOYEE'S SOCIAL SECURITY	\$2,600.00
PASTOR'S HEALTH INSURANCE PAYMENT - Amended 11/22/2022	\$4,473.00
PASTOR'S HEALTH INSURANCE EXPENSES - Amended 11/22/2022	\$1,435.00
WORKER'S COMP. INSURANCE	\$1,200.00
PASTOR'S HOUSING REIMBURSEMENT	\$14,000.00
ANNUAL CONF. EXPENSES (LMAC)	\$300.00
Total Personnel Expenses	\$26,993.00
Total Staff Support	\$94,168.00
Church Ministries	
KITCHEN SUPPLIES	\$750.00
CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES	\$500.00
YOUTH ACTIVITIES-1	\$5,000.00
ADULT/FAMILY ACTIVITIES	\$400.00
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL	\$2,000.00
EDUCATION	\$4,000.00
LITERATURE & SUPPLIES	\$1,000.00
EVANGELISM	\$1,500.00
WORSHIP	\$750.00
WORSHIP (MUSIC)	\$700.00
MISSION SUPPORT	\$2,500.00
CEMETERY FUND	\$1,000.00
CONTINGENCY MISSIONS	\$2,500.00
NURTURING AND OUTREACH	\$350.00
SAFE SANCTUARY	\$500.00
Church Ministries	\$23,450.00
Properties	
UTILITIES	\$25,000.00
GENERAL CHURCH MAINTENANCE	\$26,000.00
MAINTENANCE SUPPLIES	\$350.00
GENERAL PARSONAGE MAINTENANCE	\$1,000.00
INSURANCE (CHURCH,PARSONAGE, VAN)	\$13,300.00
GROUNDS MAINTENANCE	\$1,325.00
VAN (Gas & Upkeep)	\$1,500.00
PARSONAGE FUND	\$1,500.00
JANITOR'S SALARY	\$6,000.00
Total Properties	\$75,975.00

**Latta United Methodist Church
Budget Worksheet**

Local Church Administration

REIMBURSIBLE TRAVEL/EXPENSES	\$2,400.00
UNREIMBURSED BUSINESS EXPENSES	\$0.00
PASTOR'S CONTINUING EDUCATION	\$3,000.00
OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$12,000.00
FINANCIAL CRUSADE	\$0.00
GENERAL CONTINGENCY (Misc.)	\$2,500.00
ANNUAL CONFERENCE (PASTOR)	\$300.00
Total Local Church Administration	\$20,200.00

Apportionments and Askings

EPISCOPAL FUND	\$1,016.00
DISTRICT SUPT. COMPENSATION	\$2,037.00
RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE/GRANTS	\$1,261.00
EQUITABLE COMPENSATION FUND	\$891.00
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION	\$1,295.00
DISTRICT PARSONAGE/OFFICE	\$741.00
SENIOR COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS	\$1,497.00
SPARTANBURG METHODIST COLLEGE	\$927.00
CAMPUS MINISTRY	\$1,060.00
METHODIST HOMES RESIDENT ASSIST	\$631.00
CAMPS & RETREAT MINISTRIES	\$504.00
CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT	\$1,506.00
CONFERENCE BENEVOLENCES	\$3,688.00
CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATION	\$2,597.00
JURISDICTION MISSION/MINISTRY	\$46.00
WORLD SERVICE	\$3,430.00
GENERAL CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATI	\$407.00
MINISTERIAL EDUCATION FUND	\$1,159.00
INTERDENOMINATIONAL COOPERATION	\$91.00
BLACK COLLEGE FUND	\$462.00
AFRICA UNIVERSITY FUND	\$103.00
Extra Miles for Colleges & Home	\$985.00
Marion District 1% Fund Apport	\$873.00
Total Apportionments and Askings	\$27,207.00

Total 2023 Budget	\$241,000.00
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LUMC CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

January 22, 2023

The Church Council met on Sunday, January 22, 2023, at 6:30 in the Ladies Chapel.

Members Present: Ione Allen, Ben Atkins, Donna Bethea, Sheldon Bethea, Wade Brown, Jr., Henry Brunson, Marsden Cox, Rhonda Dew, Louise Ellis, Becky Gaddy, Richard Gaddy, Laura Gasque, Paul Gasque, Millie George, Corky Lane, Cindy Legette, Debbie Manning, Pastor Matt Scott, Abbott Shelley, Ruthann Wooten.

Chair Donna Bethea welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened with prayer. She thanked members who served in 2022 and announced new members: Rocky Brunson, Fred Ellis, Laura Gasque, Paul Gasque and Millie George.

Chair Donna Bethea asked for corrections to the October 9, 2022, and November 13, 2022 minutes sent by email to members. Rhonda Dew made the following corrections in the October minutes: (1) Church Missions to read “sponsoring **one** of the monthly dinners for Fair Meadows,” (2) Money Add “s” to all **memorial** (3) two paragraphs had been omitted from Trustee Chair regarding adding outside church sign/signs and the church roof supporting the installed cupola, (3) Typographical errors were noted. Henry Brunson made the motion to approve the corrected minutes and Louise Ellis seconded.

November 13, 2022 minutes were approved as presented.

Chair Donna Bethea emailed to members the dates and time of the 2023 scheduled Church Council meetings. Members will be notified of any called meeting.

Disaffiliation was discussed. Chair Donna Bethea stated that to disaffiliate or not cannot be ignored and would not be a quick decision (not until 2024). She said what members can do NOW is to pray for wisdom and guidance. Donna expressed that she was uncomfortable with the Church Council making the decision to disaffiliate or not for the entire church membership and asked Church Council members to consider heading up small groups of church members to share with them acquired information. Becky Gaddy agreed that all church members should be involved--even those who do not attend should have a voice. Pastor Matt reminded members that a 2/3 vote is required, and team leaders will be needed. Members were asked to pray, inquire, research and come prepared to head up a group of church members at the March meeting.

Chair Donna Bethea gave update on the goal of purchasing and installing sound and video systems. Goal has not been met, but \$2,682.17 has been collected toward the purchase of digital sound board and iPad. She asked for a volunteer to be responsible for the setup of the iPhone for the live streaming of church service when Pastor Matt is away.

Council Member's Reports:

1. Lay Leader: Corky Lane said there have been three Lay meetings recently, and it is refreshing for him to know all that is happening in the church.
2. Church Treasurer: Richard Gaddy. No report.
3. Men's Group Representative: Corky Lane commented that the ramp project was in the process of removing a ramp and moving it to storage. The project is suffering low funds, expensive lumber, and fewer men to help. There is currently no fund raiser project.
4. Church Missions: Rhonda Dew reported mission news is sent out in the newsletter and church bulletin. Christmas projects included infants to seniors through the star tree, foster care, and Fair Meadows. Missions will continue to help Fair Meadows.
5. Evangelism: Debbie Manning thanked Rhonda Dew for her help and had met with Pastor Matt. She has had positive response from Fair Meadows. She welcomes any suggestions on ways to help others outside the church. (Pastor Matt clarified that Missions is all about serving others; Evangelism is about meeting spiritual needs.)
6. Nurture/Outreach: Ione Allen reported no bereavement meals needed lately. David Watson recently passed, but no meal was requested. Teams are standing by when needed.
7. Historian: Not in attendance, but Debbie Manning reported that the committee meets every other Wednesday, and there was work going on—searching through documents and pictures for display.
8. Worship: Louise Ellis reported that the church was decorated and undecorated for Christmas. Plans for Easter will begin soon.
9. Youth Directors: Shelley not in attendance, but Sheldon reported that the recent ski trip went well. There were 27 youth who went; 25 skied; 20 skied a lot. The youth range in age from seventh grade through high school and are from various denominations. They meet in Latta two Sunday's during the month and in Dillon on the other Sundays and each Wednesday. They are currently finishing up the Book of James and are planning a Super Bowl collection.
10. Sunday School Superintendent: Becky Gaddy reminded members that she was still in her office on Sundays and that next Sunday is Fifth Sunday with collections going to Epworth Children's' Home.
11. Membership Secretary: Laura Gasque reported that she is assisting Louise Ellis, Houston Manning, and the rest of the Historian committee with organizing membership records and is studying a copy of the membership training guide. Will meet on Wednesday.
12. Disaster Relief Coordinator: Pastor Matt had nothing to report except that the District recommends a supply of flood buckets (cleaning supplies included) to be on hand.
13. Interim Music Director: Cindy Legette reported that the church choir has gained new members, and that she is proud of their hard work.

