



Clemmons UMC Leadership Board Meeting

August 7, 2023 @ 7 p.m.

Minutes

In attendance: Ray Barnes, Amanda Batten, Carole Carr, Betsy Cochrane, Pam Davis, Parks Engstrom, Chris Fitzgerald, John Fitzgerald, Lawrence Fletcher, Ed Fisher, Kathy Giff, Janie Hackney, Lynn Kennedy, Susie Marion, Heather Magaha, Jeff Meadows, Tom Miller, David Mooneyham, Joel Morgan, Alan Nealeans, Court Nealeans, Donna Odom, Cristina Batista Paterson, Ken Peacock, Ann Raines, Linda Shawcross, Karen Stutzman and Melanie White

1. Welcome/Call to Order - Ken Peacock welcomed everyone and thanked them for their time and service to CUMC.
2. Opening Prayer - John Fitzgerald opened the meeting with prayer.
3. Approval of May 1, 2023 Leadership Board Meeting – A motion was made to accept the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and approved.
4. Board Committee Reports
 - a. Trustee - Jeff Meadows indicated that the Trustee Committee had spent approximately 54% of their budget as of July. He updated the LB on the following:
 - Water Usage – The process of analyzing church water usage showed that while water costs increased during the past year, costs were in line with 2016/2017 water bills. During the water usage study, trustees identified several issues needing attention. **The Trustees made a motion to replace ten toilets and eight sinks in the children’s department (pending finance team review of funds available in MGGS-2017).** Jeff indicated that replacing these items will help improve water costs and provide the building with handicapped accessible bathroom facilities. It would also bring the children’s area up to code. A motion was made, seconded and approved.
 - HVAC Updates – Jeff indicated that HVAC Unit #6 had suffered a compressor failure. Because replacing the entire unit will cost roughly \$22K, the Trustees recommended moving this project from the replacement budget to the maintenance budget, thereby spending roughly \$5823 to replace the compressor. He indicated that we could potentially get another 20 years out of the unit and replacement at this time was not recommended. **A motion was made to transfer this expenditure to the maintenance budget and replace the compressor, not the entire unit.** The motion was seconded and approved.
 - Hail Damage Updates (Att.2) – Jeff indicated that he and Waynette had been in contact with the church’s insurance adjuster after significant hail damage to CUMC buildings. Jeff explained that by accepting insurance money to repair identified damages, the church would assume the responsibility of making recommended repairs to continue insurance coverage for said repairs. For

example: if the church received replacement money for the roof and decided to pocket funds rather than spend them on roof repair, the roof would no longer be insured for future damage after the 2023 payout. The finance team will look at options for paying our deductible (\$5K) and CUMC's portion of any nonrecoverable depreciation (\$26,937.45). The current payout amount is \$87,405.10 but can be amended should the parsonage roof be replaced or any further damage is detected. Jeff thanked Waynette and David for all their help with this enormous project.

- Jeff indicated that the exterior of the Hunter House should be cleaned soon.
 - Jeff indicated that he and others are looking into a Security Team once the hail damage is addressed.
- b. Finance - Ray Barnes thanked Waynette for all her help with the finance committee minutes and read them to the LB (See Supplemental Document A below). Ray indicated the following:
- Comparing income from June 2022 to June 2023, we are \$34,988 behind at this time. These figures are in line with previous patterns for June in previous years. Preliminary reports for July 2023 appear favorable.
 - Parks Engstrom provided insight into the need for CUMC to invest in the future of our church to remain vibrant and relevant. She also expressed a need for our church to come together, young and old, and get behind creating a space that will serve us now and into the future by renovating the Ministry Center.
 - Ray indicated that the Finance Team had discussed the creation of a Capital Campaign at length for the Ministry Center. While the Finance Team asked for a pause in May due to the church's financial situation, he indicated that the Finance Team would like for the Ministry Center Team to re-visit their proposed plans for renovation and put forward an incremental or phased plan for the Finance Team to approve. Finance members Aaron Rodgers and Dave Davis would like to be a part of the process of helping to discern a new plan and have offered to work closely with the Ministry Center Team.
- c. Stewardship - Lawrence Fletcher was unable to be present as he lost power during the meeting.
- d. Staff-Parish Relations - Lynn Kennedy indicated that the SPRC's #1 priority is recruiting a candidate for the Children's Ministry position. She indicated that hiring Chris Fitzgerald as the interim director would provide SPRC time to recruit a suitable candidate. Questions arose regarding Sara's resignation and how the SPRC process worked. Members of the LB expressed interest in helping in any way possible to help answer questions from the membership or assist with supporting and nurturing staff members. John indicated that many SPRC matters are confidential and are not presented to the LB. He also indicated that church committees act as emergency response teams for their areas. SPRC is responsible for HR related issues.
- e. Nominations - John Fitzgerald indicated that their first meeting will be held on August 14. Charge Conference will be held on November 6 at 7pm. Nominations will present a full slate of officers at that time.

