

SUMC Committee Highlights Report for the Second Quarter of 2024

Wednesday, July 31, 2024

Church Council Highlights

Contact: Jim Talbert

Highlights

- The Council has decided to modify the Committee Highlights Reports to be published on a quarterly basis. They will now come out at the end of January, April, July and October.
- Kirk Nave has been appointed as our new District Superintendent. SUMC will be hosting a welcome luncheon for clergy in our region of the District on September 3.
- A Task Force has been formed to plan ways to celebrate the 150th anniversary of SUMC. The members are Pastor Bert, Sharon Rosenfeld, Debbie Myers, and Joan and Jim Talbert. We are planning some smaller events during October 2025 that will lead up to a few special events on the weekend of October 17 to 19. The District Superintendent will speak on Sunday, the 12th and the Bishop will speak on Sunday, the 19th. The church history is being updated. It has not been updated since 2004. If anyone would like to contribute, please contact Jim Talbert.
- SUMC is looking into ways we can become a partner with the Sterling Middle School. This is a great way we can connect better with the community. As plans develop, we will be looking for interested members to contribute.
- SUMC has submitted a request under the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Non-Profit Security Grant program. The purpose is to strengthen security measures for our facility. Competition for this program is high, so prayers that we are awarded a grant are needed.

Next Meeting: Monday, August 19, 2024 at 7:15 p.m. in Room 107. ***Please note this meeting will be held on the third Monday instead of the fourth, with a new start time of 7:15 p.m.***

Board of Trustees Highlights

Contact: Mike Brooks

Highlights

- Completed paperwork and submitted to Finance responding to a VA Conference Annual Housing Allowance Review for pastors.
- Girl Scout Memorandum of Agreement was signed and submitted regarding SUMC and their onsite shed.
- Reviewing options for automated door openers for easier access for the front door near the circle and rear door.
- Reviewing costs to replace all doorknobs to ensure they can be locked/unlocked quickly from the inside of the room. This is for security purposes.

- Non-Profit Security Grant paperwork was submitted for security, phone, and window improvements. Hopefully, we will hear something in September.
- Reviewing total and partial paving quotes and deciding how best to do the church parking lot.
- Lights have been updated/repared on the front parking lot.
- Reviewing total replacement window estimates for older parts of the building. Glass replacement versus total window replacement is being reviewed.
- Approximately \$1,500 is spent each time floor buffing/waxing is performed by SUMC janitorial service. We will purchase a new/used buffer and Curt Christiansen agreed that he would do the floors when needed. This will provide SUMC with a way to do them when needed and reduce expenses. The cost of a unit is approximately \$500 to \$800.
- SUMC has received a request to rent 25 parking spots to Whereipark.com between 6 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Trustees are reviewing the idea and which parking spaces would be used.

Next Meeting: Thursday, August 15, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 107.

Discipleship & Education Committee Highlights

Contact: Laurie Morris

Highlights

- 13 youths attended the Youth Lock-In on April 26. We started the night bowling where we provided pizza for dinner, and then headed to the church for a night of ice cream, snacks, and board games.
- Safe Sanctuary Training was held on May 4. Heather, Laurie, Joan, Jim, and Natalie attended. We now officially qualify as a Safe Sanctuary church. We will be meeting in August to discuss updates for the Child Protection Policy.
- Youth Sunday - May 12; combined with Mother's Day. Went well, with lots of youth participation and positive feedback from the congregation.
- Parents' Night Out - May 17, went well, with 15 children.
- On June 1, Sterling hosted a Youth Mental Health First Aid Training, which was attended by 17 people, including individuals from other churches. The event was well-received by the youth directors and many of the advisors in attendance, who provided positive feedback. There were also requests to offer the training again for those who couldn't attend.
- Preschool Camp - first week of June. About 60 campers. Fun circus theme, lots of happy customers.
- Graduation Sunday went well. Four graduates and one youth were promoted.
- Mission trip: We went to Appalachia, VA with Centerville UMC. It went well. We had 10 people from Sterling, and together we were able to form 3 teams, working on 2 houses.
- VBS had about 40 campers. The week went well and everyone seemed happy! The theme of Camp Firelight was a huge hit!
- There are two vacant childcare jobs. Interviews are ongoing.

