

Trustees Meeting Minutes
Downs United Methodist Church
April 3, 2006

- **Present:** Jon Spelde, Curt Rush, Darla Lanchester, Craig Solvie, Ken Garling, Suzann Erlenbush, Craig Solvie, Mac Fuller, Andre McNaught
- Curt opened with prayer.
- **Old Business:**
 - **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** There were no minutes from last month.
 - **Building Construction:**
 - We discussed searching for new property for the church. Jon passed out copies of McLean County plats for the areas around Downs and 150. Top three are:
 - Stark property: This property is located by Freedom. \$100,000 for 4 acres was the initial proposal, but then we *thought* they proposed \$1 a square foot. However, Jack Snyder had not approved this, and he wanted \$2 a square foot. Craig will meet with them to see if we can get a reasonable price (initially listed as Mercer Turner, Trustee, property).
 - Bethel Trust (13.7 acres): This property is next to the middle school. Tom Morrison talked to Brad Cox. Jon is on the school board meeting for April 17. It has to come up for a vote May 1.
 - Sign out on Route 150.
 - Access to our property from the drive in front of middle school.
 - Easement to hydrant for sprinkler water.
 - Ask about the source for drinkable water (e.g., city water?).
 - Easement for power.
 - Mention the possibility of parsonage in front 2.5 acres at some point in the future.
 - D & B H (13 acres across from Taulbee Trust): Did not want to sell.
- **New Business:**
 - **Work Orders:**
 - Signs directing people to our church: The signs at the intersection of 800 N intersection and the LeRoy-Lexington blacktop and the intersection of Dooley St/800N and Rt 150 are in terrible shape. Craig made a motion we purchase three new signs, which Curt will order, up to \$500, to replace the two damaged signs and one to put up in a new location along Seminary street. Darla seconded the motion. Motion carried. Craig volunteered to install them.
 - Parsonage basement: The parsonage basement flooded because the sump pump burnt up. There is no back up pump. The estimate is \$4600: \$3500 for the dryers to dry out the carpet. Craig made a motion to have Curt put in a new sump pump with a battery backup and an alarm for an amount not to exceed \$375. Mac seconded.
 - Clock in sanctuary: Gary Lutzens fixed our clock for free, and it's now hanging back in the sanctuary. Darla sent him a thank-you note on behalf of the congregation and trustees. Jon checked with our insurance agent, and the clock is 100% covered by our policy. The clock is worth \$1000.
 - Church ramp gate: This was torn up by the high winds. Jon will repair.
 - Annex sink: This is broken, but Curt will repair.
 - Tree removal (parsonage): Tree removal is finished for \$350.
 - Discussed the building fund and that many have not given what they pledged. We are not at the giving level we need to support the new building payment. Jon is meeting with the Finance Committee this week to discuss what can be done to encourage people to meet their pledges.
 - Kenny made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Suzann seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 7:25 pm.