

**HAWKINSVILLE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**October 9, 2011**

The Council of the Hawkinsville First United Methodist Church met Sunday, October 9, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. in the church fellowship hall.

Vice-Chair, Amy Finleyson, called the meeting to order and Bro. John Walker gave the opening prayer.

The following persons were in attendance: (21)

Kara Bearer

Bill Finleyson

Nancy

Pritchett

Latrelle Bembry

Lynn

Harper

Sara

Spears

Nicky Cabero

Barbara

Lawson

Jimmy

Tripp

Liz Cowart

Hugh Lawson

Joan

Tripp

Evelyn Dunagan

John

McCune

Dennis

Vickers

Vickie Dykes

Nell Mixon

Staci

Vickers

Amy Finleyson

Clifton

Pritchett

John

Walker

Staci Vickers, **Youth Council** Chair, announced a lock-in being held at the church October 9 from 8:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. The following Sunday our youth will be treating the girls of the Americus Methodist Home to pizza and bowling in Warner Robins. Plans are in the works for the annual Trick-or-Eat activity. A few extra drivers are needed for this project. The youth have also begun work on their Christmas program.

Kara Bearer reported on the **Children's** activities. There are currently 28 children involved in the Wednesday afternoon/night activities. Linda Williams is assisting weekly with the younger children and conducts a monthly puppet ministry for both age groups. Carol Brunsell volunteers with a card ministry program. Children's choirs are going strong and work has begun on the Christmas program. The older of the choirs will sing at the morning service November 20.

Evelyn Dunagan, reporting for the **Senior Friendship Group**, announced that 17 attended the August meeting at the Steak House. The September meeting saw 13 in attendance. Joan and Jimmy Tripp are in charge of the November program and the December meeting will include the Walk Through Bethlehem in Warner Robins. Carol Brunsell will present a program on the history of the English Bible at her home for the January meeting.

**UMW** President, Lynn Harper, reported that 6 members attended the annual UMW meeting at Byromville UMC on September 17. The Rev. B. J. Funk was guest speaker. Hawkinsville UMW was recognized as a Hall of Fame Unit, Five Star Unit and participation in two mission studies. The 2012 District Officers will include Carol Brunsell, Evelyn Dunagan and Lynn Harper. A local mission study was presented September 24 led by Paul and Linda Williams on their mission trip to the Dominican Republic. Evelyn Dunagan and Lynn Harper attended the South Georgia Conference UMW District Officer Training on October 8 in Warner Robins. The annual meeting of the Conference will be held October 15 at Vineville UMC in Macon. Hawkinsville will be host for the Local Officer Training on November 5 beginning at 9:30 a.m.

**Hospitality** Chair, Sara Spears, reported that 11 bud vases were presented to shut-ins and patients since August.

Barbara Lawson, **Music** Chair, announced the addition of Rollie Brunsell and Stephanie Collins to the chancel choir. Work has begun on the Christmas Cantata which will be presented December 11 rather than December 18.

Under the heading of the **Worship Committee**, Clifton Pritchett reported on the use of the glass communion cups rather than the plastic ones and how much easier it was.

**Evangelism** Chair, Vickie Dykes, reported that she will be holding a meeting of her committee very soon. Emphasis will be on volunteers for the Meals on Wheels as a couple of people have opted out of the program.

Liz Cowart, **Education** Co-Chair, announced the success of the new Young Adult Class and the fact that it was steadily growing. She also reported that the Sunday School Socials were continuing to be held and seemed to be well attended.

Reporting for **Dooly Campground** Representative Larry Harper, Lynn Harper announced that the Boston butt sale was successful, though she did not have the final figures.

**Lay Leadership** Chair, Bro. John Walker, will present his report of this committee at the Charge Conference on October 12.

**Trustees** Chair, Nicky Cabero, reported that there are \$62,841.98 from investments available for the building of the Youth Pavilion. The plans for the Pavilion have been approved with a few minor changes including the area to 24 x 36 feet. The bid will be going out to six businesses and each will have 3 weeks to submit a bid. Bro. John announced that a gift of \$2,500 from Missions has been presented for this venture and will probably be used for furnishings for the Pavilion as these funds will not be available until March 2012. The project should be finished not later than 45 days following the award of the bid.

Speaking on behalf of the **Building and Grounds Committee**, Nicky directed attention to the trimmed and cleaned out shrubbery beds around the church and parsonage. New straw will be laid this next week. A problem of bats in the steeple has been taken care of and the project of removing/planting trees on the church grounds will commence in the fall. Plans for more parking are being discussed as well as the need for new handicap ramps. The ramps can hopefully be installed when the paving for the Pavilion is done.

As for **Parsonage** needs, Joni Coody, Nicky Cabero and Bobby Carter worked on replacing loose tiles in the bathroom as well as cleaning and repair work on the outside of the parsonage.

**Staff-Parish** Chair, Dennis Vickers, reported that extra help was need for the middle grade aged children on Wednesdays. Melinda Swick has been hired for this duty at \$8.50 for one hour per week. Dennis made the RECOMMENDATION that the pastor's salary for 2012 be set at \$70,000 plus a \$6,000 expense reimbursement. This amounts to approximately a 5% increase over 2011. Clifton Pritchett seconded the Recommendation and it passed Council approval.

**Finance Committee** Chair, Hugh Lawson, announced that the church was in good standing with paying the regular monthly bills and salaries, but was greatly lacking in paying our share of District and Conference Askings. Only 42% of this obligation has been paid through September. The amount needed by the end of the year amounts to \$27,302.00 or \$9,100.66 each month for the last three months of the year. Our church as never failed to pay its full Conference Askings. Hugh will be sending out a congregational letter giving this information to the members and asking for more effort in meeting this obligation.

The **Stewardship Committee** will be meeting Wednesday, October 12, at 5:15 p.m.

**Safe Sanctuaries** Chair, Clifton Pritchett, held a training session October 2. Another session will be held soon for those who were unable to attend.

Bro. John Walker, in giving his **Pastor's Report**, told how well the Wednesday night programs were going. There are 11 people attending the Disciple Bible Study each week. Dennis Vickers moved and John McCune seconded the acceptance of the pastor's annual tax form and housing allowance for 2012. The motion passed.

In **Other Business**, Joan Tripp again brought up the importance of volunteers needed for the Meals on Wheels Program. She told how our church first began this program in 1977-78 and that our church should not be the one church to falter in following through. Six people are needed every month when our church is responsible for its turn. Following discussion on the subject, John McCune offered to become a volunteer.

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the Council's August meeting be approved as written. The motion passed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

*s/ Nancy Pritchett*

Nancy Pritchett  
Secretary