

**Oakdale Emory United Methodist Church
Minutes of Council Meeting
September 15, 2009**

Council Members in Attendance:

Dave Young	Kevin Baker	Daehwa Park
Leslie Myers	Patti Whitten	Bob Nordstrom
Matt Van Patten	Scott Frederick	Mark Huff
Gene Brannock	Susan Lears	Lawrie Branson

Staff Members in Attendance:

Anne Jordan	Sharon Starling	Luis Franco
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Others in Attendance: James Harris Alden English Cynthia McDermott
Jefry Zalewski Jenny Linck Kevin Hagberg

Recording Secretary: Damali Kajubi

1 - Opening – Dave Young opened the meeting with a prayer.

2 - Approval of March 2009 Minutes: Bob Nordstrom moved motion to accept the July meeting minutes. Scott Frederick seconded motion. The Council unanimously approved the minutes.

3 - Standing Committee Reports**a. Finance Report – Given by Scott Frederick**

Report through August 2009

i) Income Expense Report

- Checking account balance is \$103, 554.82
- Planned income for July was \$110, 000. We spent more than we had planned
- August Revenue was \$27, 000 above our estimate.
- Expenses were controlled in August. We did better than expected.
- Our revenue is growing faster than our expenses. In general most churches are flat in revenue. It is encouraging that our revenue is up 13% over the same period last year. Many other organizations that are similar to Oakdale UMC are flat to negative in revenue growth for 2009.
- Preliminary budget for FY 2010 will be ready in October
- Staff budgets are due on Oct 7.

ii) Discretionary Fund Policy – Given by Daehwa Park

Dave Young explained that the Conference has mandated every church to have a discretionary policy. This item was put on the agenda to brief the council on Oakdale Emory's policies for the discretionary fund.

- Daehwa Park will make appointments to hear requests

Discretionary Fund Policy – Cont'd

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- Alden English felt that there was a need to educate new members of the congregation on how Oakdale UMC collects money for the discretionary fund. It was decided that Assistant Pastor Daehwa Park and Communications Director Anne Jordan were going to decide on how to best educate the congregation on the discretionary fund.

iii) On-Line Store – Given By Scott Frederick

- Online Giving is up and running.
- Volume of people using this module is increasing;
- Leslie added a module to allow people to register for seminars and events online. 20 people registered online for the Beth Moore simulcast event at Oakdale UMC
- Next step is to add the online store module. Leslie Myers proposed that the church should start the online store in 2010 because the module requires vendor to fulfill the orders.

iv) Stewardship

- Will use “Fully Rely on GOD” (FROG) phrase to advertise the kick-off a campaign in October
- Committee will work on ways of advertising stewardship to engage congregation throughout the year

b. Board of Trustees – Given by Matt Van Patten

- Chapel* – Majority of the Chapel painted
- Boilers* – Are in good shape for the winter
- Landscaping* – A lot of volunteers have adopted flower beds.
Committee will put up signs acknowledging volunteers.
A landscaping RFP is going out in October
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c. SPRC – Bob Nordstrom

- Congregational evaluations due Week beginning 9/21/ 2009
- Bob Nordstrom to distribute congregational profile for review by council members; Comments are due by October 17, 2009

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- Recommendation will be made to the council to put a \$10K stipend for the membership and outreach positions because of the increase in responsibility
- Position in the Children's Ministry is currently 30 hours. SPRC Committee's recommendation to advertise the position for 40 hours was approved
- Committee wants to do pastor evaluations before October 17 2009 conference

4 – New Business

i) Church Expansion Study Committee

- Jeffrey Zalewski gave report on the findings of Church Expansion Study Committee; Highlights include:
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 - 90% of Olney is un-churched
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New Business – Cont'd

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 - Lawrie Branson from the ARK has joined the council
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- iii) *Floor*
 - There was no new business from the floor

5 – Old Business

- a) *Dave Ramsey Total Money Makeover*
 - Oakdale Emory hosted live simulcast on September 10, 2009. Seminar takes a look at finances from a Christian perspective
- b) *TAG Teams –*
 - Tag teams have been staffed
 - Staff members to report during the week beginning on September 21 on steps they are taking to incorporate assimilation in their ministries
 - Leslie Myers will identify the names of people on each tag team
 - Technology team is still looking for new members
 - Leslie Myers suggested that the staff members hold off on working on the other three initiatives until the beginning of next year.
- c) *Kurt Andre*
 - Staff met Kurt Andre on September 1. Discussions centered on the church's core values and trying to work through incorporating the assimilation and technology initiatives
 - The church has grown but processes have not been updated. The church has to continue to re-asses how it is structured and come up with initiatives to meet its goals and mission
- d) *Conferences*
 - Charge Conference scheduled for Saturday, October 17 at Mt. Zion, 12430 Scaggsville Rd, Highland, MD 20777
 - 9 staff members and 1 Ministry Volunteer from Oakdale Emory UMC attended Leadership Conference at Willow Creek on October 7-10

6 – Pastors' Reports

- a) *Sharon Starling – Pastor of Music and Worship*
 - Oakdale has a pool of very talented people. Music ministry has assembled a multi-generational string ensemble

*Pastors' Reports – Cont'd**b) Ann Jordan – Director of Communication*

- Oakdale is now streaming live our services; pod-casting is audio
- Have set up a Facebook fan page to facilitate social networking
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- Looking at setting up a blog for Kevin to have dialogue with congregation
- Kevin Baker wants council to think about how Oakdale should nurture people who are connecting to the church through technology

d) Leslie Myers - Leadership and Development

- First fall staff meeting was held today.
- 670 people worshipped at Oakdale this past Sunday
- 10 people attending the Leadership conference at Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas, October 7-11.

e) Daehwa Park – Associate Pastor

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Dave Young explained that the Conference has mandated every church to have a discretionary policy. This item was put on the agenda to brief the council on Oakdale Emory's policies for the discretionary fund.

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