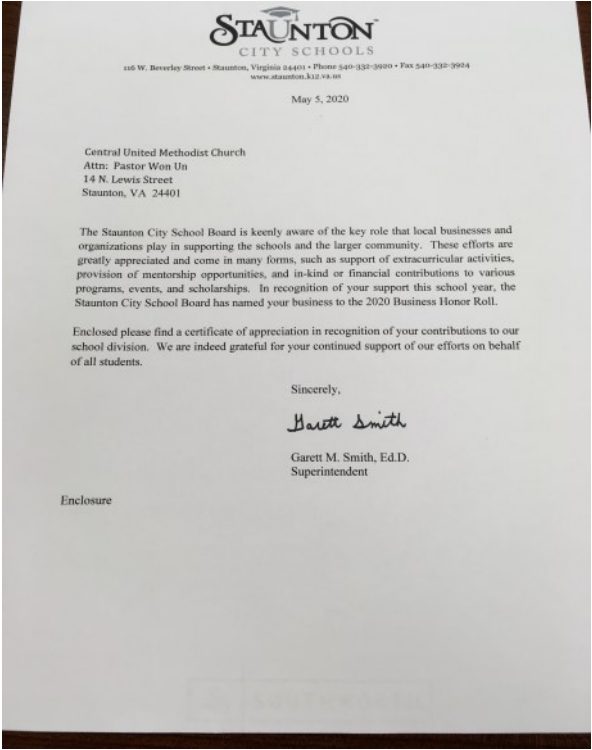


Central UMC on the 2020 Business
Honor Roll!



July

- 1: Judith King
- 4: Beth White
- 13: Ginny Bauman
- 15: Kay Linnane
- 18: Maddie Buttitta
- 22: Tammy Obaugh
- 23: Judith Jones
- 25: Lynn Hill
- 28: Richard Brown

August

- 2: Tom Davis
- 2: Beth Huffer
- 4: Andrew Noto
- 12: Debbie Foster
- 13: Audrey Bocock
- 16: Betty Jo Obaugh
- 16: Ann Spotts
- 19: Eve Beals
- 21: John Bauman
- 29: Ruth Hall



The Central Connection

2020 June Newsletter

May 2020 Council Minutes

The Church Council of Central UMC was called to order by Chairperson Tom Davis at 2:05 pm on May 26. Due to the COVID-19 "shelter in place" mandate Council met electronically via Zoom. Joe Hill presented the devotions. Those present included Tom Davis, Connie Davis, Mary Douglas, Sybille Jobin, Bill Bushman, Marina Foltz, Won Un, Yi-Ping Chen, Linda Dinsmore, Beverly Coltrane, Sandra Clemmer, and Joe Hill.

Committee Reports:

Lay Leader: No report

SPRC: Sybille Jobin reported that Sarah Russell's replacement as administrative assistant and bookkeeper, Madeleine Buttitta, will begin work officially on June 1. She is training with Sarah this week. The Nurture Committee sent a \$100 gift card to Sarah along with a card. Sybille reported that staff evaluations are usually done in the summer but this has been pushed back.

Finance: Joe Hill thanked Sarah Russell for her excellent work as bookkeeper. He reported that Central has received \$18,837 from the Small Business Administration Paycheck Protection Program loan to assist in paying salaries and utilities. This loan will become a grant as long as we do not reduce staff in the next month. He reported on Central's financial status based on Sarah Russell's May Statement of Activities. This statement is incomplete because there is still one Sunday left in May. Thus far, the May income from all sources is \$13,430.39 and the expenses are \$14,981.26. The income included \$9,365.00 from gifts by membership. This compares to \$7,443.42 in April of 2020 and \$8,806 in May of 2019. Although no

apportionments have been paid thus far during May, some of the Active Clergy Health line will be paid by the end of the month. Also, \$23,000 was transferred from the Endowment Funds for payment of the heating project and for the awning project. He reported that the list of those who are able to ask for withdrawal from the First Bank endowment funds has been amended. Those on the list now are Bill Bushman, Tom Davis, Ed Smith and Madeleine Buttitta. Council unanimously approved this recommendation. Won announced that two BBQ fund raisers are being planned. On June 6 there will be one scheduled for helping the community and on July 11 a second one is planned for providing assistance to Central members who request it. Central members who request help will contact Won directly and he will keep the requests confidential.

