

SUMC Committee Highlights Report for February 2024

Monday, February 26, 2024

Church Council Highlights

Contact: Jim Talbert

Highlights

- The Lenten Season is upon us and the Council will be working with all committees to coordinate activities. All members are encouraged to watch for news of activities and participate as much as they can. Volunteers are always needed. This is how we can be the hands and feet of Jesus and show our love for the community.
- In the coming months, the Council will be exploring the possibility of changing our system of governance to the Simplified Accountable Structure. This is based on the book *Mission Possible: A Simple Structure for Missional Effectiveness*. This will be an important decision for the congregation to make and everyone is encouraged to read this book.
- We will also be working with the Board of Trustees on safety and security recommendations made by the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 25, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 107.

Board of Trustees Highlights

Contact: Mike Brooks

Highlights

- Mike Brooks is now the Chair of the Board of Trustees and Marlene Cavaiola is the secretary.
- The ice machine in the kitchen isn't working. We are considering if we should get a new one or repair this one. We will get the costs of a new one and decide. In the meantime, we ask groups to provide bags of ice for any events they host.
- Curt has been working on courtyard cleanup.
- The church heating systems checkup was completed.
- A church workday will be scheduled, and help is needed with the property and replacing ceiling tiles.
- We are addressing several recommendations for our church security. We are considering how to best secure the door by the lower level, front parking lot. If it is unlocked and unmonitored, nefarious people can enter undetected and have easy access to the building. It should either have a greeter present or be locked. A sign will be posted to direct people to use the main door. This is for security reasons and was in the sheriff's recommendations.

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 21, 2024 at 6:00 PM

Discipleship & Education Committee Highlights

Contact: Laurie Morris

Highlights

- Youth group joined SAG on February 4 to watch Creative Dreams Choir from Community Lutheran then enjoyed pizza together.
- Parent's Night Out went well on February 10th with 14 kids.
- The youth group had a Super Bowl party that was well attended and a lot of fun.
- We hired Ms. Jess as our new childcare assistant. She started on February 11th.
- Amplify launched to church on February 11th (along with new texting services).
- Pastor Bert's bible study on Tuesdays is beginning on February 27th for a weekly interactive online experience. You are Here, a series of weekly trail markers for your Lenten walk will be streamed live on Facebook and YouTube at 7:00 pm.
- Youth mission trip: Appalachian Service Project (ASP) with Centerville UMC June 30 to July 6.
- VBS is scheduled for the week of July 15 to 19.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 11, 2024 at 6:00 PM

Fellowship Committee Highlights

Contact: Marlene Cavaiola

Highlights

- Children's Easter Egg Festival to be held on Palm Sunday, March 24, 2:00 to 4:00 PM.
 - The Children's Ministry will take care of games, photo station, egg stations for older kids and young ones, tattoos maybe, and volunteers.
 - Busy Hands will fill approximately 200 bags with donated candy for the kids.
 - Need someone to be the Bunny.
 - Fellowship will take charge of the cookie decorating station, ice cream cups, and drinks including juice boxes. The food items will be in Gallihugh Hall.
- Easter Morning Breakfast after the Sunrise Service (6:30 to 7:15 a.m.) on March 31, 2024.
 - It was suggested that the breakfast be from 7:15 a.m. until 9:15 a.m. so more church families can join the fellowship. NO Coffee Fellowship so everyone can join family and friends after worship.
 - Continental Breakfast will include muffins, scones, pastries, bagels, fruit, yogurt, small quiche, and drinks. Breakfast will be in Gallihugh Hall.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 18, 2024 at 6:00 PM

Finance Committee Highlights

Contact: Linda Budzinski or Dana Smedley

Highlights

January Income

- \$738 in plate offerings,
- \$800 in rent from KUC,
- \$180 in rent from AA
- \$3,111 from renting the parsonage
- Pledges and Envelope Contributions are down \$4,323 from December. Income and expenses are usually higher in December due to holiday activities and end of year giving.
- Pledges and envelope contributions are down \$7,529 (17.2%). This reduction is across several families, some of whom have moved from the area and others who give sporadically.
- As a reminder, there are various ways to give, including electronic funds transfer (EFT), check, or cash. EFT is the best way as it is an automatic, steady, reliable and dependable source of income for the church.

