

Minutes for Church Council – Bedington UMC  
April 21, 2014

The following members were present: Chair- Jerry Leishman, Pastor Rudisill, Pastor Bowers, Nancy Deeds, Dee LaFaber, Gail Boarman, Forest Webb, Beth Sandy, Dana Phelps, Steve Hose, Kathleen Wright.

Prayer:

Jerry Leishman opened with prayer. Jerry Leishman congratulated all involved in the last 2 Sunday's events, and we had one family come to an event from seeing it listed on our website.

Approval of Previous Minutes:

Condensed minutes read Forest Webb motioned to approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Steve Hose. All agreed motion carried.

Vision Statement:

Forest Webb stated the Church is about serving the community whether it be spiritually, financially, food bank, etc., and we really do serve beyond the members of this Church. Jerry Leishman asked if that's who we are, how can we state that, Forest Webb replied that Jesus said it best "Feed the Sheep." Dana Phelps felt to incorporate the Vision Statement it should project the Bible. We need to make it clear that it comes from the Bible, as given to us by Jesus in verse so and so Feed the Sheep. The Mission Statement we have needs to be biblical so it's not social but spiritual. Jerry Leishman also has asked his nephew if he could make up a graphic for us and he has 2 more weeks of school, after that he could do something for us. Forest Webb said that was good but we do need an explanation and it needs to be consistent. Maybe we could put the acronym in it or it we need to have a concise statement. Pastor John felt it needs to be relational not a proposal, like here's what we believe. Pastor Bowers stated it needs to be brief and not complex and incorporated each week. In the SWORD acronym substitute the word openness for obedient to the written and living word of God. Steve Hose proposed Salvation, Word of God, Open Hearts-Minds-Doors, Relationship with Jesus, Discipleship, Sins Forgiven. Dana Phelps said that Forest Webb had said it the simplest Feed My Sheep spiritually, emotionally. Dana Phelps asked where the sword would be displayed. Forest Webb mentioned we should have the cross in a visual location. Forest further stated in his job they had done a design and logo in one, and he felt we could put the SWORD Cross acronym and the statement all as one. Dana Phelps feels she likes the visual but is not sure it is a Mission Statement. The Statement will be below the Swords. Dana Phelps feels it some substance. Jerry Leishman asked do we need a Vision Statement and Forest Webb said we should to help guide people and help us to follow guidelines. What we all have come up with is:

FOLLOW THE WORDS OF CHRIST - "FEED MY SHEEP" (JOHN- 21:15-17) IN OUR WORSHIP, OUR DISCIPLESHIP, FELLOWSHIP, AND SERVICE TO OTHERS. Dana Phelps motioned we make this our Vision Statement, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Forest Webb. Steve Hose reminded us that we have agreed to not vote on things the initial time they're brought up, but that we table it to think on it and vote on it the next meeting. Forest Webb said at this time too why can't we have 5 visuals for the key words and Dana Phelps suggested it should be incorporated in the newsletter. Examples of such visuals are Worship- cross, Discipleship- hand with a Bible, Fellowship- a bunch of people, Obedience- praying on knees, Service to Others – basin and towel. Per Steve Hoses reminder we will table this till next meeting **BUT ALL ARE TO THINK OF CLIP ART FOR VISUALS SUCH AS LISTED ABOVE AND WE WILL VOTE AND FINALIZE THIS IN PRAYERFULLY THE FIRST 30 MINUTES OF NEXT MEETING.**

New Business:

Pastor John stated that a there has been a philosophy of ministry and it has been floating around for awhile, it has to do with Pastor Barnes style of leadership which was micromanagement and Pastor John's style of leadership which is small groups working to lead and make decisions, and the fact that there was no real lead into the new style of leadership. Pastor John is great with ideas but with how to put them into action is not his strong suit. So as a result he finds people he feels can do this and these people can bring more and come together to make those ideas a reality. Examples – Finance Committee each Ministry in the Church has a budget and as long as they don't go over that budget they can spend it without approval, but should it go over we have the vouchers. We needed to build our Sunday School and with Beth Sandy coming on as the new Superintendent Pastor John had an idea and she could combine some of the VBS attendees and the Easter Egg Hunt and Sunday School Easter Program and the philosophy being combine them, which Beth Sandy did and we had the Walk with Jesus, luncheon, and Easter Egg Hunt together. Thus with several different ministries working together as a team to accomplish this. We need to find ways to pull people and the different ministries together to put the ideas together and trust that all can handle the task. Junior Youth Group started this about 19 years ago and Dana feels this is an evangelistic event by itself because Junior Youth

