

# Minutes From May Allendale Church Council Meeting

May 14, 2013 7:00 pm

**Joe Deal** opened the meeting with scripture 1 Corinthians 2 and a prayer. Joe then asked the group "how many Bible studies do we have to take before we are ready to tell our friends and family, neighbors and coworkers about the saving grace of Jesus Christ. Perhaps if we wait till we are confident we will never be completely ready. As Adidas logo says "Just do It".

Joe reported that the congregation at Christ United Methodist Church has taken a vote and they are going to remain open. They will be exploring ways to revitalize their ministries. Allendale will continue to keep Christ UMC in their prayers as they work to strengthen all aspects of continuing their ministry in downtown St. Petersburg.

**Joe then** gave a report on behalf of Trustees. We had an unexpected electrical repair bill of \$7,000.00 to our electrical panels that effected the entire Allendale Campus. The electrical panels have been updated to accept new underground wiring from Duke Electric.

**A priority** right now is to put a new roof on the Sanctuary. Bids are now being gathered with anticipation of starting work in June. The east side of the sanctuary is showing water damage along the outside wall which is visible in the women's upstairs and downstairs restrooms.

**The next** priority would be to put new windows in the sanctuary. The windows we have now are fading in color as well as leaking water into the walls causing plaster damage inside as well as damaging some of our pews. We have had a couple of window installers talk to us about repair and replacement. The Trustees feel the present windows have simply out lived their effectiveness and need to be replaced with new energy/sound muffling windows. This upgrade will cost us approximately \$35,000.

**The next** priority is to put in a new parking lot. Our parking lot has been patched to the point it just can't be patched anymore. We are estimating that this upgrade would be around \$35,000 for all our parking areas.

The roof on all of our buildings needs to be replaced, they are about 30 years old and we are beginning to see leaks in other areas of our Allendale Campus. Cost for these upgrades is estimated to be \$100,000.00.

These priority projects are projected to cost us around \$250,000.00

## **Other areas of concern are:**

The existing lighting in the sanctuary choir loft is old and not repairable. The ceiling is a concern for workmen in that it is not setup for workers to work safely. We have had electricians simply refuse to work on the lights, so we will be looking for other alternatives. Repairs in the sanctuary after it is dried in. Repairs such as crumbling plaster and water spots and peeling paint. Ultimately we would like to look at upgrading our seating in the sanctuary. We all see the condition of the pews; while they are still functional they are not very attractive and are in serious need of attention.

Termites have caused some serious damage around our campus. The Chapel windows are in serious need of replacement. Termites have eaten the frames to the point of being able to stick your finger through them.

**Clark Evans** gave a financial report: He expressed the concern of the Finance Committee about the Sanctuary roof repair and how to pay for it. The Finance Committee and the PETF Committee (*Permanent Endowment Trust Fund*) together agreed that the PETF would make a one and a half percent interest loan to Trustees so the Sanctuary roof could be repaired ASAP.

**Clark** reported that Allendale had contracted with a consulting company, Dickerson and Baker to assist Allendale in a Fall Capital Campaign. Allendale is a church that has not had a mortgage in 30 years and with the help of the Finance Committee and our Consultants and the generosity of the people of Allendale Church we are prayerful to keep it that way.

**Diane Gibson** gave a brief report on the combined Vacation Bible School that Allendale will be participating in at St. James UMC. on 9<sup>th</sup> Street North. The Church Council approved financial support to the effort not to exceed \$500.00.

**Rev. Ronnie Jones** spoke to the Council on the Challenges of Evangelizing in Northeast St. Petersburg. Why do Christians struggle in evangelizing for Jesus Christ?

Fear-what will people think of me?

Ignorance- Many want to share their faith but don't feel equipped.

Arrogance- some feel they are above evangelizing, "that's what the Pastor is for"

Apathy-Some Christians just don't care about the lost.

Bad Theology-Do not have a sense of urgency for the lost.

**To move** any organization forward it is important to have clarity. Make leadership simple. **Ask yourself What are we doing? Why are we doing it? How do I fit in?**

**Quoting Dr. Henry Cloud** when he spoke of boundaries for leaders. First bring necessary endings. Don't keep trying to breathe life into an event or process that has long been non effective or fruitful. Sometimes we are led to just stop it. What are we being hoarders of that we should just let go of or put to rest. Rev. Ronnie explained the importance of each member of Allendale to take ownership of ministry. Don't wait for someone else to build a program or small group you believe is needed at Allendale. Great things can be accomplished when the right people with the right passion are motivated.

**Ronnie** then introduced the idea of having a *Family Friendly* service at Allendale that would include a meal, some sort of small group and a short combined worship service. This service could be on Wednesday when we already have some of this established or it could be on another night of the week. The Pastor calls the event W.E. S. T. Wednesday Evening Supper Together or WOW Worship on Wednesday.

**Ronnie** brought up the need for Allendale to put in some *Knee Time*. Allendale has many challenges ahead of it. In order for Allendale to meet these challenges there will be the need for some serious prayer. Allendale needs to be in prayer as to how we can reach the lost for Jesus. We need to get serious about this responsibility of The Church. The emphasized the importance for the members of Allendale Church to reach out into the community with two non-threatening questions:

1 What do you think is the most important need in Northeast St. Petersburg

2.What is the greatest need for your children and family.

**Joe Deal** spoke to the group about setting up systems to encourage volunteers to come forward. In brief we all acknowledged we need to work on these structures and will need to develop systems. Right now our system is by default not by a plan. So we will be looking at all of our volunteer areas and looking for ways to make them fulfilling for the volunteers.

Joe ended the evening with prayer 8:20 pm

**Next Church** Council Meeting, June 11, 2013, 7:00 pm in the Family Life Center. All Allendale members are invited to attend. All members have a vote on the council.