14. United Women in Faith: Ruthann Wooten reported that Christmas blankets had been given to Fair Meadows residents, Carol Edwards of Fellowship of Christian Athlete spoke at United Women in Faith's Christmas party and a display of nativities were setup as part of the Christmas party. Christmas was provided for a mother and her two children.
15. Trustee: Fred Ellis was not in attendance. Pastor Matt reported that the trustees are still waiting on a quote on the stained-glass windows in the Sanctuary. There are efforts being made about the odor in the Men's Hut. The heating/air unit has been replaced in the Ladies Chapel.
16. SPRC: Paul Gasque thanked Rhonda Dew and Donna Bethea for an impeccable job done in the church office. He is impressed with the new secretary, Lisa Driggers. She is doing a good job and has a good personality. Will update new members at meeting on Tuesday.
17. Finance: Committee Chair Cindy Legette reported that the 2023 budget had been amended and reflected the increases in the secretary and pastor's salaries. Everything else was the same. A motion was made by Louise Ellis to accept the amended budget. Paul Gasque seconded, and motion was approved. Chair Cindy Legette reported that the **budget** for 2022 was \$257,374; **tithes and offerings** were \$230,030.58 (approximately \$25,000 less); only 25% were paid for **apportionments**--\$30,408 in 2022 and \$27,207 in 2023; current balances in **Operating** \$65,314.05; **Agency** \$6,501.95; **Trustee Memorials** \$9,631.01; **Savings** \$50,119.21, **Marsden Cox Jr. Scholarship (CD)** \$47,933.50; **Anna Margaret Williams Scholarship (LUMC Educational Scholarship Fund CD)** \$16,783.65; **Organ Fund (CD)** \$19,647.12. Chair Cindy Legette compared utilities April-December in 2021 and 2022. In these nine months \$4,647.44 was saved--thanks to Michael Bethea for his monitoring the thermostats. The replaced unit in the Ladies Chapel cost \$6,800. Smarter use of Spectrum from September through December reduced the expense to \$492. Contracted audits will be carried out on most accounts, but Finance Committee will audit the men and women's classes and United Women of Faith.
18. At Large Members: Henry Brunson suggested a fund raiser (a chicken barbeque) for the Men's Group. Pastor Matt replied that a fundraiser plan including a date and details would be needed before it could be voted on by the Church Council.
Added on 3/9/2023: This email was sent by Chair Donna Bethea to the Church Council Members on Monday, March 6, 2023, at 9:40 p.m.

The men's class plans to do a BBQ Chicken fundraiser on April 27. Tickets will be sold in advance at \$10/plate. Proceeds will benefit the ramp building project, which helps local citizens in Latta.

Other Details:

Henry and Corky are working together to price the chicken, BBQ sauce, baked beans, and slaw.

We will sell for both lunch and dinner.

Chicken and beans will be cooked at the community center.

Food will be distributed at Latta UMC in the fellowship building parking lot, drive-through style.

Local delivery will also be an option.

We will need volunteers to help cook, transport, plate, hand out, and deliver.

*Our goal is to sell 800 plates. The men's class, with help from the church and church office, will take the lead on selling the tickets.
Henry will take care of printing tickets.*

*Henry Brunson makes the following motion to approve a fundraiser for the men's class.
Corky Lane has seconded the motion.*

***Reply all for any further discussion.
Or Reply all with a Yay or Nay vote.***

**Out of the 23 possible votes, 15 Yay – 0 Nay – 8 No Votes
Motion approved**

19. Pastor: Pastor Matt Scott thanked Corky Lane for serving as Lay Leader and for all of his assistance. He reported that he had attended a Lay Meeting earlier today which had a profound devotion. He said when lay leaders are doing ministries, it makes his job easier. He said the embezzlement was not a sinking ship because church members were involved. Pastor Matt has ordered cards to help with the discernment process to disaffiliate or not. He suggested these cards be placed in bibles or on refrigerators to help guide church members through the process.
20. Recording Secretary: Millie George commented that she was overwhelmed (meaning impressed with the organization, participation, and leadership of the Church Council much improvement since she last took notes).

Having no other business, Chair Donna Bethea asked Pastor Matt to dismiss the group with prayer.

Meeting Adjourned.
Respectfully submitted,

Donna Bethea/Millie George

LUMC CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING March 26, 2023

The Church Council met on Sunday, March 26, 2023, at 3:30 in the Ladies Chapel.

Members Present: Ben Atkins, Donna Bethea, Henry Brunson, Rocky Brunson, Marsden Cox, Rhonda Dew, Fred Ellis, Louise Ellis, Becky Gaddy, Richard Gaddy, Laura Gasque, Paul Gasque, Millie George, Corky Lane, Cindy LeGette, Pastor Matt Scott, Abbott Shelley, Ruthann Wooten.

Chair Donna Bethea welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened with prayer.

Chair Donna Bethea asked for the following corrections to the January 22, 2023, minutes: (1) **Finance (Item 17)** Change name of Margaret Williams Scholarship to LUMC Educational Scholarship. (2) Change typographical error Orkin to Organ (CD.) Ben Atkins motioned to approve corrections, Henry Brunson seconded, and motion was passed. Chair Donna noted that an email vote was taken and passed regarding the Men's Group barbecue chicken fundraiser and was included in revised minutes sent to Church Council members.

Chair Donna Bethea reported on the purchase of sound and video system. The cost is \$3,130. Trustees have \$2,682, and the difference (\$448) could be taken from the Lib Coleman music memorial. However, a tablet has been donated and will be tried first. There will be no need for additional funds at this time. Phase two will require three people to work the new system. Louise Ellis has agreed to help, but two more people are needed.

Disaffiliation: Pastor Matt emphasized that our church has **not** entered disaffiliation. The decision to disaffiliate or not will require time and help from the following groups: Legal (Paul Gasque and LaFon LeGette leaders); **Prayer** (Laura Gasque leader); **Finances, Funding, Bonds** (Fred Ellis leader); **Options for Affiliation** (Jerry Martin leader); **Process for Separation** (Millie George leader); **Communications** (Rhonda Dew leader with **Subset Membership** (Laura Gasque leader). These groups will give highlights at the Church Council meetings, and communication to all church members will be needed. Contact the team leaders if you would like to serve on one of the groups.

Council Members' Reports:

1. Trustees: Fred Ellis spoke of the “**done**” projects. (1) memorials protocol to accommodate church and families (2) computer backup (3) Men's Hut with underpinning (4) parsonage and Mincey pest/termite treatment (5) church sign ordered but not here. Fred then spoke on the “**undone**” projects. (1) removing carpet from nursery (2) stain glass. The total cost for all windows would be \$50,000 which is not available, but the front window will cost about \$3,800, and the trustees are ready to move on it. (3) painting of front fascia is needed (4) ground maintenance - spraying, weed control, etc. is under consideration. Garrett Byrd has a yard service and will take a look.
2. Lay Leader: Corky Lane, no report.
3. United Women in Faith: Ruthann Wooten reported on World Day of Prayer held on March 3. She thanked those who helped with lunch and those who came to pray. She and Carol Edwards will

host End of Season Celebration for Christian Athletes. She requested use of the Fellowship Hall for this. Pastor Matt advised approval by the Church Council. Ruthann made a motion, Corky Lane seconded, and use of the Fellowship Hall was passed.

4. Men's Group: The barbecue chicken fundraiser will be held on April 27. Tickets will be available soon. One handicap ramp is currently in limbo.
5. Church Missions: Missions now include Ruthann Wooten, Corky Lane, Anne Marie Martin and Lynn Corbett. Rhonda Dew shared the February Valentine's Day and the March Bingo events spent with Fairmeadow residents. Both events were enjoyed by all, and Fairmeadow residents look forward to the next visit. Also in February, Rhonda and Ruthann inventoried and organized the clothes closet at Latta Elementary. Missions met and focused on the Benevolence Program Guidelines. The created Guidelines, application process and Resource Guide will assist Lisa Driggers when the need arises. Veterans Food Drive and supporting the Police Department's Safety Pup Program have been added to Church Missions.
6. Chair Evangelism: Debbie Manning, absent. Rhonda Dew commented on Debbie's excellent devotion at the Valentine's Day's event in February at Fairmeadow.
7. Nurture/Outreach: Ione Allen, absent. Donna Bethea reported that Ione has agreed to serve as the "go-to" person to call families when a name needs to be added or removed on the Prayer List. This has been difficult for Lisa Driggers to determine.
8. Historian: Houston Manning absent. No report.
9. Worship: Louise Ellis reported that she was collecting orders for Easter lilies and is obtaining information about the special services for Holy Week.
10. Youth Directors: Shelley and Sheldon Bethea, absent. Donna Bethea learned that the youth had returned and had a great weekend with the Christian Athletes.
11. Disaster Relief Coordinator: Pastor Matt said flood buckets are in the making. Donna Bethea expects items ordered for the buckets to arrive April 4. Paul Gasque stated it would be good to include a plan to account for the safety of church members should a disaster occur. Flashlights and batteries would be helpful specially to shut ins.
12. Interim Music Director: Cindy LeGett reported that she is pleased with the church choir's participation and welcomes anyone to join. She thanked Jane Atkins and Fred Ellis for helping play the piano.
13. Sunday School Superintendent: Becky Gaddy said all was well, active, and reported a great job.
14. Membership Secretary: Laura Gasque reported that the church membership roster had been updated. She thanked Louise Ellis for helping with the massive paperwork dating back to the 60's. It is being alphabetized, and they are making a dent.
15. Church Treasure: Richard Gaddy, no report.