January Expenses

- Total Operations Expenses for January were \$45,324. \$1,864 more than December.
- Administration expenses are up \$457 mainly due to expenses from office supplies and the cost of buying offering envelopes.
- In January 2024, the status of our custodian, Jose, was changed from a staff member to a contractor. Those expenses now move from the Staff budget to the Trustees budget.
- Trustees' expenses are up \$4,039 primarily from the transfer of Jose's expense and the quarterly water bill.
- Worship expenses are down up \$1,296 mainly due to December's Advent expenses.
- 2023 Gross Profit came in at 7.59% of the full year budget whereas expenses came in at 8.42% of the full year budget. This is very close to a balanced budget.
- Compared to 2023, 2024 Gross Profit is down \$4,011 (9%).
- The January 2023 net operating loss is \$4,259.
- Compared to 2023, 2024 gross profit is down \$4,011 (9%) and total expenses are down \$4,530 (9%).

Next Meeting: Monday, March 25, 2024 at 6:00 PM in Room 104

Missions Committee Highlights

Contact: Jim Jochems

- Grace Ministries for January 2024 there were 297 families, 1618 people served.
- The February mission activity is making Hygiene Kits. We still need deodorant and body wash.
- The Pastel Envelope Collection will be from February to April. Collection starts on Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2024.

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 7, 2024 at 6:30 PM 6:00 PM

United Women in Faith Highlights

Contact: Faye Vibbert

Highlights

- We had a very informative presentation of 'A Bright Spot' by Mar Crowe on February 4. Cards are sent to individuals, caregivers, hospitalized children and seniors, service members, or anyone who needs a reminder that they are loved and appreciated. There are three categories: individual requests, group requests, and special requests. For information visit their website www.abrightspot.org to request, donate, or volunteer.
- The Joyce Grace Readers met on January 26, 2024, and discussed Wherever the River Runs by Kelly Minter. In February they will discuss The Four Winds by Kristin Hannah. Consider joining them at the next meeting on February 23 at 7 PM at church. For more information, contact Teresa Mohr at teresaphil@jemstone.com.
- Busy Hands meets most Thursdays at 12:30 pm for lunch then activities which vary in room 107. Come when you can and enjoy fellowship. Ten ladies met for our first lunch out on January 18 at Bungalow Lake House. In January and February, we helped take down Christmas decorations, double bagged for Grace, and packaged crackers for Ash Wednesday supper. If you need more information, contact Nancy Craner (nancy.craner307@gmail.com) or Marlene Cavaiola (dmcav@msn.com).
- UWF was asked to bring canned/boxed food items for Grace Ministry. We were also asked for family-sized body wash and deodorant for hygiene kits for families.
- UWF is brainstorming fundraising ideas to support our mission outreach activities.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 4, 2024 at 7:00 PM

Worship & Outreach Committee Highlights

Contact: Debbie Myers

Highlights

- Ash Wednesday was on February 14. Ashes were provided during the morning at KUC drop off, during the day, and at the 7 pm worship service. There was a 5:30 p.m. meal served (soup, salad, and grilled cheese).
- March 24 – Palm Sunday Worship
- March 28 – Maundy Thursday Service at 7 p.m.
- Good Friday – Stations of the Cross and Good Friday Service, 7 p.m. The Aldersgate Choir will be singing.
- March 31 – Sunrise Easter Service, Breakfast, and Easter Sunday Worship, 10 a.m.
- Outreach/NET Classes (Neighborhood English Together) – Connie Johnson reported that there is a core of about 12 people. To expand, more teachers are needed. We have five

teachers now. The sessions seem to run between 12 to 15 students. There is a need for more space, so the class will be moved from Room 104 to Room 106.

- Ushers – Bob Essington reported that we currently have only 12 Ushers. Five ushers are also drummers and on Sundays when they are playing, we need more ushers. Contact him to volunteer. He suggested this be placed in the WIRE.
- Greeters – Karen Land reported that the we need more greeters to be at the doors and assist in the Narthex on Sunday mornings. Contact her to volunteer.
- Liturgists – Nancy Craner reported that she is getting ready to send out a new schedule.
- Sign-up Lists – Sharon Rosenfeld reported that there will be sign-up opportunities for the special services coming up for Holy Week.
- Following Easter – There will be a series on offering Pastoral Care - Connected to God, others, and self.

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 6:00 PM