- Youth Concert. We have prepaid for 10 tickets to the Lauren Daigle concert at Wolf Trap on August 3. Any tickets not taken by youth will be offered to members.
- Blessing of the Backpacks - looking at the date of Sunday, August 18. Confirming with Pastor Bert.
- Sunday School/Youth Group will start on Sunday, September 8.
- Sterling Fest - Saturday, October 12 -11:00-5:00. We'll need lots of volunteers.
- Truck or Treat- Saturday, October 26 at 2 pm.

Next Meeting: To be determined

Fellowship Committee Highlights

Contact: Donna Meyer or Marlene Cavaiola (Co-Chairs)

Highlights

- Reviewed Easter Festival and will make some minor changes. Overall, it went very well.
- Reviewed Easter Breakfast and will change time to 7:15 a.m. until 8:45 a.m.
- May 12 provided special chocolate/food for Mother's Day Coffee Fellowship.
- Provided patriotic treats for Memorial Day and June 30 (for the 4th of July) Coffee Fellowship.
- Helped provide special foods for the June Graduation Sunday Coffee Fellowship.
- June 16 provided special chocolate/food for Father's Day Coffee Fellowship.
- At our July meeting, we discussed ideas for the 150th church anniversary celebration next year to be held during October 2025.
- We also discussed the upcoming September 3rd luncheon for our new District Superintendent. The event will be catered, and Fellowship will set up, provide beverages, and serve.

Next Meeting: Monday, August 19, 2024 at 6:00 PM

Finance Committee Highlights

Contact: Linda Budzinski or Curt Christiansen

Highlights

- June 30 marks our mid-year financial report. SUMC remains in sound financial condition, with many thanks to the staff, leadership, volunteers, and all members of the church for serving as such responsible financial stewards and continuing to give so generously of your gifts, time, and talents.
- The 2024 year to date gross profit is at 45.63% of the full year budget. Expenses are at 48.29%. So, we are spending about 3% more than we are taking in.

- Total giving and rental income from January through June 2024 is at \$245,302. This represents about 49% of what we had budgeted to this point. (Note that slightly more income has been budgeted for the second half of the year due to Christmas and end-of-year giving).
- Total expenses to date are at \$259,948. This represents about 48% of what we had budgeted to this point.
- In addition to the figures above, SUMC raised about \$10,000 for Missions through its church yard sale as well as nearly \$3,500 through its very successful preschool summer camp.
- As has been announced during the service, our financial assistant, Dana Smedley is leaving SUMC at the end of July. The Finance Committee extends its heartfelt appreciation to Dana for all her work keeping the church financial records in order and preparing extremely helpful reports for the committee each month.

Next Meeting: Monday, August 19, 2024 at 6:15 PM in Room 104. ***Please note this meeting will be held on the third Monday instead of the fourth.***

Missions Committee Highlights

Contact: Jim Jochems

Highlights

- Grace Ministries for June 2024: there were 317 families, 1805 people served.
- Grace Ministries for July 2024: there were 310 families, 1766 people served (approx.)
- Next food distribution is on Saturday, 8-10-24, set-up is Friday, 8-9-24. Distribution is back to the second Saturday of each month.
- Assistance for schools: donated canned foods to Forest Grove and Sterling Middle.
- Missions Collection Calendar:
 - Canned Food will be accepted throughout the year and all food is very appreciated!
 - End of July to Sept. 2024 - Food Drive.
 - October - Diaper Drive
 - November - December - gift cards to support Shepherds Run.
 - February - Hygiene Kits - we need deodorant and body wash.
 - February/March - Pastel Envelope Collection completed. We made \$5,010 to use for Mission Trips and other mission activities.
 - 2024 Mission Trip to Appalachian Service Project (ASP). Great trip, very rewarding experience, 18 folks participated. They worked on two houses. There will be an ASP slide show (date TBD), google drive has all of the pictures.
 - Heather/Missions donated \$300 to the ASP. Funds were already approved.
- New Missions Game Night in Gallihugh Hall date is Friday, 7-26-24, 6 pm to 9 pm. Missions team provides games to play and refreshments.
- Deshong's Giftback and Forrest's Garden – Vini and Jane Deshong grow fresh vegetables to distribute to the Sterling community (spring and summer). We always need volunteers to weed, water and pick. Volunteers can reach out to Vini personally or refer to Deshong's Gift Back online.