16. SPRC: Paul Gasque said his committee met on Tuesday. Efforts are being made to hire a choir director and organist. Pastor Matt has contacted various colleges and ads are posted on Facebook. Paul explained that to disaffiliate or not was delayed because of acquiring a new pastor, the embezzlement crisis, and the Christmas season. The blood drive is scheduled for April 3. Volunteers have been lined up, and Paul is confident thirty people will show up to give.
17. Finance: Cindy LeGette met with her committee on March 16. She reports the following: **January** income: \$17,441, expenses \$19,079; **February** income \$11,900, expenses \$13,500. She stated that the monthly income and expenses will be added to the church bulletin on the first Sunday every month. **March** Operating Balance \$89,738.23, LUMC Educational Scholarship \$19,647.12, Organ (CD) \$16,783.65, Marsden Cox, Jr. Scholarship (CD) \$48,600. End of **February**: Savings \$52,219.21, Agency \$5,548.10, Trustee Memorials \$11,391. Cindy stated that complete audits had been carried out with no issues.
18. Interim Financial Secretary: Donna Bethea said the Trustees would need approval to use \$2,500 (if needed) from the operating budget for stain glass repairs. Fred Ellis made a motion for approval, Ben Atkins seconded, and motion was passed. Donna gave members a handout of the Proposed Procedures for W9. (See attachment.)
19. At large members: Marsden Cox thanked Donna Bethea and Millie George for detailed and thorough minutes.
20. Pastor Matt: Pastor Matt said five people had signed up for the Mission trip to Plymouth, NC, in July. Donna Bethea thinks a number of youth will also go. Pastor Matt spoke of the special services during Holy Week. Communion will be served at Maundy Thursday service, and readings will be a part of the Good Friday Service.
21. Recording Secretary: Millie George, no report.

The next Church Council meeting will be May 28 at 3:30. Council Chair Donna Bethea dismissed the group after reading the Breakthrough Prayer. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Bethea and Millie George

Proposed Procedures for W9:

1. When seeking a vendor for a project that is not incorporated but working as an individual or LLC, please inform that vendor the church will require them to complete a W9 form for tax purposes. If the vendor does not want to do so, the vendor should not be used to perform the work.
2. If the vendor is awarded the job, ask the vendor to go to the church office during regular office hours of 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. to complete the W9 form prior to beginning the job. This assures that the Office Administrator can read the information and has the W9 in the church files.
3. At the end of the calendar year, the Office Administrator will complete a 1099-NEC form for all vendors that completed a W9 that were paid \$600 or more for that calendar year. A copy of the 1099-NEC will be printed and mailed to the vendor by January 15th of the following calendar year. This will allow the vendor time to review and note any corrections needed before reporting to the IRS. A copy of the 1099-NEC will be mailed to the vendor and a copy of the 1099-NEC and 1096 kept in the church office.
4. The Office Administrator will make any needed corrections and file copies of the 1099's with attached 1096 to the IRS as certified mail before January 31st of the following calendar year.
5. In the event a vendor does not inform the Church Office Administrator of a correction before submitting the 1099 and 1096 to the IRS, a 1099-C and a 1096 will be resubmitted to the IRS noting the correction. A copy of the 1099-C will be mailed to the vendor and a copy of the 1099-C and 1096 kept in the church office.

Note: If the vendor is doing a long-term project, consider having a contract especially if high risk for an accident. At minimum a copy of insurance from the vendor indicating worker's compensation for himself and his employees.

LUMC CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

May 28, 2023

The Church Council met on Sunday, May 28, 2023, at 3:30 in the Ladies Chapel.

Members Present: Ben Atkins, Donna Bethea, Marsden Cox, Rhonda Dew, Louise Ellis, Becky Gaddy, Richard Gaddy, Laura Gasque, Millie George, Corky Lane, Cindy LeGette, Pastor Matt Scott, Abbott Shelley, Ruthann Wooten.

Non-Council Members Present: LaFon LeGette.

Chair Donna Bethea welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened with prayer.

Chair Donna Bethea asked if there were any corrections to the March 26, 2023, minutes: There were none, and the minutes were approved.

Disaffiliation Update: Chair Donna Bethea said teams had been formed to assist Pastor Matt with the discernment and disaffiliation process. She called for reports from any of the groups. Millie George, team leader for **Process for Separation**, reported the following members had agreed to serve: Jane Atkins, Carol Stoops, Polly Haselden, Craig Carmichael and Claude Graham. They have been given information regarding the discernment process and the separation process. Millie will continue to update them. Laura Gasque, team leader for **Prayer**, reported eighteen people would serve on her team which included Mrs. Iratine Henry, Mrs. Betty Jean Hunsinger, and Mrs. Sue Bethea, who are confined to their homes.

Pastor Matt said the teams were formed as a proactive measure, and there should be a vote to enter the process of discernment at the July Church Council meeting. Chair Donna Bethea expressed concerns about the Church Council voting on discernment without informing the church membership. Pastor Matt said after the Church Council's discernment vote in July, there would be sessions announced to inform the church membership and to prepare them for a conference vote to disaffiliate or not to disaffiliate. Jerry Martin's team is looking at various Methodist denominations should the church vote to disaffiliate. Pastor Matt indicated that a SC Licensed and Certified Appraiser is needed to appraise the church and the parsonage. Lafon LeGette said David McLaurin would provide an appraisal for \$2,000. Chair Donna Bethea said there was good information in the South Carolina United Methodist Advocate which addresses both sides of disaffiliation, and she suggested making it available to church members.

Council Members' Reports:

1. Lay Leader: Corky Lane, no formal report. He stated Jerry Martin would be the delegate to the annual conference in June.
2. United Women in Faith: Ruthann Wooten reported on June 3 there would be an end-of-the-year Fellowship of Christian Athletes event for all schools. The Wesleyan Circle has given \$50 to help with refreshments.

3. Men's Group: Abbot Shelley reported the fundraiser for ramps raised over \$9,000, and he thanked all who helped.
4. Church Missions: Rhonda Dew reported Missions continue to meet with Fairmeadow residents for Bingo monthly. Fairmeadow has received ten raised garden beds from a grant awarded by McLeods and Care South. Gift Certificates have been given to Latta Police Department and to Dewitt Coleman for National Police Week. Rhonda is looking at a way to involve children at Fairmeadow in July.
5. Chair Evangelism: Debbie Manning, absent. No report.
6. Nurture/Outreach: Ione Allen, absent. Donna Bethea reported for Ione Allen that all was going well with the weekly bulletin Prayer List. Please call Ione if anyone needs to be added or removed from the bulletin list so she can assist Lia Driggers with keeping the list current.
7. Historian: Houston Manning absent. No report.
8. Worship: Louise Ellis thanked Pastor Matt for the special services during Easter week. She commented on the worn pulpit bible cover. Pastor Matt will take a look. Millie George has used a book binding company in Columbia and will share information if needed.
9. Youth Directors: Shelley and Sheldon Bethea, absent. No report.
10. Disaster Relief Coordinator: Pastor Matt said flood buckets have been put together. Donna mentioned that there was a push for First Aid training for the summer months while children are out of school.
11. Interim Music Director: Cindy LeGettte reported there would be one more choir practice before being off for the summer. She will ask Fred Ellis and Jane Atkins to fill in at times during the summer, and she stressed the need to hire an organ and music director. She has been filling the position for a year.
12. Sunday School Superintendent: Becky Gaddy said the children will be participating in **Opening Exercises**.
13. Membership Secretary: Laura Gasque continues to update church membership roster, and a letter will be sent out in July to update addresses. She expressed the importance of contacting people and letting them know the church cares. Laura thanked those who did this job before she took it over.
14. Church Treasure: Richard Gaddy, no report.
15. Trustees: Fred Ellis absent. Pastor Matt reported the stained glass window between the front doors of the church has been repaired and thanked Jane Atkins for her help. The church and parsonage grounds have had recent trimmings, fresh pine straw, and fertilizer. Laminated flooring from Causey's has been ordered for the nursery. Outside painting and adding restrooms for the Fellowship Hall are under consideration. Individuals are discouraged from using the Fellowship Hall for non-church events because of problems with the bathrooms in the Education Building. Long-range plans include flooring for Fellowship Hall and Education Building. Soundboard has been purchased and is working well, but two volunteers are still needed to learn the system before moving ahead.
16. SPRC: Paul Gasque absent. Someone has inquired about the music director's position. Per Paul's request, Donna Bethea urged members to notify Pastor Matt when someone is sick.
17. Finance: Cindy LeGettte said she had received a clean audit from Sloan. She reported March Income \$14,800 (*rounded*) and Expenses \$13,000 (*rounded*); April Income \$24,000 (*rounded*) and Expenses \$11,000 (*rounded*). Apportionments have been paid through May. Beginning in

April, church bulletins on the first Sunday of each month will show the church's operating YTD income and expenses. On the first Sunday in May, the YTD Income was \$68,436; YTD Expenses \$56,520. As of May **11**, 2023. Operating Balance was \$93,133.75; Savings \$54,350.88; Scholarships (no change), LUMC \$19,641.12 and MH Cox, Jr. \$48,600.00; Organ CD \$16,783.65; Agency: \$8,149.81. Trustee/Memorial \$9,485.08. A monetary gift of \$1,000 from the PPRC Contingency will be given to District Superintendent Tim Rogers for his retirement.

