

**Oakdale Emory United Methodist Church
Minutes of Church Council Meeting
March 15, 2011**

Council Members in Attendance:

Kevin Baker	Leslie Myers	Scott Frederick	Joe Long
David Deans	Patti Whitten	Kevin Hagberg	Debbie Goldberg
Ted Strahan	Eileen Buzy	Dick Harris	Annamarie Skinker
Susan Lears –UMW	Bill Maynard	Debbie Emerson	

Staff in Attendance: Anne Jordan, Christy Pendleton

Others in Attendance: Alden English, Kevin Lewis, Bill Nullmeyer, Craig Lopsonzski

Recording Secretary: Damali Kajubi

1. **Opening and Prayer:** Ted Strahan opened the meeting. Christy Pendleton Offered the opening prayer.
2. **Approval of Previous Meeting’s Minutes:** Ted Strahan moved the motion to approve the minutes. Scott Frederick seconded the motion. The Council unanimously approved the minutes.
3. **Pastor’s Reports**
 - **Dave Deans, Associate Pastor**
 - Don MacIntire was hired on 3/1/2011 as Sanctuary choir director
 - Katie Brock has been leading the Mid-Day Meditation service every Wednesday during Lent. The service starts at Noon and ends at 12:45 PM.
 - Dave is looking at strategies for the church to continue to grow and how to get support from the Washington Baltimore Conference
 - Dave plans to visit the Church of the Redeemer in Gaithersburg to see what they are doing
 - **Leslie Myers, Executive Pastor**
 - Oakdale Emory has signed a contract with Zondervan to implement a new communications platform called “The City”. The City is a web-based software platform that integrates the daily life, community, and ministry of the whole church. Anne Jordan will be the lead for the City project. Dave Deans and Leslie will be part of the team. The City platform will help with mission and vision. Once the platform is set up, Oakdale Emory can set up committees so that the city will be populated at launch time in June.
 - A successful diaper Run for Uganda babies raised \$6,000. Leslie plans a trip to Uganda between June 10 and 21st.
 - Leslie said that the work on updating the Next Step Guide is finished this is to help with assimilation of new and current congregants.

- Kevin Baker, Senior Pastor
 - Mary Johnson to represent Oakdale Emory at a conference with the Bishop of Euro-Asia in Oklahoma City.
 - Looking to see if one or two members of Oakdale Emory will go to Egypt to do some training.
 - Kevin requested Council Members to donate relief efforts in Japan through UMCOR
 - Kevin continues to work on 6 new strategic initiatives
 - Kevin is working with Kevin Lewis, Chairman of the Capital Campaign
 - Has spent a lot of time managing crises. Many members of the congregation have had health and marital crises

4. New Business –

a – Floor

- No new business items were introduced
- Council thanked Christy Pendleton, Debbie Emerson and Katie Brock for filling in for Allison Sarracino while she was on maternity leave

5. Old Business –

a – Update on Capital Campaign – Kevin Lewis – Chairman, Capital Campaign

- Kevin Lewis encouraged council members to look at the church expansion as a opportunity to build faith
- Kevin provided a draft of the vision that the capital campaign committee was working on.

b – Giving Guidelines –

- Dave Deans, Leslie Myers, and Scott Frederick had a conversation about the guidelines
- Agreed that Oakdale Emory UMC needs a policy manual about giving
- Scott will discuss the issue further with the Finance Committee
- Tom Jenkins is working on a policy manual
- Plans are being made for Clark Kendall to give the congregation a seminar on how to give creatively

c – Conference Guidelines on Checking Accounts – Kevin Baker

- The conference wants the church to have as few checking accounts as possible
- All checking accounts must be audited
- Finance Committee should have information on all the accounts
- There should be good record keeping
- Bill Attick and Debbie Alderton review records from the different organizations and audit the accounts
- Having a policy will ensure consistency in the way OEUMC handles the checking accounts
- Alden English suggested that the council should ask for an end-of-year statement from all the organizations that have checking accounts
- Kevin suggested that the annual audit report should be submitted to the Council so that it is entered into the Council records.

d – Council Meeting Frequency

- Ted Strahan wanted the Council to discuss whether it was necessary for the Council to meet every month and the possibility of changing to quarterly meetings.
- The Executive Committee would continue to meet every month.
- Other church committees would continue to meet every month and to post reports via email
- The Council would have special meetings when issues arose
- The Council could also do special votes via email
- Debbie Emerson pointed out that we lose something when we do not do face-to-face meetings

e – April Council Meeting

- Ted Strahan pointed out that the next scheduled Council meeting on April 19, 2011 was going to be during spring break. Ted wanted to know if the Council members wanted to reschedule the meeting.
- Joe Long moved the motion to cancel the meeting. Kevin Baker seconded the motion. The council voted to cancel the April meeting

f –Council / Staff Dinner

- A Dinner was proposed on March 28 to begin one hour before the Building Committee meeting. The architect is scheduled to make a presentation on the building plans to church leadership – Council, Staff, Building Committee and Capital Campaign committee.

6. Committee Reports–

- a. Ted Strahan applauded Scott Frederick, the Finance committee and the Stewardship committee
- b. Alden English reported that UMM would be having a cleanup on the OEUMC campus on Saturday, April 3

7. Closing of the Meeting

- Bill Nullmeyer closed the meeting in prayer