only does 2 events a year this one and the Harvest Party. Dana Phelps polled the mothers of Jr. Youth and they only want a meeting once a month, and there are only 2 families involved right now. Dana feels that they have been overshadowed, she felt the Walk with Jesus event was great but Dana feels they are not part of anything and if they are not needed please let them know. Forest Webb stated in the past it has always been a community event and maybe it could have been planned a little better. He also stated that every time we have an event 2<sup>nd</sup> Service is canceled, he asked are we 2<sup>nd</sup> hand Christians. It was asked if we have an event could we have reorganized it better. Forest stated he feels communication is the issue and even though they have been pushed aside each event has been a big building tool. Dana felt the Easter Egg Hunt could have been bumped. Jerry Leishman stated these are the things that need to be solved and why the Church Council is so important, so these issues can be discussed and worked out. Most important the discussion needs to be done here. Pastor John apologized for that because the idea came from him. The philosophy still has merits and we still need to build and listen to all. Maybe we could have a brief service for those who could not get around. Forest feedback was the kids were hungry, the event was great timing needs to be worked on. Beth Sandy the event was fantastic and we just need to work on some timing, and congratulations on 40 people from both services especially 2<sup>nd</sup> service working on the event. Beth stated that with 2<sup>nd</sup> service she wanted to make sure they felt needed and wanted. It was noted that most of the people who worked on the event were 2<sup>nd</sup> Service. Also it was noted that 1<sup>st</sup> service started late that morning. The arrangement for Alfred Schuech's bus was that on Easter and Palm Sunday he was to have the bus off the Church Parking Lot or on Sundays. If he does have the bus there it needs to be moved further back. Thus the key of the philosophy of Micromanagement verses the Spreading of Authority and Sharing of Responsibility is that people haven't felt like they have been given that permission to have the Authority and Sharing of Responsibility and given the confidence and power to do so. Now we hope we know better what need to do. Dana Phelps let us know that the Harvest Party now scheduled for November 2, 2014 ( It had been tentatively scheduled for October 19) she has Kyle Sandy working on a better slide, Forest Webb working on things hanging in the trees.

#### Reflections:

To Solve Communication Problems

To see if we want to change our service schedule 1<sup>st</sup> Service being 9 am to 10 am 10:15 to 11:00 Sunday School and 11:00 2<sup>nd</sup> Service. This will allow 2<sup>nd</sup> Service to attend Sunday School. We will table this and get some input from both services to see what people think.

Pastor John is looking to realistically do 1<sup>st</sup> Service in an hour.

Forest Webb at this time was told that we had always done 1<sup>st</sup> service at 9:30 and it couldn't change, but while helping Nancy Deeds with the history of the Church he found out they use to have Sunday School 1<sup>st</sup>.

The above idea on the Services would hopefully allow for people from both service to come together and get to know one another better. Have a more cohesive Church.

**BUT WE NEED TO BE DIPLOMATIC AND DEFINETELY TREAD LIGHTLY WHILE DOING THIS!! SO AS TO NOT UPSET PEOPLE AND CREATE DIVISION!!!!**

Forest Webb felt that Pastor John is handling this very well.

Jerry Leishman wants us to figure out how we can better communicate the issues. Dana Phelps felt that this committee is the vehicle to do this. Forest Webb stated we definitely need a Church Calendar at this meeting, so that major and minor things do not get over looked. Jerry Leishman is asking how to funnel all this information for the Church to Lorelee Miller, we need to tie these calendars together (Church & Website & Ministries). Could Google Calendar work better, Dana Phelps will ask Lorelee Miller to work on both Church and Website Computer or give Steve Hose the Calendar via Google.

Pentecost is June 8, 2014 Pastor John wants to do a Celebration of the Church and to Celebrate the Ministries of the Church during Worship. Forest Webb asked about doing displays or to give presentations, decorations, etc.. Pastor John wants to have conversations with the ministries and talk about it here in the Church Council.

No more business Pastor Bowers closed in prayer.

Respectfully Submitted  
Kathleen E. Wright  
Recording Secretary