18. At Large Members: Ben Atkins, no report. Marsden Cox attended a Meet and Greet with SC Bishop Holston and Incoming Marion District Superintendent, Reverend Steve Brown. Abbot Shelley, no report.
19. Pastor: Pastor Matt stated due to the focus on discernment and disaffiliation, often the good things happening in the church are overlooked. He is encouraged with the church's accomplishments this past year, and he is especially pleased at the work Sheldon and Shelley Bethea are doing with the youth. Applications for scholarships are still being accepted. The Scholarship committee will soon meet to choose a recipient.
20. Recording Secretary: Millie George, no report.

Chair Donna Bethea stated that any remaining items on the Nursery list that are no longer needed will be discarded on June 1. She apologized for her lack of communication to church members. Pastor Matt has approved for her to add an insert in church bulletins. She encouraged members to submit to Lisa any information of interest for the newsletter. Donna asked that all members remember Jerry Martin and Pastor Matt as they attend annual conference in June. She thanked everyone for support and feedback. The next Church Council meeting will be July 30. Pastor Matt dismissed the group with prayer. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Bethea and Millie George

LUMC CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING July 30, 2023

The Church Council met on Sunday, July 30, 2023, at 3:30 in the Ladies Chapel.

Members Present: Ione Allen, Ben Atkins, Donna Bethea, Wade Brown Jr., Henry Brunson, Rocky Brunson, Marsden Cox, Rhonda Dew, Johnny Dew, Louise Ellis, Becky Gaddy, Richard Gaddy, Laura Gasque, Paul Gasque, Millie George, Corky Lane, Cindy LeGette, Debbie Manning, Houston Manning, Jerry Martin, Pastor Matthew Scott, Abbott Shelley, Ruthann Wooten.

Non-Council Members Present: Gayle Coleman, LaFon LeGette.

Chair Donna Bethea welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened with prayer. She explained the purpose of the meeting was to vote on the discernment process and how it would be carried out. She handed out hard copies of the agenda, The Discernment Process, and the Agreement to Disaffiliate. Donna then called for **Disaffiliation Team Reports**.

Options for Affiliation: Jerry Martin, Team Leader, handed out a Preliminary Report and explained the purpose for his team was to present choices to church members: (1) remain United Methodist Church (2) consider Global Methodist Church or (3) consider an independent church. He said most churches who disaffiliate choose Global Methodist Church. Henry Brunson asked about the differences in the choices. Jerry said the United Methodist is more progressive and Global Methodist is more conservative. Jerry said Global Methodist Church may have more say in pastor appointments and may be cheaper. Global Methodist Church latest number of churches is 3,100 and has 3,400 ministers. There have been 113 churches to leave in South Carolina. He pointed out the back page of his handout for comparisons of size and costs. Jerry complimented Jonathan Holston, SC Bishop, on his support and calm manner in working with churches considering disaffiliation. **(See Attachment)**

Millie George asked how the discernment/disaffiliation process would affect Mount Andrew Church, since Pastor Matt pastors both. Pastor Matt explained that Mount Andrew would meet and address the process as well. Like LUMC, Mount Andrew would have to make its own decision for its church. Pastor Matt assured Church Council members that he would stay or go with Latta United Methodist Church members whatever decision they make.

Process for Separation: Millie George, Team Leader, reported that she updated her group after the May Church Council meeting and before today's meeting. She has given them copies of all documents she has, and they are standing by if and when needed to help.

Communication Team: Rhonda Dew, Team Leader, no report.

Membership Team: Laura Gasque, Team Leader, reported that 23 letters of inquiry have been sent out and 15 other contacts by phone or text have been sent. There were few transfers. She has not finished and will still be making contacts.

Legal: Paul Gasque, Team Leader, said he had met with Pastor Matt about church incorporation and 501(c)(3), nonprofit organization. He has acquired the bylaws of Global Methodist Church and found them to be very much like United Methodist Church. LaFon LeGette, Team Leader, expressed concern about the time frame to vote to disaffiliate. Pastor Matt replied that a vote does not have to happen by December 31.

Finances, Funding, Bonds: Fred Ellis, Team Leader, absent. Pastor Matt reported the plan was to wait until January 1 for a complete financial report which will include a 10 percent of the appraised value of all church property and liquid assets. This cost will be presented to church members before calling for a congregational vote to disaffiliate or not.

Chair Donna Bethea explained the vote to enter the discernment process was required of the Church Council members. Chair Donna then reviewed the **Local Church Discernment Process**. She pointed out its purpose was to engage in dialogue with one another and to **allow every voice** in the congregation an opportunity to be heard. She explained various steps in the process and upon completion of the review, Chair Donna called for a motion to vote. **(See Attachment)**

Cindy Legette made a motion to enter into a discernment process for a minimum of 30 days. Henry Brunson seconded the motion, and it was passed. Paper ballots were given to each voting Church Council member. Pastor Matt reported 21 **yes** votes and **one** no vote to enter the discernment process.

Corky Lane stated that some members in the church felt too much time was being taken to call for a congregational vote. Pastor Matt explained the decision to disaffiliate requires sufficient time to complete the process, and the last deadline would have been too rushed. He stated church members who feel impatient with the process should be offered an explanation and encouraged to meet with Pastor Matt. If they still feel impatient with how the process is going, then perhaps they should consider another church.

Pastor Matt suggested a seven-week discernment period beginning September 17 and ending November 1. He plans to meet with church members every Wednesday night during these seven weeks. He will cover Wesleyan theology, decision making and scripture during the first four weeks and John Wesley's "Do Good" rules the last three weeks. He will remain neutral in presenting United Methodist Church and Global Methodist theologies. After the finances are up to date at the first of the year, a church conference meeting will be scheduled, and a vote will be taken no later than March 1, 2024, to disaffiliate or not to disaffiliate.

Chair Donna Bethea reminded members of the regular Church Council meeting scheduled for 8/6/23 at 3:30.

Pastor Matt ended the meeting with prayer, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Bethea and Millie George

LUMC CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING August 6, 2023

The Church Council met on Sunday, August 6, 2023, at 3:30 in the Ladies Chapel.

Members Present: Ione Allen, Jimmy Ard, Donna Bethea, Rocky Brunson, Marsden Cox, Rhonda Dew, Johnny Dew, Fred Ellis, Louise Ellis, Becky Gaddy, Laura Gasque, Paul Gasque, Millie George, Corky Lane, Cindy LeGette, Houston Manning, Jerry Martin, Pastor Matthew Scott, Abbott Shelley, Ruthann Wooten.

Non-Council Members Present: Denise Ard, Bonnie Ellis.

Chair Donna Bethea welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened with prayer. She went over previous corrections to the May 28 Minutes and called for any further corrections. There were none. Louise Ellis motioned to approve them, Jimmy Ard seconded, and they were approved. There were no corrections made to the July 30 Minutes. Corky Lane motioned to approve them, Cindy LeGette seconded, and they were approved.

Disaffiliation Update: Chair Donna Bethea said a letter was sent to Reverend Steven Brown, Marion District Superintendent, on August 4 stating that a vote was taken by the Church Council on July 30 to enter the discernment process beginning September 17 and ending November 1 and requested a conference meeting for LUMC sometime after the first of the year. She is setting up a file in the church office to compile minutes and other documents regarding disaffiliation. Houston Manning asked if he, as Historian, should add recorded information or acquired disaffiliation information to the file. Pastor Matt said he would prefer that he not because it could put Pastor Matt at risk.

Pastor Matt sent to the District Superintendent notes and minutes of meetings with Tim Rogers as well as his intent for the discernment period. Pastor Matt said Mount Andrew met today at 2:00 and voted to begin process of discernment. He and Paul Gasque think the best option to become incorporated and to go over bylaws is to hire NCLL (National Center for Life and Liberty) for \$1,000 for one year. NCLL would be available longer if needed and will go over the bylaws line by line. Fred Ellis made a motion to subscribe to NCLL for one year for \$1,000. Rocky Brunson seconded the motion, and the motion was passed.

Announcement: Chair Donna Bethea announced that Charge Conference would be held October 17 at 7:00 at Mount Andrew.

Council Members' Reports:

1. Lay Leader: Corky Lane stated how pleased he was with his smooth relations with Pastor Matt, and he thought Pastor Matt was doing a great job leading our church. If there are any concerns, please let Corky know.
2. Lay Delegate: Jerry Martin announced a Global Methodist District meeting Saturday, August 12, at Mount Horeb, Lexington, SC. There is a \$20 fee. Anyone going through discernment/disaffiliation is invited to attend.
3. United Women in Faith: Ruthann Wooten said she and Debbie Finklea attended Mission U in July. Circles will resume in September.