Endowment: Tom Davis reported that our investments are still down but are making a recovery. For example, the manse account had around \$388,000 in December. In January it went to \$386,000. In February it went down to \$365,000. In March it bottomed out at \$334,000. In April it came back to \$366,000 and is now at \$373,000. Plus, over \$8000 has been paid out this year.

Trustees: Bill Bushman reported that:

- The Ring doorbells are now installed and active at the Lewis Street and Beverley Street doors. Thanks to Mike Melton for helping with the electrical connections.
- All sanctuary heating installations and gas line replacement have been now completed; thermostats need reprogramming.
- The Beverley Street awning replacement estimate from Apple Door in Waynesboro was received and approved by the Trustees (\$5,600). This includes replacing the existing awning with a larger frame, and relocating current awning to Lewis Street (Office) door.
- The Trustees are looking into safely replacing two existing unlit mercury vapor/high pressure sodium lamps in the lower parking lot with LED fixtures. A lift is required due to the heights involved.

The Trustees greatly appreciate the work done by Millie and Richard Brown and Ed Pickett on landscape maintenance around our church. Millie contracted with Waynesboro Nurseries for trimming the two maple trees flanking the Lewis Street Office doors. The Trustees had two Zoom meetings recently to facilitate these actions.

Nurture/Witness: Beverly Coltrane reported that the Nurture/Witness committee sent a card with a \$100 gift card to Sarah Russell. The reception for Fred Ergenbright has been canceled.

Choir/Music: Yi-Ping Chen reported that she has been recording Sunday music including other musicians such as her husband who played the trumpet for this past week's service. This coming week a violinist will be accompanying her. Yi-Ping mentioned that singing is not a safe activity with COVID-19, though.

Outreach: Connie Davis reported that a drive-by soup ministry has been ongoing since March 796 quarts have been distributed. After this coming Saturday, the last Saturday of this ministry, 850 will have been handed out. Connie thanked Lynn Hill for crackers and all those who provided masks. The Food Pantry has been giving out food on Saturdays in addition to Wednesday. Last Saturday 20 families received a box of food. Recipients are very grateful. Last Tuesday, soup, bread, and cookies were made and delivered to the Rescue Squad, Fire Departments, and the COVID-19 Testing Site in Fishersville. A total of 59 quarts of soup were given away. They were extremely grateful. On June 6 there will be community drive-by including BBQ, hamburgers, and chips. On June 12 the employees at the Blue Ridge Food Bank will be served lunch. On July 11 there will be a fund raiser for those in need at Central. Curbside communion was done on May 3.

Children and Youth: Mary Douglas reported that she had checked with the nursery teachers and church school parents regarding Sunday gatherings and with John Bauman regarding the teen Sunday School. The nursery and children's church parents do not wish to resume those gatherings in the foreseeable future. The teen Sunday School class has held two Zoom meetings.

UMW: No report.

UMM: No report.

At Large: No report.

Pastor: Pastor Won reported that:

- Central has been very busy despite COVID-19. He thanked all those who work with the soup ministry and the food pantry. He commented that both have been very well received in the community and will perhaps lead to additional members once our morning worship services resume. Won asked Council to consider how we can involve those who come to us.
- Won met with John Myers to develop a re-opening plan. They determined that 58 family units can safely sit with six feet of separation downstairs plus 27 more using the balcony. Initially there will be no greeters or ushers. There will be no singing; the hymnals and Bibles will be removed. Masks will be required. Families will sit together. The pews will be marked with yellow tape. The service will be shortened. The offering will be made in a plate as attendees enter. There will be a Congregational Prayer. Afterwards Janet will clean the sanctuary. As far as when this will happen, this is unknown. Won and John will finalize the plan in the next week or so then present it to Council, then to members. Mary Douglas mentioned that hand sanitizer should be available in multiple places.
- June 7 is the next scheduled Communion Sunday. Won asked Council members about whether the process used on May 3 should be repeated or not. There was general agreement that it should be.

