

Village United Methodist Church
Church Council Minutes
July 30, 2017

Time of meeting: 12:15 PM
Presiding Officer: Nancy Gowen-Nieser
Recording Secretary: Keith Shideler

Nancy Gowen-Nieser called the meeting to order. Elaine Robinson, Pastor, opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last meeting on April 30, 2017, were not printed for Council review and approval. They had been electronically mailed to Council Chairs and then staff-- the first week of May. Secretary Keith Shideler indicated printed April 2017 and July 2017 minutes would be available for the Council's approval at our next meeting in October.

Ministry Reports

Worship Committee Report – Peggy Clifton gave the attached Worship Committee report. Highlights include volunteer recruitment for the Pro-Presenter slide presentations and soundboard for Sunday services, investigation for a new Sound System for the sanctuary, and monitoring of the new worship times and attendance.

Missions Report – Annette Fisher, Chairperson, gave the attached Missions Committee report. June and July Skyline Pantry donations totaled \$2,440—August and September will focus on Johnson Elementary teacher needs, —September, October, and November will kick off Coats for Kids for Johnson and Ridgeview Elementary Schools, — and in December children in foster care in the Circle of Care system will be helped by our Angel Tree program.

Annual Conference Report— Annette Fisher and Ginger Clark were our delegates. Annette shared the attached report that highlights things that were meaningful to her. She noted the commissioning of our own Trey Witzel into the ministry at St. Luke's which was also attended by many of our members along with the reception.

Youth/Children's Ministry- Jeremy Davis, our new Youth Director, was welcomed by the group. He noted that he was a youth in our church from 1992 to 1994 and he has many pleasant memories and that it's great to be back!! Summer Sunday School is averaging about 6, so far, and it is anticipated that numbers will grow as school starts. Jeremy will encourage the Youth (the Church of Today!!) to attend, participate and be involved in the Sunday Worship services—grooming them as they go for roles in the warship services. Jeremy indicated that a Youth Committee meeting would be held soon—and he requested new lay volunteers to help on the committee. Upcoming Youth events are Saint Yootz day @ Frontier City on August 12th, Colorfest, @ Church of the God Shepard on August 20th. Jeremy plans to kick off a 21-week study for Youth Sunday afternoons that examines the life and principles of John Wesley. Finally, Jeremy will seek approval for a Fall Retreat Trip (October 20-22) to the Space Center in Houston, Texas. Cost will be \$120.00 for hotel and food. Sponsors will be recruited to help with this event.

UMW Women – Peggy Clifton, UMW President reported that In May, this group joined with the Missions Committee to support the Hope Pregnancy project. UMW held the Annual Birthday Bash (Fried Chicken Dinner w/fixings) on June 11th, and on July 21st they served a reception for the Dee-Kennedy-Ferguson family. Upcoming events are the Tea and Book Review on August 19th, and the Circles will resume meetings in September after their summer break. *See the attached detailed report.*

Administrative Reports

Trustee's Report – Reed Clifton, Chair, reported that the committee hasn't met during the Summer months but they will resume in September. They have completed the upgrade and striping of the parking lot recently. They plan to replace the concrete entrance to the Playground Equipment soon with a balance that remains in the Playground funds (about \$1,400). The floors will be cleaned soon when the YMCA is over for the summer—last professionally cleaned about 2.5 years ago—and funds were set aside (about \$2,000) for this in the Trustee's budget. A new group will begin meeting on the first Saturday evening of each month, OKC Traditional Music Association--- www.octma.org—revenue to the church will be \$250.00 a month. The public is invited to their meetings.

Finance Report – David Selby gave this report for Greg Self, Chair. He reported that the Committee would be meeting on August 8th after some summer break. The minimal apportionments to the Conference are being paid, and we haven't had to borrow money for payroll.

