

DALTON FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

April 28, 2009
Church Parlor

MINUTES

ATTENDING:

Church Council Members present: Cheryl Baucom, Paul Belk, Judge Billy Boyett, Jim Burdick, Paul Byrum, Deck Cheatham, Terry Cullifer, Joe Hallsworth, Jeff Hughes, Blake King, Lou Kirkman, Lowell Kirkman, C. S. Lee, Charles Maret, Bill McDaniel, Dean Orem, Mary Pollard, Trammell Scott, Kerry Sikes, Lynnne Tunnell, Judge Robert Vining, Bob Weathersby, Aquila Wright

Church Staff present: Billy Beard, Susie Brown, Jan Byrum, James Hughes, Peter Infanger, Lindsey Laney, Joe Peabody, Homero Santos

Others present: Amanda Riggle, Bryan Morton, Chuck Upchurch, Amy Cruse

Joe Hallsworth called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Joe Peabody opened the meeting with prayer. Joys and concerns were shared. Those in the hospital are Colton Sherrill, Margaret Kinnamon and Bill Rice, Jr. Recent deaths included Emmaline Goldman.

Jim Burdick moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Motion was seconded by Charles Maret. Minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report – C. S. Lee

Year to date through March 31:

Cash in Bank	\$125,425
Note Balance	\$434,742
Expenses	\$1,364,788
Difference (Short)	\$92,927

Through April 26: (Short) \$122,352

Corrections to the Church calendar – Family Promise will be hosted June 21 through 28.

Annual Conference will be held June 15 through 18. Delegates from DFUMC are Paul Belk, Charles Miller, Lowell Kirkman and the pastoral staff will attend.

Old Business

Temple Beth El

Strategic Planning Committee met the first Monday in April to discuss the possibility of purchasing Temple Beth El. Questions discussed were:

1. Do we want to purchase now?
2. Do we want to think about it for a while?
3. Do we want to pass?

Consensus of Strategic Planning Group – We should wait for now and see what modifications need to be made to the building, how much it will cost, financing (capital campaign or borrow). We should not rush into this, but should think about it for a while. We would like to ask for six months and right of first refusal. The group agrees that Milton Ryman, who was contacted by Julian Saul on behalf of Temple Beth El, should contact Julian Saul to say that we need some time to think about the proposition and ask that we be given the right of first refusal.

Discussion and comments followed.

The question was asked if the Strategic Planning Group envisioned some type of contract and some documentation signifying who was authorized to negotiate a real estate transaction on behalf of the congregation of Temple Beth El.

Concern was voiced about DFUMC setting a price. Our preference would be that Temple Beth El start with their asking price.

Additional comments reminded Council that real estate transactions typically are in writing.

Motion from Strategic Planning Group, presented by Joe Hallsworth:

Milton Ryman will contact Julian Saul for Temple Beth El and discuss some kind of contract giving Dalton FUMC the right of first refusal for six months in the event Temple Beth El has someone with an interest in the property.

Discussion and Comments:

Do we have a plan for what we would do with the building? The Strategic Planning committee is working on plans for the facility. Initial thoughts would be to put the youth lounge in the basement and ReMix in the Sanctuary. Do we want to lock ourselves into six months? Is the reason we are interested because our property surrounds the Temple property? If we had that space could we find a beneficial use for it? Yes, we could find a beneficial use for the building. Idea was to give us time to answer the question is this in our best interest or not. Six months tells them we are serious and also gives us a deadline. What kind of document should be prepared? Suggestion is that John Neal meet with Strategic Planning and that a memorandum of understanding be drawn up.

Motion from Strategic Planning Committee was seconded by Judge Robert Vining.

Motion carried by voice vote.

John Neal will be asked to attend the next Strategic Planning meeting. (Note - Meeting was subsequently rescheduled for May 11 at 7:00 a.m.).

Joel Group:

Deck Cheatam reported that there will be homework. Each council member is to go back to their committee or work area and decide how the group sees itself in the area of Connection, Building, and Sending. Examples were written on the board:

Connecting (Public events)	Building	Sending
Worship	Sunday School	Mission Trips
Amazing Grace Series	Disciple Study	Personal Witness
	Small Groups	Family Promise

All elements are about building relationships and learning to create an environment of discipleship, invitation, hospitality, volunteerism and outreach.

Reports will be made at the June Council meeting. Take time to determine where your work area fits and ask how we move into a sending event. Please present your best attempt in writing. Again, the assignment is:

How do you fit and how can you move through this process?

Deck reported that representatives of the Joel group will be meeting with consultants from the North Georgia Conference.

Famber Hall and Youth Lounge Renovation

Joe Hallsworth reported that these projects have been taken off hold. Trustees will consider options at their next meeting and will bring a recommendation to Church Council.

New Business

Servant Ministry

Terry Cullifer reported for Servant Ministry. Brenda Griffin, a committee member with many years of experience working with volunteers in large numbers prepared the following suggestions for committees.

Volunteers in churches are often taken for granted. They and the services they provide should be recognized and supported. Church volunteers deserve our constant recognition and gratitude. Their role in the life and ministry of the church is necessary for the effective and faithful functioning of the church. Without volunteers, today's church would not be the driving force of ministry and outreach that we experience.

Each volunteer should have a clear understanding of what is expected of them and how the duties should be performed. Provide job descriptions that are easy to follow and provide any training that will make them more effective and confident in their duties. Be sure this takes place in a timely manner so that your work area will be off to a great start. Notebooks that can be passed to the next committee members will ensure records and information for future reference. Be sure to follow up or be in touch with each volunteer. Avoid hearing the frequently heard remark "I volunteered but never heard from anyone."

Please refer to and use the provided printed list of ways to support and recognize volunteers and the work they do for our church.