- Won will be away beginning May 27. He will be moving his son John back from his graduate studies. John is scheduled for heart surgery on June 18. He advised Council to contact Ken Beals, who will be delivering the sermon on May 31, if ministerial assistance is needed. He thanked Bill Bushman and Benham Black for their Congregational Prayers; Tom Davis will be doing the prayer for this coming Sunday.
- Won thanked John Bauman for his work with the CUMC Youth including Zoom meetings with them.
- Won thanked Yi-Ping and Ana Abrantes for their recording and video editing of the Sunday morning worship services.
- Won emphasized that the July 11 fund raiser is for CUMC members.
- Won reported that Audrey Bocock sends her greetings along to CUMC members. Randy Lindamood has contracted COVID-19 but is presumably doing OK now.
- Won reported that there have been several deaths in the CUMC family recently including Anita Jackson who lost her brother, Richard Brown his sister, and Janet Nuckoles her brother.

The next Council meeting is scheduled for June 23, 2020 at 2:00 pm. Bill Bushman will provide devotions for the June meeting. The meeting concluded with the Lord's Prayer at 3:01 pm led by Linda Dinsmore.

Respectfully submitted by

Joe Hill, Council Secretary



June 2020 Council Minutes

The Church Council of Central UMC was called to order by Chairperson Tom Davis at 2:00 pm on June 23. Due to COVID-19, Council met electronically via Zoom. Bill Bushman presented the devotions. Those present included Tom Davis, Connie Davis, Mary Douglas, Sybille Jobin, Bill Bushman, Won Un, Yi-Ping Chen, John Myers, Beverly Coltrane, Sandra Clemmer, and Joe Hill.

Committee Reports:

Lay Leader: Connie Davis said she would be happy when we can meet again. She thanked Won for doing the drive-by communions.

SPRC: Maddie Buttitta reported that she is slowly but surely getting a handle on all of her jobs including both those of the administrative assistant and her bookkeeping roles. She is pleased thus far with the job.

Finance: Joe Hill reported that the May income from all sources was \$13,434.66 and the expenses were \$19,348.16. \$3,000 in Active Clergy Health apportionments were paid during May. Of concern is that the income from identified givers was \$49,467 for January - May 2020 compared to \$62,895 for the same period in 2019 and \$67,776 for 2018. On the bright side, the contributions from identified givers for May, 2020 was \$9,365 which was actually higher than the contributions from identified givers for May, 2019 which was \$8,806. The \$450 parking lot rent per month is no longer being received as the company that rented it has finished their Staunton work. We have not received any information yet from City National Bank regarding loan forgiveness for the \$18,837 loan/grant from the Small Business Administration Paycheck Protection Program. He also reported that several CUMC members were now using the online contribution service offered via our website through VANCO.

Endowment: Tom Davis reported that from December 2019 until June 2020:

- The parsonage account balance went from \$388,053 to a low of \$334,684 in March then rebounded to a current value of \$385,013. There was \$3,250 paid out in that period.
- The General account balance went from \$158,166 to a low of \$126,208 in March to a current value of \$152,819. There was \$7,000 paid out in that period.

- The Endowment account balance went from \$843,712 to \$805,800 (as of May 31). There was \$31,452 paid out in that period.

Trustees: Bill Bushman reported that the awning work is underway. The new awnings are being manufactured and will arrive around August. Thank you notes were written to Millie & Richard Brown and Ed Pickett for their work on the flowers around the church and weeding. Also Robert Ham volunteered his repair of the cornerstone at Central. Bill reported that the air conditioning is now working well. Also, the Trustees are considering some storm door work around the archway at Central.

Nurture/Witness: Susan Black that they will potentially provide meals for Won's family at the time of his son John's surgery.

Choir/Music: Yi-Ping Chen reported that she is starting to include invited singers/musicians including John Bauman, Gene Blackmer, Lisa Carter, Deborah Reid, and Joe Hill. Won thanked Yi-Ping for her work enhancing the YouTube videos which are posted in lieu of Sunday morning worship services.

