

St. Mark United Methodist Church

Church Council Meeting Minutes

Date: August 28, 2022 **Time:** 12:30 pm **Location:** Room 111

The **August 2022** meeting of the **Church Council** was held in person in Room 111 on August 28, 2022. Mitch Foster, Council Vice Chair, Presided.

In Attendance

(In Person)

1. Pastor Carolyn Stephens
2. Mitch Foster
3. Eric Steverson
4. Greg Washington
5. Darrell Card Harper
6. Joel Black
7. Deana Hilton
8. Belva White
9. Robert Gileo
10. Noey Barrerra
11. Karen Podett
12. Bob Brown
13. Jess Cusick
14. Lily Berrios

In Attendance

(Virtually)

1. Deana Hilton
2. Mary Abbott Waite
3. Jon Woody

The meeting was Called to Order at 12:35 by Mitch Foster.

Pastor Carolyn Stephens led the council in prayer.

Belva White moved to approve the July 2022 meeting minutes, Greg Washington seconded, all in favor, motion passed.

REPORTS

- Pastor Carolyn - Proposals from Social Justice Committee
- Proposal about stance on website about Social Justice
 - Denomination idea on social justice.
- No guns on the premises
 - Smaller signs no banners.
- Georgia – Law Sign – Code Section 16-11-127(c)

Respectfully submitted by Eric Steverson, Church Council Secretary

- When was the last active shooter training?
 - Pastor Carolyn is going to reach out to Josh Noblitt to coordinate Active Shooter training.
 - Training to include, Staff, Ushers, Greeters, Sunday School Teachers.
- Trustees and Endurability
 - Walked with the committee
 - Pray that God will intervene that things move quickly
 - Priorities of the congregation.
 - Pathway – where do we see ourselves going?
- Trustees to bring to the board, the Endurability recommendations.
- Entrusted by the congregation to make these changes.
 - Stalling a little too long.
- ACTION Item: Agenda item update
- From this Church Council who updates the Communication team?
 - One designated person from the board to speak on behalf of the board.
- Need to keep the congregation abreast of what is going on with their money and that we honor their trust.
- In prep for September meeting, Endurability & Trustees
 - Formal presentation to congregation
 - Roadmap of how we communicate
 - Next steps are...
- Apportionments – North Georgia Conference supports Saint Mark.
 - Makes us ineligible for certain grants because of why are not paying our apportionments.
 - Young Adult Pastor – 3-year salary, grant
 - 100% coverage for first year.
 - Equitable compensation.
 - Apportionments are a form of our tithing. In connection with the larger denomination.
 - Current apportionment < \$33K

Connectivity/Hospitality

- Robert Gileo presented
- Pew pads now to sign in and actual pads to sit on.

Saint Mark Prime

- Retired on times on their hands.
- Hosted a lunch with Carolyn.
- Looking at other things later in the year.
- Bremen Museum.
- Organ 101 with Jon Easter.
- Possible Delta Flight Museum.
- Master Chorale concert.
- Advertise in the Remarks.

Ministries

- Nice Saint Mark folder for visitors.
- Backpack tag
- Saint Mark Yeti Cup.
- Saint Mark ink pens.

IT Multimedia

- New camera needed – proposals needed.
- District offers grants – knowing where to look.
- Digital Media Specialist – Jessica Blackwood.
- Loop in Gil Moor – instrumental in sound system.

Solidarity

No Report

Finance

Refer to reports distributed as part of meeting packet for August 28, 2022 meeting.

Trustees

The Trustees presented a proposal to engage a new sub-committee of the Trustees which focuses on interior design standards. The guidelines will serve as a charter and framework under which the Interior Design Advisory Subcommittee (IDAS) will operate. These guidelines incorporate the following principles:

1. Welcoming Environment
2. Standard Color Palettes and Uniformity

The IDAS's first focus will be to develop standard color palettes, which will provide the paint colors which can be used in the defined areas of the church. These color palettes will be presented to the Trustees and the Church Council for consideration and approval. Any painting projects for the church properties will then be selected from the color boards. No paint colors should be changed without following this process.

Action Item: For the September meeting, the Trustees are to meet with the Endurability Committee and develop a communication plan including:

Presentation deck for Church Council, which could then be shared with the congregation

1. explain the process followed by the Endurability, the recommended priorities and reasons
2. recognition of the needs shared by the congregation in the earlier survey, which ones are going to be included in the plan, and which ones are not – and why
3. roadmap and next steps
4. Communication and update plan
5. The progress will be a standard agenda item for the Trustees to provide a formal update to the Church Council of actions taken and progress made

All in favor, motion passed

Moved to Executive Session at 2:10pm.