Staff Parish Relations - Dab Smith, Chair, reported that staff hiring includes Daniel Taborda, Choir—Jeremy Davis, Youth—and Mindy Hammock, Child Care. Openings remain for Church Administrator and Children's Director. He believes the committee may have a candidate for Children's Director and they are in the process of 3 interviews recently for the Church Administrator. The Committee has created a Hiring procedure for VUMC, which will help in these activities and in the future. Some discussion developed about the Desk Volunteers and their time management, direction, and security. Pastor Robinson assured everyone *that* this will be a duty of the new Church Administrator, supervised by the Pastoral Team. *The Herald* will be out next week as usual— and we will all be patient in this staffing transition, hopefully finalized soon.

VUMC Foundation - Carl Pojezny, Chair, not in attendance and no report.

Communication Report – Garry Thompson, Chair, indicated the Committee has taken the summer off in June and July and expect to convene again on August 15th. They look forward to welcoming Carlos Ramirez as a new staff committee member—and they look forward to addressing and developing a mission statement for the committee.

Administrative Council-Nancy Gowen-Nieser advised that this group met two weeks ago. Finance, SPRC and Trustees were discussed much like in this meeting. Reverend Robinson recognized some challenges with this new Council in more meetings and some duplication. After she researched a Single-Board organizational structure, and realizing it has been approved by the District Superintendent and our Church Council—she developed two charts for comparison of the Current Organization Chart of VUMC and a Single Board Organizational Chart for VUMC. (Charts attached) These charts show workflow, staffing, and lay needs. Elaine summarized that a Single Board setup should allow for a more streamlined decision-making structure and direct accountability of Pastors and Staff. The Administrative group will continue to work on setting up the New Leadership Table Single Board structure with expected implementation of January 1, 2018. Their work will include leadership and membership responsibilities in these roles and tables (coming primarily from existing committee leaders and members) that are a part of the nomination process for Charge Conference reports in the Fall of 2017.

New Business- Peggy Clifton discussed a need of a structured Hospitality Committee for outside special events to support these outside groups with hospitality and security (weddings, funerals, concerts, sewing groups, etc.). It was decided that this will be a topic for the Administrative Council and possibly as we are staffed with the Church Administrator, this will be a role and process that will be addressed and managed in this area. This will be discussed in more detail at the next Church Council meeting. Nancy requested that the Church Council Minutes be published on the website and this will begin with these minutes. Carlos briefly mentioned that work has begun on the Fall Festival, (community event, bouncy houses, band outside) and he has begun meeting with the Principal of Johnson Elementary and he is excited about several partnering activities that should be developed soon. Pat Bonner stated how much she appreciated the New Pastoral Team and their smiles, energy, enthusiasm, hard work and their availability in our short time with them. This created a rousing round of applause!!

Nancy advised that our next Church Council meeting is scheduled for Sunday, October 29th at 12:15 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Carlos closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectively Submitted, Keith Shideler, Church Secretary 8-4-17

**VUMC – Worship Committee
Report to Church Council**

July 30,2017

The Worship Committee meets with the co-pastors to review past and upcoming *services*.

The committee is still looking for volunteers to assist with the Pro-Presenter slide presentation and soundboard during the Sunday services. Training will be provided. The Pro-Presenter slide presentation is prepared by others and all that is needed is clicking through the slides. You can contact either Phil Brooks, Phil Farrill or Peggy Clifton for more information and to sign up for this vital service opportunity.

It will be necessary to update the sound system. Parts of the speakers were damaged when the amplifier shorted out during the Good Friday Service. The current wireless equipment is using frequencies that will no longer be allowed. We are appreciative to the Conference for the loan of the speaker system for the Praise Band. The Co-Pastors, Trustees, Worship and Finance Committees are working on details and estimates.

It appears the church is settling in with the new worship times. We are delighted to see ~~new~~ and returning faces at the Sunday services, The choir is enjoyed at the 9:00 traditional service and the Praise Band is wonderful at the 11:00 contemporary service.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peggy Clifton

Worship Committee

Mission Report
for
Church Council
July 30, 2017

In June & July:

Funds donated for the Skyline Food Pantry are \$1,220.00. An anonymous donor will match the funds, making a total of \$2,440.00 that will be donated to Skyline. Ellen Pederson was in charge of that mission,

In August & September:

Johnson Elementary teachers have reported back to class and are making plans for the new school year. Instead of buying supplies from their general list, we have asked the teachers to Make a Wish for specific items for their classroom. The items may be purchased at Lakeshore Learning store on May Ave. Then, hopefully you can stay in touch with the teacher you select throughout the school year. This personal contact will be meaningful for the teacher and the giver. A teachers' name and wish list will be posted in the lobby soon.