Outreach: Connie Davis reported that the employees of Blue Ridge Food Bank had been fed a meal (40 qts with homemade desserts). The outreach committee was also given a tour of the Food Bank. A total of 926 quarts of soup had been given out at the soup distributions in 13 weeks. On July 31 a meal will be provided for a group of COVID testers in Waynesboro. The community meal (Central Chow Down) was very successful, serving around 210 people. In October, we are still scheduled to have a fund raiser at The Meating Place. Caroline Jones reported that Food Pantry served 286 individuals in May, around 126 families. Around 9,800 pounds of food were ordered in May. The Pantry has a no-touch setup for clients. Each pre-packaged box weighs around 75 pounds. Also, Jim Reid and George and Sharon Sproul have made donations to the Food Pantry. The Food Pantry hopes to resume Saturday distributions later this summer. Trinity Church hopes to resume weekly luncheons soon, possibly a bag lunch. Tom Davis noted that Wednesdays might conflict with Food Pantry. Sandra Clemmer noted that our upper

parking lot would be available for bag lunch distributions. Won noted that the clothes closet will re-open this coming Wednesday. Linda Dinsmore will distribute the clothes to those who request.

Children and Youth: Mary Douglas reported that they miss the contact with the children and youth. John Bauman keeps in touch with the Youth on Sundays via Zoom.

UMW: Anita Jackson reported that the UMW has not met. They hope that by August they can get together. They plan to meet at Central, combining the two circles, with each person bringing their own food and maintain social distancing.

UMM: No report.

At Large: John Myers reported that he and Won have studied ways that Central could re-open. Central's average attendance prior to the pandemic was around 60 per Sunday. Virginia is set to enter Phase 3 on July 1. We have directives from the Bishop which must be followed which currently include required reservations for attendees, social distancing mandated, and no singing. Won asked Council members for their opinions. After discussion involving many Council members, Joe Hill motioned that Council should decide each month about re-opening for Sunday morning services the subsequent month and that we not have services in July. Susan Black volunteered to keep track of COVID-19 information in the area on a daily basis. The motion passed unanimously. Won is still hoping to have the church opened at times for private, individual attendance with reservations. Cleaning would take place afterwards.

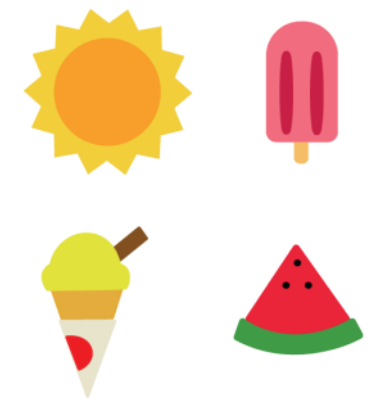
Pastor: Pastor Won reported that:

- Central has been busier than ever including the recording of services plus the normal activities. Won explained that his son John is due to have surgery on June 26. He will record the sermon for June 28 and on July 5 he will play a recorded message from our current district superintendent, David Rochford. He thanked Tom Davis for helping with communion in June. Regarding online Bible study, he did not have sufficient response to do this yet. He will send out another request and hopes for ten or more positive responses. Won thanked all those who

faithfully contribute to Central. Tom asked Council members to consider what Won said in the e-mail he sent to all Council members about how we can be using our COVID-19 time and reimagine the new reality. Won reminded members that there is a blog on our website which allows members to make comments.

The next Council meeting is scheduled for July 28, 2020 at 2:00 pm. Susan Black will provide devotions for the July meeting.