4. Men's Group Representative: Corky Lane reported two ramps have been built, and two more are in the working. The Baptist church paid for materials for one of the ramps, and a donation from the recipient helped with the cost of the last ramp.
5. Church Missions: Rhonda Dew said the Sunday School children participated in the activity at Fairmeadow in June. They were well received and were asked to come again. The children are preparing a December program for Fairmeadow. The residents at Fairmeadow enjoy Bingo, and they look forward to the next time. Vicky Graham has joined Church Missions. Rhonda said the National Night Out event was well represented and thanked all who helped. Rhonda commented on the mission trip to Plymouth, NC, in July, and she is looking ahead at fall activities. In October there will be a Monster on Main activity.
6. Chair Evangelism: Debbie Manning absent, no report.
7. Chair Nurture/Outreach: Ione Allen stated all was going well with working with Lisa on updating the bulletin prayer list. She reported that no bereavement meals have been prepared, but she asked to be alerted to any church family member who would want a bereavement meal.
8. Church Historian: Houston Manning said his question about submitting disaffiliation information as Historian had been answered earlier.
9. Chair Worship: Louise Ellis, no report.
10. Children's Coordinator: Sheldon & Shelley Bethea absent, no report.
11. Youth Directors: Sheldon & Shelley Bethea absent, no report.
12. Disaster Relief Coordinator: Pastor Matt, no report.
13. Interim Music Director: Cindy LeGette continues to serve as a volunteer choir/music director and will until a director is hired. Jane Atkins and Fred Ellis assist with the music.
14. SS Superintendent: **Becky Gaddy reported there was only one Sunday School member that would move up but this member will remain in the present class.**
15. Membership Secretary: Laura Gasque reported 23 letters had been mailed out previously and nine more last week. She continues to search for new addresses. Chair Donna Bethea stated that the official membership list was not accurate and had hoped to send an up-to-date list with minutes.
16. Church Treasure: Richard Gaddy absent, no report.
17. Chair of Trustees: Fred Ellis reported the trustees were dealing with carpet issues in the office and with other issues throughout the building. Discernment/disaffiliation has detracted, and the issues are currently on hold.
18. Chair SPRC: Paul Gasque said SPRC continues to search for a Choir/Music Director. He spoke with one person who was not a valid applicant. Pastor Matt's salary is being finalized.
19. Chair Finance: Cindy LeGette met July 13 to review trusts and memorials and to make sure some are not just sitting there when they could be used. The audio system is complete, but a fourth volunteer is still needed. Money paid for Dillon Herald has been discontinued except for \$27 which will cover very special news. Cindy reported the July operating balance, \$85,393.19; YTD income, \$120,870.55; YTD expenses, \$103,125.21. Scholarship balance of \$1,500 was transferred to operating balance. The Organ CD, \$17,138.91, will soon mature. It will be placed in the Trustee/Memorials Organ Account. Cindy asked those committee members who need worksheets for upcoming Charge Conference to get them from her before leaving the meeting.

Houston Manning asked about donating a plaque to be placed on door of music room. Fred Ellis suggested he put this offer in writing and submit it to the Trustees who will meet first Tuesday in September.

20. At Large Members: Marsden Cox stated the position of Vice Chair of Church Council was approved some years ago, but the position has not been filled.
21. Pastor: Pastor Matt reported that nine people (four youth and five adults) went on mission trip to Plymouth, NC. It was a fantastic week, a time to draw closer to God, and a time to step away from normal life. Pastor Matt spoke of the bond which developed between the Pennsylvania mission group and the Latta mission group. He is thinking on future mission trips requiring fewer days. Pastor Matt will be away with National Guard for two weeks last of August. He is not being deployed but traveling abroad on an entertainment assignment. Paul Gasque will be available to church members, and Pastor Matt is creating a list of people to help with any needs that may arise. There will be a Nominating group meeting on August 15.
22. Recording Secretary: Millie George, no report.

Pastor Matt ended the meeting with prayer, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Bethea and Millie George

LUMC CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
September 24, 2023

The Church Council met on Sunday, September 24, 2023, at 3:30 in the Ladies Chapel.

Members Present: Ione Allen, Donna Bethea, Marsden Cox, Fred Ellis, Louise Ellis, Becky Gaddy, Laura Gasque, Paul Gasque, Millie George, Cindy LeGette, Debbie Manning, Houston Manning, Pastor Matthew Scott, Abbott Shelley, Ruthann Wooten.

Chair Donna Bethea welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened with prayer. She went over clarification corrections (Disaffiliation Update and SS Superintendent) and typographical correction (Mount Andrew) to the August 6 Minutes and called for any further corrections. There were none. Louise Ellis made a motion to approve the minutes, Paul Gasque seconded, and the minutes were approved.

Disaffiliation Update: Paul Gasque, Legal group, reported that LUMC has signed with NCLL, and the church is now incorporated except for adding the legal seal. He commented on all the required work still needed--copies of deeds, final payment, bylaws, EIN number.

Chair Donna Bethea said David McLaurin had submitted a quote of \$2,000 to cover the cost of an appraisal, which is due December 1. Fred Ellis made a motion to approve David McLaurin's quote of \$2,000. Marsden Cox seconded the motion, and it passed. The appraisal will be scheduled for early November.

Announcement: Chair Donna Bethea announced that Charge Conference would be held October 17 at 7:00 at Mount Andrew.

Council Members' Reports:

1. Lay Leader: Corky Lane absent. No report.
2. Lay Delegate: Jerry Martin absent. No report.
3. United Women in Faith: Ruthann Wooten reported that a visit with Joyce Bethea and Carole Clardy is planned at Methodist Manor September 28, a meeting is planned September 30 at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall to repair Chrismons, and a combined circle Christmas party will be held on December 3. Fairmeadow ladies will be invited.
4. Men's Group Representative: Corky Lane absent. Abbott Shelley reported that a ramp was installed recently, and another is being planned.
5. Church Missions: Rhonda Dew absent. Donna Bethea reported that Bingo is held monthly at Fairmeadow. There have been requests for financial assistance.
6. Evangelism: Debbie Manning reported that Church Missions and Evangelism will join the Police Department's Trunk or Treat event October 31. They will build an ark and are requesting donations of Barnum's Animal crackers (12 packs in a box) to hand out to children. This will be announced in the October Newsletter.
7. Nurture/Outreach: Ione Allen said she checks in with Lisa, LUMC secretary, on Mondays, and all was going well on updating the bulletin prayer list. She reported that no bereavement meals have been prepared.

8. Church Historian: Houston Manning said he has started a recent church history which includes Covid, embezzlement, and discernment.
9. Worship: Louise Ellis repeated that women of the church will meet on Saturday, September 30 to repair Chrismons. She informed members that new orders for poinsettias and lilies will cost \$25 each due to a change in florists. (Please see the October Newsletter for an update of this information.) Church members were disappointed in previous orders. Orders will be due November 1, and a reminder will be included in the October Newsletter. Louise said worship lists for flowers, altar guild, communion, etc. are being completed.
10. Children's Coordinator: Sheldon & Shelley Bethea absent. No report.
11. Youth Directors: Sheldon & Shelley Bethea absent. Donna Bethea said there had been a youth rally at Kemper recently.
12. Disaster Relief Coordinator: Pastor Matt reported no disaster from recent hurricane. Paul Gasque suggested a plan to check in on shut-ins when there is a disaster.
13. Interim Music Director: Cindy LeGette said her "plate was full," but Jane Atkins and Fred Ellis are volunteers who help with the piano and organ. She hopes to begin again with choir practice after the October discernment meetings end on Wednesday nights.
14. SS Superintendent: Becky Gaddy expressed concern over the unavailability of future teachers.
15. Membership Secretary: Laura Gasque went over the updated Membership List. She reported 41 letters have been mailed out recently. She said 11 responded, one letter was sent back due to wrong address, and 27 have not responded. She asked for help with addresses or telephone numbers for anyone shown on the Membership List who has not responded. She said 23 on the list want to remain, 2 plan to transfer, 3 requested a transfer. Any names marked through are those asking to be dropped or transferred. (See attached Membership List)
16. Church Treasure: Richard Gaddy absent, no report.
17. Trustees: Fred Ellis had no report. Pastor Matt Scott reported that he had received three quotes to replace the carpet in both his office and Lisa's, LUMC secretary, office. A quote of \$4,086.81 from Causey's Flooring Center has been approved by the Trustees and Finance. The work will not be carried out until after the appraisal. A motion was made by Ione Allen to accept the quote. Louise Ellis seconded. The motion was passed. Fred Ellis commented that the Air Quality Report was pending.
18. SPRC: Paul Gasque said SPRC had met recently and agreed on a 3 percent raise for Pastor Matt's salary, 1 percent cost of living and 2 percent merit. Paul has submitted an evaluation of Pastor Matt to District Office.
19. Finance: Cindy LeGette reported as of September 1, Operating balance, \$106,484.84; Agency account, \$84,035.21; Trustee/Memorial has grown because of addition of matured Organ CD, \$25,352.36; Savings, \$56,484.33; Scholarships, no change; YTD income, \$136,649.59; YTD expenses, \$115,119.68. Cindy announced that Sam Johnston will be Finance Chairman as of January 2024. She then went over the 2024 budget pointing out the 3 percent increase in the pastor's salary, substitute pastors currently paid from Worship will be moved to the PPRC Contingency account in 2024, disaffiliation expenses being paid from Contingency Missions, increase in grounds maintenance and a decrease in utilities, increase in Annual Conference due to change in location from Florence to Greenville. Cindy pointed out that the Magnolia Cemetery committee has no funds so an increase was requested from our church, but it would be left at the current \$1000 in the budget until receiving more information from the Magnolia Cemetery Committee. A motion was made to approve the 2024 budget by Paul Gasque, Houston Manning seconded, and the motion was passed. (See attached Budget)
20. At Large Members: Marsden Cox, no report.

