

**Oakdale Emory United Methodist Church  
Minutes of Church Council Meeting  
November 16, 2010**

**Council Members in Attendance:**

Dave Young	Leslie Myers	Matt Van Patten	MW- Susan Lears
Kevin Baker	Patti Whitten	Scott Frederick	ARK – Annmarie Skinker
David Deans	Therese Walden	UMM – Alden English	

**Staff in Attendance:**

Anne Jordan	Amy Cole	Luis Franco	Lynn Steeley
Allison Sarracino	Jennifer Souter	Christy Pendelton	

**Others in Attendance:**

Bill Nullmeyer	Eileen Buzy	Clara Sachs
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**Recording Secretary:** Damali Kajubi

1. **Opening:** Dave Young, Council Chairman opened the meeting. Kevin Baker, Sr. Pastor offered opening prayer. Dave Young welcomed Annmarie Skinker, the new ARK representative and Lynn Steeley, the new OEUMC Business Manager.
2. **Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes:** Therese Walden suggested that we should use the same Committee names in the council minutes and the Budget report. She also pointed out changes to the 2011 Budget Process section. Leslie Myers, Executive Pastor moved motion to approve the October meeting minutes with the recommended changes. Alden English seconded the motion. The Council unanimously approved the minutes
3. **Pastor's Reports**
  - **Jennifer Souter, Pastor of Children's Ministries**
    - Has decided on a mission for the ministry
    - Is working on selecting 5 strategies for the ministry; Plans on implementing 2 of the strategies in 2011
    - Attendance of the eMpower service has grown; Ministry needs to plan for the continued growth using the limited available space
  - **Luis Franco, Building Engineer**
    - Did not have any issues to report
  - **Alison Sarracino, Youth Pastor**
    - Wants to celebrate what God is doing in the Youth Ministry. She felt the Holy Spirit moving during the Youth Retreat. Two kids received salvation and many rededicated their lives to God
    - Is focusing on tying up loose ends before going on maternity leave

- Leslie Myers, Executive Pastor
    - Quizzed Council and Staff members on the Next Step campaign
    - Has completed the church evaluation; there is a need to work on the Assimilation piece. Plans on using the Next Step Campaign to implement the Assimilation piece.
  - Amy Cole, Pastor of Adult Ministry
    - Adult Ministry has adopted the mission “Connecting People, Building Faith, and Transforming Lives”
    - Is still working on finding the right wording for the ministry vision
    - Reports that she has received requests from families looking for tools to take home to help their children grow
    - Next church-wide study is “Stress Fractures”
    - Trying to recruit hosts/leaders of small groups to accommodate new people
  - Anne Jordan, Director of Communication
    - As a cost-saving measure, the Sunday Bulletins will no longer be printed in color. The Christmas Eve service bulletins will have color.
    - The Hospitality and Communication Committees are designing cards to be sent to all the people in our database inviting them to the church advent/Christmas activities
    - Funds were realized through the Capital Budget to procure an electronic sign board for the church. Anne will start to look at vendors in the near future
  - Dave Deans, Associate Pastor
    - Reports changes in worship; Brigham Hall has a projector
    - Room is an issue in Brigham Hall; Dave is concerned about the transition from Coffee Hour to the 10:30 service. He is also concerned about the growing market place in the hallway outside Brigham Hall and outside the church. Would like the issue to be discussed at a later date
    - Dave Young decided to move this item for discussion during the new business segment
    - Reminded people to attend the interfaith-worship service at B’Nai Shalom on Tuesday
    - Trying to plan six different Christmas services
  - Kevin Baker, Senior Pastor
    - Would like to plan a retreat in February for the Council and Church leadership to discuss structural and development issues
4. **2011 Budget Process** –
- a - **Operating Expense Budget – Scott Frederick** – Chairman, Finance Committee
    - Scott compiled a summary sheet that compares the first round of 2011 Budget submittals from staff and the 2011 Draft Budget
    - Dave Young was pleased with the draft budget but wanted to know the items staff had cut from their budgets

- Committee member explained the cuts. SPRC cuts included separation of office expenses from payroll taxes; Outreach was reduced by \$20k with the strategy that the church leadership would ask the congregation to contribute if a disaster occurred; the trustee budget did not cut any major items and still made allowances for the unexpected barring a major abnormal event; Trustee budget cuts also reflected savings from the electric bill as a result of OEUMC's enrollment in the CleanCurrents program; Trustees have also staved off roof, heating, and air conditioning projects in anticipation that these projects would be handled as part of the Building Campaign Budget. Kevin Baker asked the trustees to make a list of all the projects that they were holding off
  - Therese Walden suggested that the congregation should be informed about the cuts especially cuts that affect the congregation directly such as the reduction in the coffee hour budget.
  - Dave Young wanted council to agree to accept the budget decisions made by staff
  - A motion to move the total budget to \$1,448,760 was passed.
  - Dave Young will include the 2011 budget in the annual report
5. **Capital Campaign** – Kevin Baker, Sr. Pastor
- Mike Butler, who was going to head the fundraising for the Capital Campaign is moving to South Carolina. Kevin is asking for prayer and recommendations of an experienced fundraiser
  - The Building Committee is meeting on Monday; they anticipate that the architects will present an initial building concept
6. **New Business** –
- a – Coffee Hour**
- In response to Dave Deans' concern about the transition from Coffee Hour to the 10:30 service, there were suggestions that the Coffee hour should be eliminated. Kevin felt that the Coffee hour provided fellowship and was good for assimilation. There was also an argument that if we eliminated Coffee hour, the congregation will not realize that the church campus is crowded and needs to be expanded
  - Dave Deans suggested renting a tent
  - Alden English suggested moving the 10:30 service 11:00; The 10:30 service is growing and there were concerns that the change to 11 will disrupt this growth
  - Leslie Myers asked the council members to attend coffee hour and to observe the transition to the 10:30 service
  - A decision will be made at a later time
- b – Receiving of Funds**
- Dave Young asked Scott to write a summary of how OEUMC is set up to receive funds
7. **Old Business**
- a – Annual Report – Anne Jordan -\_Director of Communication**
- Anne Jordan wants the report to come out in mid- February 2011
  - Building and Capital Campaign Committees to be added to the Annual report
  - Deadline for council and staff to submit their reports is January 10, 2011

- Anne will take pictures of the contributors at the next council meeting

**b – Electricity Program Communication**

- Scott stressed that the program was not just for people who worship at Oakdale Emory but for anyone who wants to sign up
- Anne is going to build a tab on the OEUMC website for information about the program; Scot is going to provide more detailed instructions on how to sign up for the program
- Leslie Myers suggested planning a session to help older members of the congregation who are not as comfortable with computers to sign up and set up a time to help them register

**8. Committee Reports**

- Matt Van Patten, Trustee Committee Chairman, highlighted that password protected thermostats have been installed in the chapel; the thermostats have been set to a maximum of 74 degrees and a maximum of 5 hours
- Luis Franco, Building Engineer is taking the staff on tour of the campus to show them all the thermostats in the building
- Mission Sunday was a good offering

**9. Miscellaneous**

**December Meeting**

- Kevin Baker suggested that the meeting agenda will be limited to discussing the SPRC report
- Meeting was moved to Sunday, December 11, 2010 at 1:00 PM

**10. Closing of the Meeting**

- David Deans closed the Meeting with prayer.