

Signal Crest United Methodist Church
Church Council Minutes
April 7, 2019

1. **In Attendance:** See attached roster of attendees.
2. **Devotion.** Tom Cofer, Church Council Vice Chair, opened the meeting with a devotion centered on how controlling an airplane from the copilot position is harder than from the pilot position. Jeramiah 29:11 presents God's plans for us to prosper. God is the pilot, not the copilot, so don't try to be the pilot in life. Dr. Fairbanks then lead an opening prayer.
3. **Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes.** The March Church Council meeting minutes were submitted for approval. Lisa Andrews made a motion to approve, with Alison Maynard seconding the motion. The March 2019 meeting minutes then unanimously approved.
4. **Financial Report.** Alison Maynard stated that things are going well, but that there was nothing to report yet. Mark Smith, Church Council Chair, discussed that he is looking at possibly moving the council meetings to later in the month to allow more time to complete the financial processes.
5. **Staff Parish Report.** Lynn Lancaster said that a new Senior Pastor has been selected. Staff-Parish anticipates making a formal announcement on May 5. Dr. Fairbanks expressed that he is extremely happy with the appointment.

Staff-Parish is working with the trustees to have the parsonage ready for the transition. An open house is planned for Aril 28 at noon. The move in date for the new Senior Pastor is June 19, and July 7 will be the first day for the new pastor officially to be in the pulpit. Bill Thornton will be preaching three sermons in June.

A reception will be held for Dr. Fairbanks and his wife on June 16 at 10:00 a.m. in the Crest Center. June 16 will also be Doug's last day to preach at Signal Crest. On July 17 there will be a churchwide cookout and new pastor introduction.

Josh Branum has accepted the role of worship leader for the Crest Service, pending a background check.

There are three candidates for the role of children's director, and interviews are proceeding. Selected candidate(s) will then have a trial Sunday that includes a lesson with the children. The new children's director is expected to be in place sometime in May.

6. **Missions Team Report.** Doranne Lane reported on the many ministries where Signal Crest is serving:
 - Through the Mustard Tree Ministry, we are feeding 60-80 homeless people every second Sunday of the month. Scott Dieter and Fred Wildman will be preparing a special meal of pork butt for this mission.

- The Howard Ministry is providing a teacher appreciation meal and will contribute to a senior awards reception. It also provides sack lunches for the baseball team and full meals for the football team.
- A home repair weekend is being headed up by John Maynard, Jr. We have \$1,000 in budget the budget for the home repair ministry.
- We will be serving lunch and breakfast at the Bethlehem Center the week of July 8 . 12.
- We will again be participating in the Holston Conference Hands-On Mission Project for Zimbabwe, with a goal of assembling 50 hygiene buckets.
- The Firewood Ministry, led by Jeff Simmons, is in need of volunteers. This ministry provides wood for eight families, which requires ten loads of wood every two weeks for the entire heating season. Bill Thornton said that most of the families we are serving are north of Signal Crest, and that there is potential for shared volunteering.
- The Mexico ministry has 10 people signed up to go support Casa Hogar in July, and has room for 5 more. Jeff Culbertson is the contact for this effort.
- We are helping to support two missionaries in Alaska, and are sending \$500 this year.
- John Maynard Jr. is leading an effort to have an adult Appalachian Service Project (ASP) weekend this fall.
- There is a desire to renew our efforts to support Rise Against Hunger (formerly Stop Hunger Now). The effort would make 10,000 meals in one night, with a cost of \$3,000. Doranne proposed that this could be funded by a special Mother's Day and Father's Day collection. Alison Maynard contributed that special collections need to be approved through the Finance Committee.
- Mitchell Johnson said that the Easter egg hunt and spring festival will have music from the talents of four groups from our church and four from outside of our church. It is being publicized as part of the centennial Signal Mountain town events, and will be held April 14.

Dr. Fairbanks provided background that Signal Crest had the first free medical clinic in the State of Tennessee, and was a major contributor to the first ever habitat home in Chattanooga.

7. **Vote on chartering of new Boy Scout troop for Girls.** Mark Smith stated that there is no financial commitment for the church when chartering a Scouts BSA troop. Travis Close said that by proactively chartering a new troop we will give new troop leaders support of the church as they begin their work. He believes Girls Scouts and Scouts BSA complement each other by offering different program focuses. Jeff Norwood provided his perspective that this is part of a process that began 6-8 years ago with changes to allow openly gay scouts, and that each change over time has been less controversial.

Mark Smith proposed a resolution to charter a new Scouts BSA troop for girls, and the council unanimously approved.

8. **Minister's Report.** Dr. Fairbanks complimented the Youth Sunday service that was held the previous Sunday, and said that it has been a blessing to come back and see youth from his previous engagement serving as leaders and going to college. Dr. Fairbanks said that Signal Crest has an excellent staff. Allan Ledford was praised for his

ability to work with youth of all ages, and has shown dedication to the Easter egg hunt community event.

Dr. Fairbanks discussed that he met with prospective members at the coffee with the pastors+that was held the previous Sunday. Rebekah Ducote is working on designating a Sunday for bringing in new members.

The meeting was closed with prayer led by Rev. Thornton.

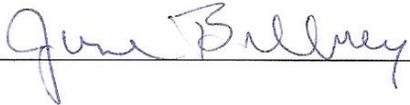
The meeting was then adjourned.

Steve Strickler, Secretary

Signal Crest United Methodist Church
Church Council Meeting Attendance
April 7, 2019

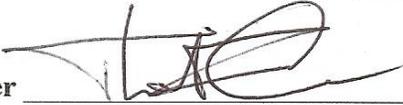
Lisa Andrews 

Drew Barton _____

June Bilbrey 

Hugh Bullock _____

Tina Close _____

Tom Cofer 

Rebekah Ducote _____

Kelly Eller _____

Doug Fairbanks 

Mike Garvich _____

Patrice Glass _____

Carla Helm _____

Sherry Hubbard 

Paul Jensen 

Kirby Johnson _____

Colin Johnson _____

Lynn Lancaster Lynn Lancaster

Doranne Lane Doranne Lane

Allan Ledford _____

Bill Leonard _____

Allison Maynard Allison Maynard

John Maynard, Jr. NO LONGER ON COUNCIL

Taylor Moore _____

Jeff Norwood Jeff Norwood

Anne Pitts Anne Pitts

Kathy Robertson Kathy Robertson

Kristen Robertson _____

Mark Smith Mark Smith

Kristy Stewart Kristy Stewart

TRAVIS Close Travis Close

Steve Strickler *Steve Strickler*

David Tonahill _____

Bill Thornton *Bill Thornton*

Carole Waller *Carole R. Waller*

Marti Wayland _____

Please print name and sign

Mitchell Johnson: *Mitchell Johnson*