21. Pastor: Pastor Matt reported he had received a check list from the district office which should help clarify what is required if the church disaffiliates. Nothing has changed with the original 16 page Agreement to Separate. This check list has been shared with Church Council members. Pastor Matt repeated that NCLL has been signed and LUMC is now incorporated. He expressed his gratitude to the Trustees, Church Council members, and Finance for their hard work.
22. Recording Secretary: Millie George, no report.

Donna Bethea reminded members of the next Church Council meeting on November 26 and the next Discernment meeting October 1. Pastor Matt ended the meeting with prayer, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Bethea and Millie George

LUMC CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

November 26, 2023

The Church Council met on Sunday, November 26, 2023, at 3:30 in the Ladies Chapel.

Members Present: Ione Allen, Donna Bethea, Louise Ellis, Becky Gaddy, Richard Gaddy, Cindy LeGette, LaFon LeGette, Debbie Manning, Houston Manning, Pastor Matthew Scott, Abbott Shelley, Ruthann Wooten, Corky Lane, Jerry Martin, Rhonda Dew, Johnny Dew, Henry Brunson and Ben Atkins

Chair Donna Bethea welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened with prayer. She noted one correction to the minutes of the September 24, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes-under item #15 it should be 2 members on the list that asked to be removed, not 22.... and called for any further corrections. There were none. Ben Atkins made a motion to approve the minutes, Henry Brunson seconded, and the minutes were approved. Houston Manning asked if they said why they wanted to be removed but no reason was given as to why.

Disaffiliation Update: Paul Gasque, Legal group, reported via Donna that all work to be completed by December 1st had been done. Additional items will need to be completed if we vote to disaffiliate.

Jerry Martin gave a report on the meeting he and Corky Lane attended in Camden regarding the Global Methodist Church. He mentioned that there was a lot less bureaucracy. They do not have District Superintendents (have Presiding Elders) and bishops have term limits. Local churches are in charge of their own mission work/projects.

Council Members' Reports:

1. Lay Leader: Corky Lane. Noted that the disaffiliation meetings held were good and informative. A Global Methodist representative from Charleston is to be contacted and hopefully, will come here to speak to us and answer questions. He asked that we give Pastor Matt the support he needs during these next few weeks while he is away and praised him for the job he has done during some difficult circumstances.
2. Lay Delegate: Jerry Martin. No report.
3. United Women in Faith: Ruthann Wooten reported that a combined circle Christmas party will be held on December 3. All ladies of the church are invited. Fairmeadow ladies are invited. They will hold a General Meeting after the church vote in January to decide how we will proceed as a group.
4. Men's Group Representative: Corky Lane. Two ramps were installed recently, and another is being planned. He urged everyone to speak to people about our church.
5. Church Missions: Rhonda Dew reported that the church received the 1st place prize at Monster on Main. The \$100 will be donated back to the police department for their "Blue Elf" project. Cards with information about our church were given to each Fairmeadow resident during Thanksgiving. The star tree is up. A donation was given to buy Christmas gifts for the Fairmeadow residents. Ione Allen reported that the children will be doing a program for the residents during Christmas.
6. Evangelism: Debbie Manning reported that they gave out approximately 1000 packs of cookies at Monsters on Main. Each pack had a label with the church name and a Bible verse on it.

7. Nurture/Outreach: Ione Allen said she continues to check in with Lisa, LUMC Office Administrator, on Mondays on updating the bulletin prayer list. She reported that the Jane Squires family declined to have a meal prepared.
8. Church Historian: Houston Manning said he is continuing to work on the recent church history which includes Covid, embezzlement, and discernment.
9. Worship: Louise Ellis reported that the sanctuary will be decorated Monday, November 27th and any help would be appreciated.
10. Children's Coordinator: Sheldon & Shelley Bethea absent. No report.
11. Youth Directors: Sheldon & Shelley Bethea absent.
12. Disaster Relief Coordinator: Pastor Matt no report.
13. Interim Music Director: Cindy LeGette apologized for not getting the choir back together yet. She hopes to start back with the choir after Christmas. She was thanked for all she has done.
14. SS Superintendent: Becky Gaddy no report.
15. Membership Secretary: Laura Gasque absent....report via Donna: since the last council meeting, 5 people have been sent letters about their membership since we found addresses for them. One responded to remove their name.
16. Church Treasurer: Richard Gaddy, no report.
17. Trustees: Fred Ellis absent. Pastor Matt Scott reported that the new audio visual system had been approved, we are waiting on Serve Pro to return to fix duct work, the ice machine has been fixed, playground repairs have been done by the men's class, First Aid Kits have been purchased and placed in the office, sanctuary, kitchen, and Pastor's study, Garrett Byrd has been contacted and will be trimming shrubbery and a crepe myrtle, carpet in the master bedroom of the parsonage to be removed and floors refinished if hardwood, and drains in the children's building are still backing up and need to be addressed.
18. SPRC: Paul Gasque absent....report via Donna-Annual evaluation of the pastor has been completed and submitted to the District Office. The rating was very effective/effective rating. The SPRC Advisory Report Form requested Pastor Matt be appointed to the Latta/Mt. Andrew Charge for another year. Pastor Matt requested the same. Both reports have been submitted to the District Office.
19. Finance: Cindy LeGette reported that Sam Johnston, the new Finance Chairman as of January 2024, helped conduct the meeting. Cindy then reported as of October 31, Operating balance, \$131,648.31; Agency account, \$10,227.07; Trustee/Memorial has grown because of addition of matured Organ CD, \$24,765.03; Savings, \$58,619.39; Scholarships: the MH Cox Scholarship CD is a 12 month at 3.45% interest for \$48,729.52 and matures 1/5/24. The LUMC Scholarship CD is a 6 month CD at 2.60% interest for \$18,186.36 and matures on 2/7/23. Both CD's will be renewed for 12 months and the Finance Committee chairman will request \$1500 be withdrawn from each CD to be held for distribution in the summer. YTD income, \$160,792.34; YTD expenses, \$143,050.57. The budget for 2023 is \$241,000.00, all apportionments are paid up. The trustees are ready to move forward on the Audio/Video project. They need \$5000 and have \$1,199. They are asking for \$4000 from the Trustees account. This system will include a computer, camera, cables, etc. It will much improve the sound and picture quality of the live-streamed services. Pastor Matt will install the system. Ben Atkins made a motion to approve this amount and Houston Manning seconded it. Motion passed. She then reported that she had asked Larry Sprinkle, the organ tuner, he would accept a down payment of \$17,036.61 for adding pipes to the organ. He was unwilling to accept the money upfront. He called Cindy later to inform her that he had a set of oboe pipes in his shop that came from Grove Park Inn which he had dismantled in 1967.

He will install one octave of these pipes when he is here this week and if we like them he will donate to us. This is a value of about \$15,000-18,000 today. He will then work up an estimate to install all the pipes and make them usable. Cindy concluded by saying they had reviewed the process of counting money and assured us that they are following the process.

20. At Large Members: Henry Brunson reported that he was glad to be back.

21. Pastor: Pastor Matt thanked everyone for all their hard work. He realizes there are a lot of “thankless jobs” that must be done.

22. Recording Secretary: Millie George, absent.

Donna Bethea thanked those that are leaving the council and asked that they please help new members if they are in a leadership role. She has scheduled a “deep cleaning” of the Fellowship Hall for the week of January 15-20th. There is a signup sheet and a list of chores to be completed. You may sign up for any amount of time, on any day. Some items may have to be contracted out. The Leadership Team will be meeting to determine some goals for our church and they will need input from other church members.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Bethea and Louise Ellis (for Millie George)

Approved by Church Council on 1/28/2024

Preliminary Report

Committee for Wesleyan/Methodist Denominational Comparison

The purpose of this committee is to compare possible options for possible church affiliations to help the congregation decide the future direction for the church.

We are in the process of gathering information to help the congregation answer questions that they might have in this area. We hope this will be helpful and please let us know if you have any additional questions or thoughts.

Many of the churches that have decided to disaffiliate from the United Methodist denomination have joined or are in the process of joining the Global Methodist denomination. This is a new denomination, very similar to the United Methodist denomination, which is forming because of disagreements with the possible future direction of the United Methodist Church.

