

Church Council Meeting- Minutes



27 April 2025 / NEUMC

Attendees:

Weston Cheatham
Gaye Christmus
James Cook
Sylvia Cousin
Jane DeCristofaro
Antoinette Gaboton-Moss
Charlie Henry

Herb Hilmer
Mary Anne Lockard
Michael Munn
Jane Scott
Jennifer Wargel

OTHERS:

Tom DeCristofaro
Christopher Wargel

Agenda

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| Opening Prayer and/or Devotion | Jennifer Wargel |
| Review and Approve Minutes | Mary Anne Lockard |
| Reports | |
| Ministries | |
| Nurture Ministry | Debbo Lackore No report |
| Outreach and Witness Ministries | <p>Gaye Christmus, Jane DeCristofaro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> March meeting: update on 2 ministries Jane and Tom resupply Blessing Box Our supply closet has plenty of vegetables, but we need meat and other supplies. Some money in the designated funds is still available to purchase supplies. Filled 75-80 backpacks each month for Sandlapper School. Sunday, May 4 will be the last backpacks for this school year. Date for the first distribution for the next school year was discussed. Heather will check with social worker to determine if the program will restart in August or September. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Angel Tree families attended the Easter services. Each family was sent a homemade card containing a personal note, list of activities, and a Starbucks gift card. |
| Worship Team | <p>Stephen Crowell</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sub-accompanist (Kai Young) has been arranged to cover for Walker while he attends an international exchange trip in May, June, and July. All Sundays have been filled except July 6. |
| Lay Leaders | <p>Larry Griner, Jane Scott, Sylvia Cousin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lent and Holy Week activities were very successful. |
| Youth Group | <p>Weston Cheatham</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good Friday service and Easter Egg hunts went well. Prepping for Graduation Sunday, May 18 Special thank you to the donor of the new fence in front of the church. The fence will add a level of protection from the busy road by the Pumpkin Patch. |
| United Methodist Men | <p>Herb Hilmer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Methodist Men will continue to meet at Schiano's. The men are discussing sponsoring a pot luck dinner for families to introduce men's activities available. |
| United Women in Faith | <p>Sylvia Cousin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jane DeCristofaro is leading a study of the new Spiritual program book Sylvia and Melissa attended Global Ministries Day at Rehoboth Epworth Children's Home 5th annual Golf tournament on May 14 May 18 at 3:00 a meeting will be held at Frances Burns; Sylvia would like the church to collect supplies for women and moms to take to this meeting. List of officers was sent to the district office. Apportions are up to date Thanks to everyone's help, Easter morning breakfast was a success. |
| Administrative Committees | |
| Finance Committee | <p>James Cook</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met April 23 Audit has been completed and submitted. \$280 positive cash flow last March (half put toward mortgage payment and half toward apportionments) |
| SPRC | <p>Bob Shaffner</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A meeting will be set next month. |
| Trustees | <p>Mike Munn</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May need to add caulking to some windows Thanks to Chris programming our HV system, Last month's electric bill was lowered to \$544 from the usual \$1800. Rooms are programmed to remain at 60 or 85 on days no events are planned. |

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| Report of the Pastor | <p>Pastor Antoinette Gaborton-Moss</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23 needs and follow ups since the last meeting. Please be sure to reach out if someone is on your heart. • March 16 birthday cards sent April 12 birthday cards sent • An article in <i>The Advocate</i> was written about the service of prayer and lament that was held for Ka’Niyah Baker, who was brutally killed by two other teens. • On March 22, 25 confirmands from Washington Street, Wesley UMC, and Columbia UMC gathered at NEUMC for their retreat. • On April 3 our pastor led devotional at Clergy Orders. • On June 10, Pastor Antoinette will be preaching at Annual Conference and serving communion. • April 8 Ridgeview High School visited our campus, helping to clean up the grounds for public service. • Dr. Melanie Dobson is currently developing a website to showcase her work and promote her new book. She collaborated with a videographer and photographer to document the Belong Groups at NEUMC and conducted an interview with Pastor Antoinette for the site. She will be presenting her new book, <i>Belong: Group Spiritual Direction for Christian Friendship and Communal Discernment</i> at a book signing on October 17, 2025. • Pastor’s notes are attached. |
| Other Business | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No new concerns • Next meeting will be held on May 18 |
| Closing Prayer | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prayer led by Jennifer Wargel |

Submitted by:
Mary Anne Lockard, Recording Secretary



PASTOR REPORT

April 27, 2025

- **Pastoral Care Jan 16, 2025 - April 27, 2025, Call - Write – Visit**
23 Pastoral needs and follow-ups (Calls, cards, hospital visitations, home visits, bereavement care)
If God lays someone on your heart. Reach out to them.
- **Monthly Birthday Cards**
 - February
 - March - 16 cards
 - April - 12 cards
- **Service of Prayer and Lament - January 28, 2025**
A group of Columbia District clergy organized and held an afternoon service of prayer and lament for 13-year-old, Ka'Niyah Baker, who was brutally killed by two other teens. On March 22, there was an article in *The Advocate* about the service held at Washington Street
- **Connectional Ministry - March 22, 2025**
25 Confirmands gathered at NEUMC for their retreat
 - Washington Street
 - Wesley UMC
 - Columbia UMC
- **South Carolina Clergy Orders and Annual Conference:**
 - Led devotional at Clergy Orders - April 3, 2025
 - Preaching at Annual Conference – June 10, 2025
 - Serving Communion at Annual Conference
- **Book Launch for Dr. Melanie Dobson**
Belong: Group Spiritual Direction for Christian Friendship and Communal Discernment (October 17, 2025)



PASTOR REPORT

April 27, 2025

She is currently developing a website to showcase her work and promote her new book. As part of the project, she collaborated with a videographer and photographer to document the Belong Groups at Northeast and conducted an interview with Pastor Antoinette for the site. A book signing event is planned for October at Washington Street, with more details to be announced soon.

Community Service Hours – April 8, 2025

RidgeView students came onto our campus and helped clean up the grounds—this is their third consecutive year. We appreciate their continued support and effort.