In September, October & November:

Coats for Kids will be bought and distributed as the weather cools. Rick and Linda Poole will be the purchasers. Village UMC & the Village Lions Club will donate funds for the coats that will go to needy Johnson & Britton Elementary students.

In late November & December:

Children in foster care in the Circle of Care system will be our mission in December through their Angel Tree program. Ginger Langston will be in charge.

2017 Oklahoma Annual Conference Report

The scripture that was before us each day of the conference was Matthew 9:38. Ask the Lord in charge of the harvest to send out workers to bring it in. And we were reminded that we are the workers.

The theme word was *WHY?* All were asked to reflect on personal reasons for being a Christian and a United Methodist. Bishop Jimmy Nunn chaired the conference and addressed it several times during the four days May 29-June 1 that was held at the Freede Center at OCU and St. Luke's UMC. Bishop Nunn, who is from West Texas, spoke using folksy stories and humor to deliver his message, reminiscent of Will Rogers and Mark Twain.

As I walked into the first session on Tuesday morning some people were standing at the door handing these stoles out if we wanted one. The inscription inside says: "Wearing this stole advocates for full inclusion of all persons in the United Methodist Church." I wore this all week as a reminder.

The conference business was mixed in with reports from our different areas of mission throughout the state. I'm going to highlight some reports that were special and meaningful to me.

First, was the New People New Places grant awards. They impacted people throughout the state and were granted for missions ranging from after school programs to prevention of homelessness.

Second, I was excited about our Circle of Care response to address the needs of siblings who are within the foster care system. The Legacy of Care is a creative vision that will keep children together in the system.

On Wednesday evening, I attended the Service of Commissioning and Ordination of Elders at St. Luke's UMC. Fifteen were commissioned and 5 were ordained. Our own Trey Witzel was commissioned into the ministry and many of you were then to stand up for him and greet him at the reception.

Thank you, church, for sending me as your Lay Member of Annual Conference this year.

I'll close with a prayer that Bishop Nunn asked us to pray in preparation and during the conference.

O God, bless The United Methodist Church to carry forward the mission that you have entrusted to her. Shine the light of your grace so that the darkness of sin is extinguished. Make your Church radiate love, grace and forgiveness just like the biblical city on a hill, with such great glow that all can see.

We especially pray this week for illumination for the members of the Commission on a Way Forward, who will be recommending "a way forward" on human sexuality issues to the United Methodist Church's Council of Bishops. When the members feel lost, alone or overwhelmed, steer them to the way that leads forward to you. Shine your light upon their path. May the brilliance of that light purify and empower them as well as us, your people in every church, to push ever forward in world-transforming work for you.

O God, show them and us the next step in the journey. Grant clarity and peace of mind. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen. Bishop Nunn

Annette Fisher

Lay Member of Annual Conference

**W M C – United Methodist Women
Report to Church Council**

July 30, 2017

In May the UMW joined with the Missions Committee for a "Mission for Mothers" Project. Along with the congregation, we collected newborn onesies and other items that were donated to The Hope Pregnancy Center, one of our local *missions*. The Sit and Sew Fellowship made Positive bags that the center fills with a Bible, information, and other items to give to the women. The bags are an ongoing project of the Sit and Sew Fellowship

June 11 was the Birthday Bash. Everyone enjoyed fried chicken and all the fixings as we celebrated everyone's birthdays. This was a fun fellowship time and a successful fundraiser thanks to the support of our church family.

On July 21 we served a reception for the Dee Kennedy-Ferguson family following her Celebration of Life.

Tickets are available, starting today, for the Tea and Book Review to be held Saturday, August 19 at noon. Patti Pojezny will review one of her favorite books.