Because of the high degree of interest in this denomination we have focused our initial attention on the Global Methodist Church. The other denominations are, of course, also an option and deserve consideration. Becoming an independent church is also a possibility although it would present some difficult issues for a church as small as ours.

No matter what the choice there will be changes.

The Global Methodist Church is very similar to the current United Methodist Church but there are differences. *More conservative than UMC*

Probably best
choice for us.*

The Book of Doctrines and Discipline has been changed by the Global Methodist Church, but it is still very similar to the United Methodist Church. It gives the local churches more control of things as outlined in the chart. It still needs to be approved. There will likely be changes to Book of Doctrines and Discipline for the United Methodist Church as well.

The Global Methodist Church has no trust clause, so the church property belongs to the local church. If a local church decides to leave the Global Methodist Church, they can do so and keep their property.

The Global Methodist Church has agreements with universities to serve as seminaries for future pastors.

The Global Methodist Church has a process to provide health and disability insurance for the pastor and other employees as well as a retirement system.

Our Bishop, at the recent South Carolina UMC Conference Annual Convention, expressed his desire to maintain a close relationship with churches that disaffiliate. He said that our mission is still the same and we will still be able to support the same missions if that is what we decide to do.

WESLEYAN/METHODIST DENOMINATIONAL COMPARISON

Denomination	Doctrine	Trust Clause	Bishops	Clergy Appt.	Apportionments	Size	History
United Methodist	Wesleyan, lack of accountability	Yes, local church holds property for conference	Elected for life	Yearly appointed by bishop/DS, some congregational input	7-15 percent of budget (varies by annual conference)	13 million members globally, 6.2 million in U.S., 30,000 churches (2020)	Founded 1968, merger of predecessor denominations founded in 1784, 1800, and 1803
Global Methodist	Wesleyan, adds Nicene and Apostles Creed, More robust accountability	No	Elected for a term (TBD at Convening GC) Likely 12-year limit	Appointed by bishop/DS, more congregational input, possible congregational search	2 percent of operating income, with a 6.5 percent cap	Projected 2,400 to 4,000 churches, 240,000 to 400,000 members in U.S. (2024)	Founded 2022
Free Methodist	Wesleyan	Yes, local church holds property for conference; property transferring in is exempt	Elected to 4-year terms, re-electable	Appointed by Ministerial Appointments Committee chaired by bishop	10-13 percent of previous year's income	77,000 members in U.S., 1,050 churches (2015)	Founded 1860, issues were abolishing slavery and eliminating pew rent
Wesleyan	Wesleyan	Yes, local church holds property for conference	One General Superintendent, 4-year term, re-electable	Congregational call system	11 percent of income	125,000 members, 1,500 churches in U.S. (2019)	Founded 1843, issue was abolishing slavery
Nazarene	Wesleyan	Yes, local church holds property for conference	Six General Superintendents, 4-year terms, re-electable	Congregational call system	15 percent of income, includes pastor's retirement	637,000 members, 5,280 churches in U.S. (2016)	Founded 1908, issue was focus on holiness
Congregational Methodist	Wesleyan	No	One president, minimal authority	Congregational call system	Decided by local church	15,000 members, 150 churches in U.S.	Founded 1852, issue was congregational government

The United Methodist Church – umc.org

Global Methodist Church – globalmethodist.org

Free Methodist Church – fmcusa.org

Wesleyan Church – Wesleyan.org

Church of the Nazarene – Nazarene.org

Congregational Methodist Church – cm-church.org

Considered by Trust Clause Economically Feasible

LUMC CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING January 28, 2024

The Church Council met on Sunday, January 28, 2024, at 3:30 in the Ladies Chapel.

Members Present: Ione Allen, Donna Bethea, Henry Brunson, Marsden Cox, Jim Ellis, Louise Ellis, Becky Gaddy, Richard Gaddy, Millie George, Sam Johnston, Corky Lane, Cindy LeGette, Debbie Manning, Jerry Martin, Pastor Matthew Scott, Abbott Shelley, Ruthann Wooten.

Non-Council Member Present: Lafon Legette.

Chair Donna Bethea welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened with prayer. The roll was taken. She introduced new Church Council members: Jim Ellis, Church Council Vice-Chair, Becky Gaddy will report for SPRC, Sam Johnston, Finance Chair, Wade Brown, Jr., Trustee Chair.

Donna stated that two typographical errors were corrected in the November 26 minutes, and they were approved by email.

Donna reminded members of the special Church Conference Meeting on February 4 to vote to separate from the United Methodist Church. She encouraged members to attend and to remind others of the meeting.

Disaffiliation Update: Pastor Matt received 23 pledge cards with a lower amount of \$96,900 and a higher amount of \$111,400. Some pledges were listed in a range of amounts. The total buyout amount is \$125,000. There are funds available to make up the difference.

Corky Lane was asked by a church member if a 2/3 vote was required in the Book of Discipline. He did not find it in the Book of Discipline, but it is required in the Agreement to Separate.

Donna Bethea said she had received three returned emails from the Church Roll members: Susan Wilson Berry, Denise Ard, and David Haselden. She will send out an email reminder to church members prior to the Conference meeting on 2/4.

Millie George suggested setting up registration for the Conference meeting on February 4 at the front of the sanctuary to prevent congestion at the Church Street door. Donna Bethea thinks both appointed trustees should be available to Millie during registration should questions arise about membership. Ushers will also be at both doors to assist with the registration process.

Council Members' Reports:

1. Lay Leader: Corky Lane. See Corky's previous comments above under **Disaffiliation Update**. Corky stated that Pastor Matt was back on a regular basis after his recent absences. Church members had expressed concerns. Pastor Matt has been visiting church members.
2. Lay Delegate: Jerry Martin, no report.
3. United Women in Faith: Ruthann Wooten reported that United Women in Faith would meet again February 19. World Day of Prayer is March 1, and soup would probably be provided.
4. Men's Group Representative: Corky Lane reported that he had received three requests for ramps. He will refer two of the three to other churches. One for Lee Finklea is planned for Saturday.

5. Church Missions: Rhonda Dew, absent.
6. Evangelism: Debbie Manning, no report.
7. Nurture/Outreach: Ione Allen reported a wonderful bereavement meal was prepared for the family of Rose Merry Bethea in her home. She thanked all who helped. Ione and Lisa Driggers, LUMC Office Administrator, continue to update the bulletin prayer list.
8. Church Historian: Houston Manning, absent.
9. Worship: Louise Ellis reported that she is working on the Easter Lily order and the Easter cross. She said communion is on schedule before Easter, including Maundy Thursday.
10. Children's Coordinator: Sheldon & Shelley Bethea, absent.
11. Youth Directors: Sheldon & Shelley Bethea, absent.
12. Disaster Relief Coordinator: Pastor Matt, no report.
13. Interim Music Director: Cindy LeGette said choir practice will be held this Wednesday from 5:30 to 7:00. She invited anyone who would like to sing to join the choir. She reported that the organ builder is working on the pipes. All money available has been paid for this project. When the builder finishes, \$1,890 will be due.
14. SS Superintendent: Becky Gaddy said two weeks ago, there was an increase in attendance. There were 69 in Sunday School and 66 in Church.
15. Membership Secretary: Donna Bethea reported for Laura Gasque that two additional membership letters were sent out since the last Church Council meeting. One member asked to stay on the roll. The other member asked to be dropped. Donna will provide a final membership roll before the Conference meeting on February 4.
16. Church Treasure: Richard Gaddy, no report.
17. Trustees: Pastor Matt reported for Wade Brown, Jr. New officers were elected: Wade Brown, Jr. is the new Trustee chair. He emphasized that work order forms should be filled out prior to beginning any work project. Long term and short term projects were discussed. **Pastor Matt reported the parsonage master bedroom carpet has been removed, and the hardwood floor under the carpet has been refinished.**
18. SPRC: Becky Gaddy reported that a meeting was held at Mt. Andrew on January 23. Lauren Rogers is the new chairperson. There was discussion on what the committee is to do, and there was a brief discussion on disaffiliation.
19. Finance: Sam Johnston reported the Finance Committee met on January 10. The 2024 YTD budget is **\$234,185.75**. As of 12/31/23, YTD Actual Tithes and Offerings were \$195,741. The YTD expenditures were \$179,640.95. All required expenses for 2023 have been paid. The balances as of 12/31/2023 are: Operating \$85,354.77; Agency Account \$9,763.01; Trustee Memorials \$7,437.59; Savings Account \$58,655.98; LUMC Scholarship CD \$18,186.36; MH Cox, Jr Scholarship CD \$48,729.52. LUMC Scholarship CD will be due in February at 3.95% interest, and \$1,500 will be placed in the Operating Account. Finance Committee reviewed the pledge cards and voted that any shortage in the cost to disaffiliate and the amount pledged will be paid out of Savings Account. Amanda Morrell is the Recording Secretary of the Finance Committee. Henry Brunson made a motion for the Church Council to approve any difference in the amounts pledged (\$13,600 to \$28,100) be covered by the Savings Account. The motion was approved.
20. At Large Members: Henry Brunson questioned if a member needed to leave the sanctuary on February 4 at the conference meeting after registering but before voting, would he/she be allowed back in to vote. Pastor Matt replied "No" if member left before voting. Henry stated he had attended this church all his life, and he thanked all members for their friendship.