An additional handout was presented with suggestions for volunteer recognition and support.

Terry reported that in the next month members of Servant Ministry committee will sit with the chair of each committee. Current method of gathering and disseminating information to the committees is being refined.

Committee Reports:

Lay Leadership: Two delegates (one per ministerial staff person) have been appointed to represent DFUMC at annual conference. Through an oversight, a third delegate was not named. Jim Dykes is a minister on disability and connected to our church and we are entitled to name a lay delegate by virtue to that connection. The Lay Leadership nominated Lowell Kirkman and Joe Hallsworth seconded the motion and motion carried by voice vote.

Joel Group: Joel Group has asked for four additional members. Three nominated by Lay Leadership were approved by unanimous vote. They are: Brian Anderson, Lewis Fordham, and Laurie King.

Communications: Bryan Morton reported that a logo for CBS (Connecting, Building, and Sending) is being designed. The website is up and running. If any committee wants a web page on the site, please let the Communications know.

Recreation: Dean Orem reported that Camp Joy is full and that 8 to 10 have financial issues. If anyone wants to help with these financial needs, please let him or Susie Brown know. Tuition is \$1,000 for the summer or approximately \$109 per week.

Endowment: Bob Weathersby reported that Endowment is preparing two articles for The Chimes. They are discussing Web presence and preparing a letter and updated brochures in the fall.

Paul Byrum shared an announcement about a personal project regarding a DOC-UP Benefit Concert to be held September 26, 2009 at Heritage Point Park. The concert event will be a community-wide event featuring live music and activities for children. Proceeds from the concert will go to support DOC-UP ministries.

Saturday September 26, 2009 will be proclaimed - Bluegrass Bands & Helping Hands Day in Dalton and Whitfield County

It will be a Day of:

1. Awareness about the impact that job loss has had on families in Dalton and North Georgia.
2. A benefit event for DOC-UP Ministries so that they can help prevent families from being evicted from their homes.

3. A Day of Prayer for Families and everyone that is suffering from job loss in North Georgia.

Business Sponsors and Underwriters are still required and Checks should be payable to (this is a special DOC-UP account that Betty setup):

DOC-UP BENEFIT CONCERT BLUEGRASS BANDS & HELPING HANDS

Mailed to: attn: Betty Brant, Director DOC-UP Ministries

C/o FUMC

PO Box 627

Dalton, GA 30722

Trustees:

Replacement doors and new carpet are on the way and will be installed soon. From July 5 to 11 a water shut off valve will be installed and there will be no water on the first floor. This is the first phase of the project and the 2nd and 3rd floors will follow.

Property inspections are complete. Several future projects are being held off as long as possible so we can include them in future budgets.

Weekly Children's Ministries: Amanda Riggle reported for Jody McClurg. 300 women and 20 youth participated in Ladybug Brunch. \$15,000 was raised and these funds will be used for playground renovation.

Worship: No report. Meeting next week.

Methodist Men: Working on a house with First Baptist Church for Family Promise. Possibility of projects with the City of Dalton.

Stewardship: No report.

Evangelism: Cheryl Baucom that there will be a Lunch and Learn May 17 and an upcoming progressive dinner for prospective members. Approximately 12 people are planning to participate.

Lay Leadership: Children's Sunday School volunteers are needed for the summer session. Only a two week commitment is required.

SPR: Trammell Scott reported that Mr. M. A. Barton has retired and a replacement is being sought.

Last Friday Trammell received a call from the District Superintendent informing him that we will have a change in the senior pastor position in June. Joe Peabody has been appointed to the Mt Zion United Methodist Church in Cobb County. Joe's last Sunday preaching will be June 21. An appropriate recognition event will be planned and details will be announced. Dr. Robin Lindsey, District Superintendent of the Athens/Elberton district, is being appointed to Dalton FUMC. His wife Kathy is a retired school teacher and they have two grown sons. Billy Beard will remain as associate pastor.

Staff Reports:

Peter Infanger thanked the Church for giving him the freedom to work with groups like ACT and Dalton High School in their upcoming productions. He has recently met a group of Chattanooga musicians who watch our worship services on television. They appreciate the way we use children and youth in our worship services.

Lindsey Laney reported that 50 youth and parents participated in a sports event. Fourteen of sixteen students will attend the confirmation retreat May 1 through 3. Senior Sunday will be held on Mothers Day. Confirmation Sunday is May 17.

Billy Beard reported that old computers and printers will be carried away for recycling. Just leave them under the tent in the parking lot, and tomorrow is the last day.

Homero Santos reported that Templo Cristo Vive continues to have Sunday School at 11:30 a.m. and worship at 12:30 p.m. Small groups meet on Wednesday. Visitors attended from other churches to sing and have a fellowship meal for Resurrection services on the 12th. Twenty five youth recently went to Lake Winnepesaukah. Ten families are being fed from the food bank evangelistic effort.

Jan Byrum reported that our Day Care inspection was very good. Only two areas of deficiency were cited. Modifications will be made to satisfy record keeping requirements and playground safety issues will be addressed. Jan will be making a proposal for playground renovation using Lady Bug Brunch revenue and working in cooperation with Trustees.

Joe Peabody asked that after the meeting everybody with some spare time help carry old computers and printers out of the room behind the choir area to help get these items out of the way and into the recycle tent in the parking lot.

On a more serious note, Joe stated that Church Council meetings used to be meetings where lay leadership listened to staff talk about programs. Now staff listens as lay leaders talk with energy and enthusiasm about things that are going on.

There being no further reports or business, the meeting was adjourned with prayer at 8:45 p.m.

Next Meeting: 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 26 in The Parlor

Respectfully Submitted

Amy Cruse
Reporting in Diane Neuls' absence