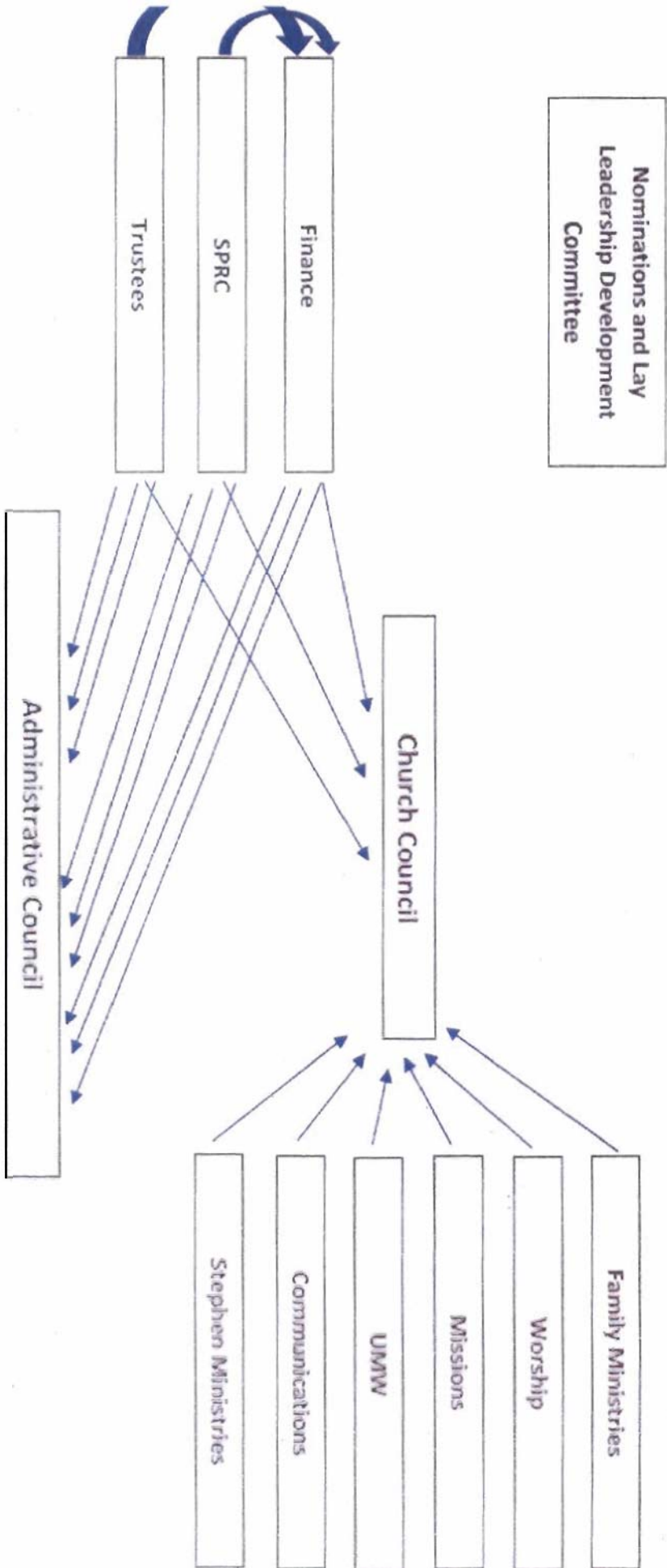
The Circles have taken off from meetings this summer but will resume monthly meetings beginning in September.

The UMW is on track to meet our district and other financial obligations for the year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peggy Clifton
UMW President

Current Organizational Chart for Village UMC



Single Board Organizational Chart for Village UMC

Nominations and Lay
Leadership Development
Committee

LEADERSHIP TABLE
(9-13 people)
Responsible for decision making
and accountability of pastors/staff.
Meets monthly

Composition: Lay Leader, AC Delegate, 3 Finance Designees, 3 SPR Designees, 3 Trustee Designees, Pastor. Plus 1-3 others as needed.

Ministries Council
Responsible for coordinating the ministry
committees. Accountable to Leadership Table.
Meets quarterly

Day-to Day Operations and
Decision Making
3 Finance People
3 SPR People
3 Trustees

- Worship
- Missions
- Family Educ.
- UMC
- Stephen Ministries