- Yard Sale June 22, 2024 profits:
 - Jewelry - \$1,306.00
 - Trailer \$1,200.00
 - Other sales \$7,194.53
 - Total - \$9,700.53
- Yard Sale Feedback: recommended improvements for next year:
 - Say Thank You on Facebook to the community
 - Add more signage on Sterling Boulevard
 - Drop water selling- did not pan out
 - Pictures of items added to Facebook need to be available on sales day. Don't post pictures of items already sold.
 - Price List was too complicated. Look at Maureen's updates. Lists should be laid out and taped to cashier's table.
 - Tentative date for the Yard Sale next year will be June 28, 2025.

Next Meeting: Thursday, August 1, 2024, at 6:30 PM

United Women in Faith Highlights

Contact: Faye Vibbert

Highlights

- Joyful Grace Readers meet on the 4th Friday at 7 p.m. of each month and plan to read and discuss the following books:
 - Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt - June 14.
 - Welcome to Beach Town by Susan Wiggs - July 26.
 - The First Ladies by Marie Benedict and Victoria Murray - date TBD, either August or September.
- Busy Hands made ribbon type flags for use at the May 19 Pentecost service.
- Busy Hands continues to double plastic bags and make netting bags for Grace Ministry starting at 12:30 p.m. on Thursdays in room 107. Some have lunch and then work on projects. About 1,800 double bags are needed for each month's food distribution. Canned/boxed items are packed in plastic bags and loose produce is packed in netting bags.
- Busy Hands also prepared individual hygiene kits at a June gathering to provide to Women Giving Back, Mobile Hope, Loudoun Abused Women Service (LAWS), or other groups.
- At the June meeting, UWF made journals for the SUMC Appalachian mission group's use.
- UWF voted at our June meeting to individually donate to UMCOR to use where most needed. For reference, the needed kits are hygiene kits valued at \$24; Hygiene Kits valued at \$12; and cleaning kits valued at \$75.
- July 2nd, UWF prepared a hamburger and hotdog meal prior to the Celebrate Recover (CR) meeting for about 25-30 persons.
- UWF volunteered to prepare breakfast and lunch for the CR September 7th Regional Rally and Training Day (8:30 to noon).

- UWF voted via email in early July to send a \$200 donation to the District UWF. The VA Conference of United Women in Faith asked each district to collect school supplies or donate funds for the Northern Virginia District, United Methodist Family Services (UMFS) so that backpacks can be filled during a Mission Encounter.
- UWF had a July 1, 2004, fundraising buffet dinner at Joe's Pizzeria in Sterling to raise funds for outreach. The proceeds went toward the \$200 VA Conference UWF request for school supplies for the United Methodist Family Services.
- UWF has lined up a suicide survivor speaker for our September 9th meeting. September is Suicide Prevention Month. Our speaker, Barbara Barrick is the District UWF Secretary for Program Resources and wants to provide information from her perspective and encourage youth to attend as well.
- UWF will be having a bake sale on November 2, 2024, to raise proceeds for our continued outreach. Get out some of your favorite recipes and plan on baking items for the sale.

Next Meeting: Monday, September 9, 2024 at 7:00 PM

Worship & Outreach Committee Highlights

Contact: Debbie Myers

Highlights

- We are working with pastor Bert on planning worship for the fall and rest of the year.
- Also involved in planning for the 150th anniversary celebration.

Next Meeting: To be determined