

First Methodist Church Morehead City
Church Council Minutes
July 22, 2026

The Church Council of the First Methodist Church met on July 22, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. Members in attendance were: Fletcher Poulk, John Civils, Joe Kirk, Linwood Brown, Larry Hughes, Dykeman Baily, Loretta Baily, Mary Day, Alan Leary, Kim McCoury, Sabrina Juarez, Pastor Earl Bradshaw, Pastor Patrick, and Laura Sullivan.

Pastor Earl opened the meeting in prayer and Fletcher Poulk presented a devotion. The May Minutes were in our email for review. John Civils made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 2026 meeting and Loretta Baily seconded the motion. The motion passed. The Council recited the Mission Statement of Global Methodist Church and First Methodist Church.

Fletcher Poulk welcomed Pastor Earl to Church Council.

Finance Report: Linwood Brown

Linwood Brown reviewed the Finance Report with the Council. He reported the church's overall position is strong and resilient despite significant expenses paid in June. There were no major issues noted on asset or liability sides of the balance sheet. Linwood updated the Council on the Building and Endowment Fund Policy. A subcommittee has been established to guide the implementation process.

Trustees: Dykeman Baily

Dykeman Baily reported Tim Wilson had stepped down from the Board of Trustees. There is a prospect for the attorney's office space on Arendell Street and Dykeman will be meeting at the end of this week with the prospect.

The Atrium doors have been repaired with the left door opening and closing more quickly. There is some steeple damage and Danny Varner Construction will be completing the repairs beginning shortly.

The Fellowship Hall has been evaluated for sound reverberations because the sound panels are damaged. The Trustees have a quote to replace the sound panels and the Choir loft speakers in the Sanctuary in September. Library condensation issues are being addressed.

Staff Parish Relations:

Loretta Baily reported for the Staff Parish Relations Committee. She said it was a good meeting and they welcomed Pastor Earl.

She reported Staff Parish had an initial interview with a Youth Pastor and it went well. They have asked the prospect to come for them to meet him in person. She reported the Staff Luncheon was very well received.

Loretta reported there had been a few updates at Pastor Earl's house. The Eat and Greet to meet Pastor Earl and his wife, Kim, went very well and everyone enjoyed the meal and meeting our new Pastor.

She advised that Staff Parish had discussed making Mary, Sabrina Juarez' assistant, full-time. The committee spoke with Mitch Gay from Finance and we are in a position to do that. This will be voted on at the next Staff Parish Committee.

Ministry Teams:

Larry Hughes reported the Worship Committee is in a lull right now but will be getting ready soon for the Fall Season-Advent and Christmas.

Kim McCoury reported for the Discipleship Committee. The schedule for Sunday evening has been published and can be found in Sunday's bulletin, the Steeple Call, and our website. Kids Family Night will be on July 30 at the Splash Pad in Beaufort. The FCA Football Kickoff Meal will be August 12 and will include all three high school football teams for an evening of food, fellowship, and encouragement as they prepare for the upcoming season. On August 14 there will be a Night of Worship in the Fellowship Hall to support a team of 10 members attending the Sing Conference in Nashville, Tn., in September.

Words from our Lay Leaders:

John Civils commented that he participated in Project MHC for the first time and was very impressed with all the activity and the kids.

Alan Leary agreed with John Civils' comments about Project MHC. Alan and his wife were a shower house for Project MHC and they really enjoyed visiting with the kids. He reported ushers and greeters have been set up for the RISE services.

Loretta Baily reported there has been consistent attendance at the traditional service with visitors every Sunday, baby baptisms, and new members.

Staff Updates:

Kim McCoury reported she is getting geared up for Fall and the various activities that we have.

Sabrina Juarez reported she is working with Extended Table Ministries and there a couple of meals happening soon-Band Leaders at West Carteret High School and the FCA Football Kickoff Meal.

Pastor Patrick advised there are a lot of needs within our church, members in and out of the hospital.

Pastor Earl thanked everyone for making him and his wife feel welcome since they have been at the church. He really appreciates being able to call on the staff and members for questions and information he needs. Pastor Earl and Kim are enjoying getting to know everyone and also exploring our area.

Dykeman Baily closed the meeting in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Sullivan