- f. MOST - Pam Davis indicated that MOST met in May and provided a copy of the minutes. She indicated that we are now halfway through 2023 with \$19K left in the budget (\$10K of that money is use it or lose it). Given the low balance left, all requests have been tabled for the time being as the MOST Committee discerns their focus for the second half of 2023. Pam indicated that the MOST Committee cannot be responsible for a large “bazaar like” fundraiser and asked for assistance discerning where MOST funds should come from in the future. Zoe was able to raise \$17K with little effort and she asked if this was a model that missions should follow?
- g. Worship – John for Martha Mayse reported that the next Worship meeting will be held Aug. 21. Stewardship asked for the month of October for their pledge drive. John also indicated that this year, Christmas Eve and New Years Eve fall on Sunday and that the worship team is working on a lineup of services to address this year’s calendar challenges.
- h. Communications and Technology – Chris for Linda Shawcross reported that the directory will be ready for editing in September and they hope to have it ready in the New Year.
- i. Children’s Ministry - Cristina Batista Paterson indicated that she and Chris met and discussed holding an ‘in-person” children’s ministry meeting in September. Promotion Sunday will be held August 27 along with Blessing of Backpacks. Future plans include Trunk or Treat and a Fall Festival.
- j. Youth Ministry – Amanda for Abby Smith reported that their summer mission trips had been wonderful and she loved watching youth thrive and bloom. August 20 will be youth Sunday and all are invited. They will hold a potluck on August 27 for rising 6th through 12 grades which will include a parent/youth tournament (surprise).
- k. Senior Adult Ministry - Janie Hackney reported that their next function will be held 11/11 in honor of Veteran’s Day.
- l. GAP Discipleship Committee – Chris Fitzgerald for Jennifer Rogers reported the following:
- While our committee has been dispersed over the summer, we have a number of events and opportunities coming up to fellowship, build relationships, and be the hands and feet of Christ in our community:
 - **August Dinner Meetup - 6:00 pm August 15th at Mediterraneos in Clemmons** - we decided to hold this a week earlier than usual, as our normal 4th Tuesday is during the week prior to the new school year beginning and a number of school-related activities will be taking place. Join us!
 - **Baking for H.O.P.E. - Saturday, August 19th from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm** in the Clemmons UMC kitchen. HOPE is a local non-profit that is addressing food insecurity and health in our community. One of the ways they do this is by providing meals and produce to children and families on Sundays. We have a number of folks signed up either to help bake, and/or donate ingredients for this fun event that benefits children in our community experiencing food insecurity.

If you'd like to join us, you can sign up using the link on the homepage of the church website.

- **Tuesday Women's Book Study - Resumes September 12th** & we will re-start on the book, Bad Girls of the Bible. This group meets on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 - 8:30 pm.
- **Rest Women's Beach Retreat** - September 15 - 17. We've had interest from approximately 16 women and are in the final stages of selecting and booking our accommodations for a wonderful weekend of physical rest and resting in Jesus.
- **Our next meeting will be after the dinner meetup on Tuesday, August 15th.**

5. Other - None

6. Adjourn – Ken thanked everyone for their time and attendance. The meeting was adjourned.

Remaining 2023 Leadership Board meetings Oct. 2 and Nov 6.

(Supplemental Document A) Finance Committee Meeting July 27, 2023

Seven members were present: Ray Barnes, Scott Seagle, Lawrence Fletcher, Aaron Rodgers, Libby Bovender, David Davis and Waynette Adamczak. Ray opened with a reading from the Upper Room devotional.

Aaron notified the committee about Sara's resignation. Chris Fitzgerald will be the interim Children's Minister starting on August 7. Staff Parish is currently interviewing for this position. They will be evaluating staff positions in the fall to verify we are in line with churches of comparable size. Libby asked about the total staff line item compared to the total budget amount. Currently it is 53% of our budget. Payroll is running at 43% of the budget. When comparing our staff budget with other churches it is important to compare other churches debt ceiling too. David is concerned about a domino effect of more staff leaving. He wants the staff and church members to know they are important and the church is doing well. Currently, the economy is better than expected.

Lawrence reported that the Stewardship Committee met on July 13 to start planning the fall campaign. Holly Lee was invited to attend the meetings as a representative of the Praise Service.

Scott updated the committee on pledges. We received 161 pledges totaling \$733k and \$430k has been received, leaving a balance of \$303k. Twenty pledges have been fulfilled totaling \$138k. There are 129 partially fulfilled pledges totaling \$543k, of those we have received \$291k. There are 12 pledges totaling 65k that have no progress. One hundred and seventeen givers did not pledge, but have contributed \$145k.

Waynette discussed the June Treasurer's Report and the updated MGS17 spreadsheet showing total donations and expenses to date. The Trustees have had numerous repairs this year. A report was given showing over \$37k just in repairs.

Aaron asked the committee to revisit the renovation project of the Ministry Center/Fellowship Hall. He reported there are items that need repairing and felt this project could reunite the church with enthusiasm. We need to show that this area is not just for the Praise Service, but a multi-functional space. Ray asked for a scaled down

priority list of what would make it a functional space. The committee wants the project amount reduced to something that is easier to handle. We are not financially able to get a loan. A capital campaign would be required to raise funds before any work is started. Ray will bring this to the Leadership Board in August. If the Leadership Board approves a Called Charge Conference will be needed. The congregation could see the drawings, hear the presentation and vote on the project. We need total transparency so everyone has a voice.

Ray closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Waynette Adamczak