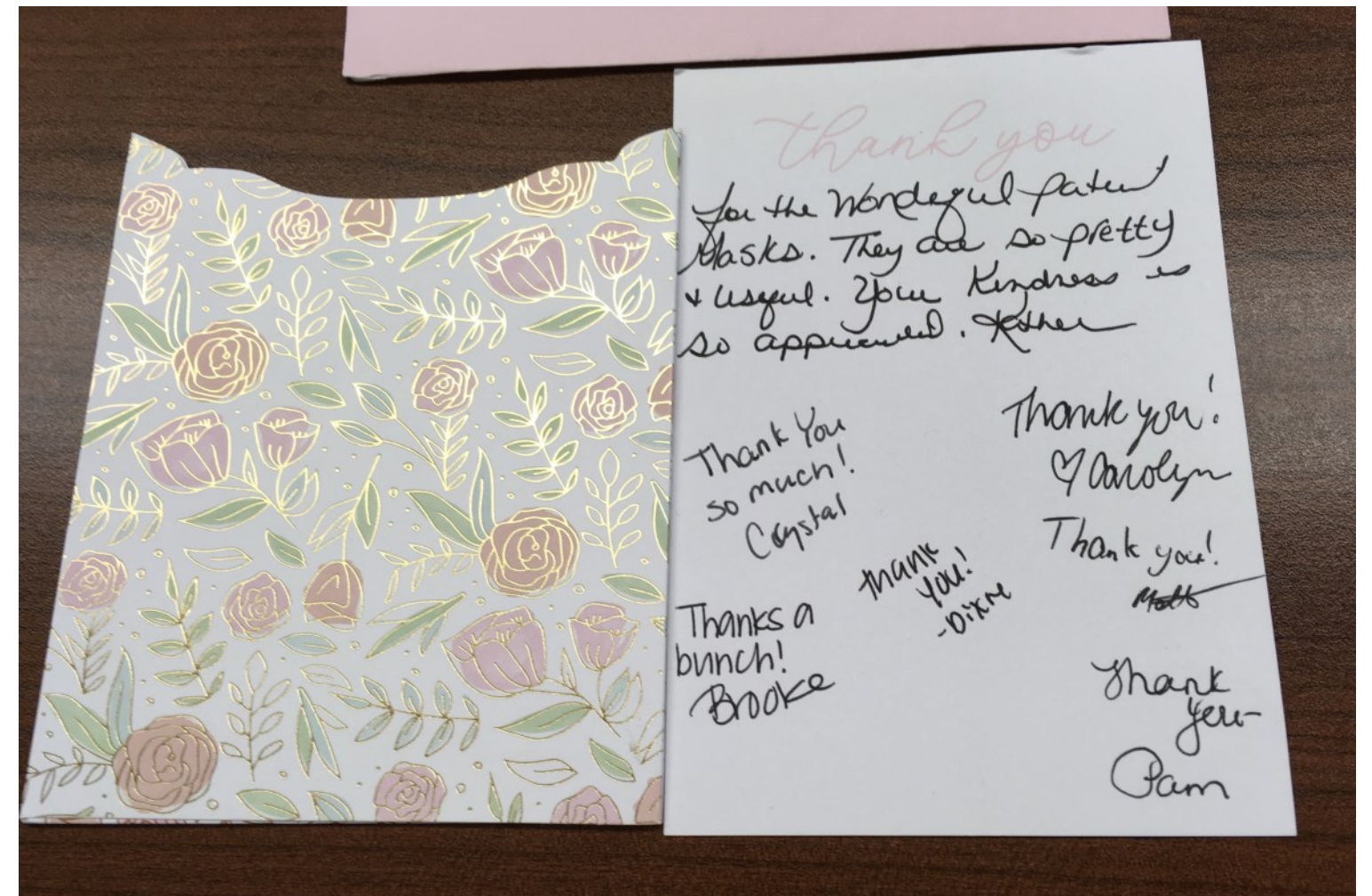
Respectfully submitted by
Joe Hill, *Council Secretary*



Words of Thanks

To my wonderful Church Family,
Thank you for the beautiful
flowers you sent when my Mom passed.
They smelled wonderful and freshened
up my whole house. It's wonderful
to have such a thoughtful and caring
church.

Thank you!
Bobbie Rosson



Thank you
for the wonderful pattern
books. They are so pretty
& useful. Your kindness is
so appreciated. ~~Kathy~~

Thank You
so much!
Crystal

Thanks a
bunch!
Brooke

Thank
you!
-Dixie

Thank you!
Carolyn

Thank you!
~~Matt~~

Thank
you
Pam