Pastor: Pastor Matt reported that a Streaming meeting was held at 2:00 today. All equipment has been installed, purchased, and four volunteers have been trained. The phone will serve as a backup. A link will be posted on Facebook page and posted in the bulletin. Pastor Matt has received his official Reappointment Letter as pastor for the 2024/25 year. There is an App for prayer request that the Bible Study group is currently using. Pastor Matt plans to expand the use of this App for all church members, and they can sign up using texting or email. Louise Ellis reminded members to use the prayer request sheet in the back of the church which is helpful for Pastor Matt and Ione Allen.

Recording Secretary: Millie George thanked Louise Ellis for recording the November minutes in her absence. Millie will serve as Recording Secretary for the vote on February 4. She learned that she will not be asked to record minutes, but that a form in triplicate will be filled in and signed showing results of the vote.

Donna Bethea said she was really bothered with the stained carpet in the Fellowship Hall. She knew Trustees had a long-range plan to replace the carpet, but she would like this to be considered sooner. Pastor Matt asked that she fill out a work order and present it to the Trustees.

Donna said the Leadership Team met and talked about goals for 2024. Donna will email out suggestions.

Donna asked members to pray this week leading up to the Conference meeting on February 4. In closing she asked members to pray with her the Breakthrough Prayer. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Bethea and Millie George

LUMC CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
March 17, 2024

The Church Council met on Sunday, March 17, 2024, at 3:30 in the Ladies Chapel.

Members Present: Ben Atkins, Donna Bethea, Sheldon Bethea, Marsden Cox, Johnny Dew, Jim Ellis, Louise Ellis, Becky Gaddy, Richard Gaddy, Sam Johnston, Corky Lane, Cindy LeGette, Debbie Manning, Jerry Martin, Pastor Matthew Scott, Abbott Shelley, Ruthann Wooten.

Non-Council Member Present: Jimmy Ard

Chair Donna Bethea welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened with prayer.

Donna stated that she received two corrections to the January 28 minutes and emailed the corrected minutes to all members. With no other corrections or additions Louise Ellis made a motion to accept the corrected minutes with a second from Ben Atkins. **Motion:** Approved

Donna then thanked Marsden Cox and Pastor Matt for assistance in taking notes during this meeting. The current recording secretary, Millie George, resigned so Donna asked for a volunteer to replace her. Louise Ellis volunteered to fill the position of Recording Secretary for the remainder of 2024. Cindy LeGette made a motion to accept Louise as the Recording Secretary and Corky Lane seconded the motion. **Motion:** Approved with one nay
Donna expresses her sincere gratitude to Louise.

Disaffiliation Discussion: Jerry Martin provided a summary of his committee's findings and recommendation of our future affiliation. (Handout attached) After discussion, Louise Ellis made a motion to accept the recommendation of beginning the process to affiliate with the Global Methodist Church with the understanding that a Global Methodist Church representative would come speak to the committee prior to a called church conference. Cindy LeGette seconded the motion. **Motion:** Approved

Council Members' Reports:

1. Youth Directors: Sheldon Bethea reported that youth are still alternating between the two churches on Sunday's and meeting in Dillon on Wednesday. The youth are attending a revival tonight in Marion and currently doing a study of Revelation. Many are planning to attend the FCA retreat and made comments of the excellent work of FCA District Coordinator Carol Edwards. Youth will spend the first week of April (Spring Break) at the beach.
2. Lay Leader: Corky Lane, no report
3. Lay Delegate: Jerry Martin, no report.
4. Ladies Ministry Representative: Ruthann Wooten reported that the women decided to not continue as part of the United Women of Faith. The morning circle has paused meeting until September. The night circle will continue to meet and pledge as normal and decide where monies will go.
5. Men's Group Representative: Corky Lane reported two ramps were built since the last meeting at no cost to us. Latta Baptist Church provided funds since both ramp recipients were members.

The Men's Sunday School class sponsored one student to attend the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) retreat on March 22-24.

6. Church Missions: Donna provided Rhonda Dew's report: The Church Missions will be providing bagged "supper" for those attending the FCA retreat March 22 – 24 and ask everyone to be in prayer for the retreat.
7. Evangelism: Debbie Manning, no report but asked for anyone to please contact her if they had ideas or suggestions.
8. Nurture/Outreach: Ione Allen, absent.
9. Church Historian: Houston Manning, absent.
10. Worship: Louise Ellis reported that Easter Lilies are ordered, and two artificial arrangements were donated to be used next year as fill in when needed.
11. Disaster Relief Coordinator: Pastor Matt, no report.
12. Interim Music Director: Cindy LeGette encouraged the church to begin looking for a paid music employee by July or once major decisions are made regarding affiliation. She enjoys working with the new members of the choir.
13. SS Superintendent: Becky Gaddy, no report.
14. Membership Secretary: no updates
15. Church Treasurer: Richard Gaddy, no report.
16. Trustees: Pastor Matt reported for Wade Brown, Jr. working on projects and trying to prioritize. Receipt of quotes for changing air filters, painting, and flooring.
17. SPRC: Becky Gaddy reported the committee has not met but will meet in April.
18. Finance: Sam Johnston reported as of 2/29/2024, YTD Actual Tithes and Offerings are \$22,365. The YTD expenditures are \$26,638.32. The balances as of 2/29/2024 are: Operating \$79,325.52; Agency Account \$12,149.74; Trustee Memorials \$7,702.59; Savings Account \$60,775.98; LUMC Scholarship CD \$18,484.17; MH Cox, Jr Scholarship CD \$48,507.65. Disaffiliation funds collected as of 3/3/2024 \$46,035.00.
19. At Large Members: Ben Atkins reported that he and Jane had visited Ione Allen and she was doing well. In Henry Brunson's absence, Donna reported that Cooks for Christ is planning a fund raiser for Lisa Driggers' nephew on April 18, 2024, and would like to use our church as a substation. Corky Lane made a motion to allow Cooks for Christ to use our church. Abbott Shelley seconded the motion. **Motion**: Approved Johnny Dew thanked Michael Bethea and Corky Lane for cutting the grass and clearing leaves. Johnny will fill a sink hole near the sidewalk that is between the Men's Hut and the Fellowship Building on Monday.
20. Pastor: Pastor Matt requested when the Global Methodist Church representative is scheduled that we also invite Mt. Andrew. To be more involved in the community, Pastor Matt along with the Missions and Evangelism committees would like to host a Block Party/Celebration sometime around the end of May or beginning of June. Debbie Manning made a motion to start planning and preparations for a community Block Party/Celebration sometime at the end of May – beginning of June. Corky Lane seconded the motion. **Motion**: Approved
21. Recording Secretary:
22. Church Council Vice Chair: Jim Ellis, no report
23. Church Council Chair: Donna Bethea reminded council about the Check List for Disaffiliation. Ask the council to think about: Are you satisfied with where we are as a church? In not, what can you personally do to make it better? Do you have a vision of what you want our church to be and if so, what needs to be done to make it look like it?

Donna thanked everyone for their attendance and all their work. She asked to please remember to keep the FCA retreat, the July mission trip, and our church in your daily prayers. Next meeting scheduled for May 19th.

Pastor Matt closed with prayer.

Louise Ellis made a motion to adjourn seconded by Ben Atkins. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Bethea aided by notes from Pastor Matt Scott and Marsden Cox, III

Our committee on denominations has been asked to make a recommendation on a future denomination selection this Sunday. We do not have to decide what direction we will take right now, but we do need to be prepared when disaffiliation is approved by the United Methodist Church Annual Conference this summer. Once disaffiliation is approved, we need to have a plan completed and ready to implement for Pastor Matt's retirement plan, a set of rules to govern the church, a plan for outside ministries, a plan for insurance for employees, financial arrangements, etc. We could do this in one of two ways. One way is to do everything ourselves and be independent. The other way is to join another denomination.

If we decide to join another denomination the most likely choice, from everything we have heard, is the Global Methodist Church. The congregation will vote on whether or not to join. If we do this, we will need to complete the paperwork for an application to join. This will take time.

It has been suggested by members of the committee that we go ahead and submit the paperwork to join the Global Methodist Church. This does not oblige us to do anything. If we decide **not** to join, we don't have to. If we decide to join, the paperwork will be done, and we can join in time to take care of everything required in the transition.

One advantage of joining the Global Methodist Church is if we decide we don't like it, we can leave at any time with no penalty.

We need to have a plan to implement during the time just after our disaffiliation is approved. We either need to take care of everything ourselves or join a denomination that already has it taken care of. We are actually **not** deciding between the two choices right now but preparing for a possible future decision.

It has also been suggested that we ask a representative from the Global Methodist Church to come and talk to our church members about the new denomination before the congregation votes on whether to join or not.