

# Church Council Meeting

## 3/10/26

Present: Candie Kingma (Chair); Bill Engle; Brenda Gross; Mike Oppy; Steve Lovern; Mike Craig; Carolyn Olivier; Mike Spence; Tamara Dejak; Theresa Pettigrew  
Staff: Pastor Dave Buckner, Mark Montgomery

### Action Items:

- Mark wants to create a Friends of the Park group made up of community members.
- Mark needs someone to take over the Community Meal so he can free up time to make community contacts. Please let him know if you would be interested.
- The new website will be active on March 27.
- April 17 & 18 is the Multi-church garage sale. It will be held at St .Andrews this year. Items can be dropped off there the week of the sale. Volunteers are needed to help sort and price items.
- Journey Through Jerusalem needs small, wrapped candies.
- The Craft Show will be on Nov. 7.
- The balcony area will be locked off to protect our equipment up there. Mike Spence will pass out keys to those who need them.
- Pastor Dave and a representative from the Nigerian church will handle the formalities of the paperwork for the new Cub Scout pack.

### Motions:

- ***Bill Engle made a motion to accept the minutes from the January 13, 2026 Church Council meeting as submitted. Steve Lovern seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.***

Candie Kingma opened the Church Council meeting with a prayer.

### *Minutes*

- ***Bill Engle made a motion to accept the minutes from the January 13, 2026 Church Council meeting as submitted. Steve Lovern seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.***

### *Staff and Ministry Reports*

- Outreach Director – Mark Montgomery
  - Mark sent emails to several community group members and influential people at Wayne Township Schools inviting them to come and volunteer at our Food Pantry, Kid's Clothing Corner; Happy Bottoms Diapers, and the Community Meal.
  - Chapel Hill Park
    - Mark recently met with the Park Manager.
    - They will be testing the waterpark in late March.
    - Mayor Hogsett will decide on an opening date.
    - Mark wants to create a *Friends of the Park* group made up of community members. As church members we do not have free access to the park facilities and would have to pay to do the weekly cookouts there, but groups

like the *Friends of the Park* would not have to pay. *Friends of the Park* will not be a church group, but the group will be church members.

- He would also like to start a Moms' group at the park and develop programs for them.
- 5-Star Church update
  - All Room numbers are now marked with their assigned numbers. Check the directory in the hallway for more information.
  - The speakers in the lobby (narthex) are being worked on.
- Handwritten letters are being sent out to people who have missed three services in a row. Thank-you notes are being sent out by Pastor Dave and Mark.
- Angie Craig is sending letters to all new Wayne Township residents with information on the programs at Chapel Hill UMC and inviting them to participate.
- The new Security Plan will be on the website soon. New first aid kits are in the Lobby, Kitchen and in Wesley Hall. A trauma kit is in the workroom. More training will be coming soon.
- Media Plan – “What’s in it for me?”
  - “Following Jesus will make your life better and will make you better at life.”
  - Laura Buckner will be doing interviews that will be used in a variety of ways.
- Wednesday Night Community Meal
  - Ben Davis kids come and help set up for the meal.
  - Gleaners provides free food items that we distribute at the meals.
  - Need help with the kitchen storage and organization.
  - Also ordering supplies for Snappy Seniors, Community Meal and the food pantry breakfasts.
  - Mark needs someone to take over the Community Meal so he can free up time to make community contacts. Since this program takes him all day to work on, his time is needed elsewhere. Please let him know if you would be interested.
- Pastor Dave’s Report
  - Pastor Dave gave a nice talk about how “the Gates of Hell won’t be able to stop us.”
  - We have a lot of good things to offer and we are going to find creative ways to engage people and tell them what we are doing and what we have to offer,
  - We have got to find pockets of the community that want to help us connect in the community and invite people to join us.

#### *New Website – Mike Oppy*

- The Communications team is going to start using Subsplash as our new web site content provider and livestream service, replacing FaithConnector and Resi.
- The new website will be active on March 27.
- With the new livestream platform starting on March 29. It will be on the home page at [www.chapelhillumc.com](http://www.chapelhillumc.com).
- Part of Subsplash is a new option called Pulpit AI. It was first used this past Sunday. It will help social media content creation.
- Mike reminded everyone that we need to share and repost from it.

- Content from Pulpit AI will be used as a Bible study material, initially for the Sermon Discussion Group but can be expanded for other uses too.
- Social media posts for Journey Through Jerusalem has been going out with Facebook ads. We are reaching up to 1000 people each day and to our Easter program.

### **Old Business**

#### *Missions – Carolyn Olivier*

- Kid's Clothing Corner has had several influxes of clothing the past couple of months. Adult sized items that cannot be used here have been donated to Dress for Success at Ben Davis and Pike High Schools.
- Diapers have been in short supply lately, but we were just awarded four pallets of diapers from the Diaper Bank for free.
- Guys Pies and More is coming up. Tickets will be available at the end of the month. As a way to give back to donors, we are telling the restaurants and businesses who are donating prizes about the services Chapel Hill has to offer to their employees. Carolyn was very pleased with how they are helping us and we are helping their employees.

#### *United Women of Faith – Theresa Pettigrew*

- Extra funds have been donated to Fletcher Place and the UMC Children's Home.
- April 17 & 18 is the Multi-church garage sale. It will be held at St. Andrews this year. Items can be dropped off there the week of the sale. Volunteers are needed to help sort and price items. Proceeds will go to Chapelwood Elementary food pantry and Sparky's Food Pantry at the High School.
- Journey Through Jerusalem needs small, wrapped candies.
- The Craft Show will be on Nov. 7. Several vendors have already signed up.

### **New Business**

#### *Finance – Tamara Dejak*

- Giving has been steady.
- Outreach funds from the Memorial Fund end in May. Reductions in apportionments payments will be used to fill the gap.
- The remainder of the \$100,000 which was pulled from the Building Fund in fall of 2024 to assist with necessary building repairs will be used to pay for security cameras, resealing cracks in the parking lot, handrails, and repainting the parking spots.
- The certificate of deposits are earning interest that helps provide additional revenue for the budget.

#### *Trustees – Mike Spence*

- Thanks to everybody who has been helping with projects.
- We are trying to do as much as possible in-house.

- Security cameras have been a big project. They should be ready by the end of the week. A new app is available for off-site monitoring.
- Thermostats have locks on them now.
- The ramp has been delayed by the permitting process. They need more information on easements and rights of way.
- We still have access to the original \$9000 from other grants to be used for ADA improvements so the ADA door should be installed next month.
- The balcony area will be locked off to protect our equipment up there. Mike will pass out keys to those who need them.

*Boy Scout Troop – Tom Olivier*

- Members of the Nigerian church want to restart the charter for a Cub Scout Pack at the church. Tom Olivier has been working as a liaison between them and the Church. He will not have any involvement with the Pack.
- There were no objections from the Church Council members about restarting the charter.
- The Pack has already started to meet; membership already includes two boys and one girl.
- Tom has sent in the applications and rules for insurance, etc.
- Pastor Dave and the lady from the group will handle the formalities of the paperwork.
- Charlie Fitts can help with the insurance questions.

Pastor Dave said a prayer to end the meeting.