

## **Unified Church Board of the UMCM Minutes from January 13, 2025**

Board Members Present: Susan Hohs, Peggy Spraggins, Paul Pendleton, Rosanne Smith, Brett Neff, Linda Blankenship, Julie Bahr, Kevin Smith, Gina Picoult,

Board Members not present: Dale Leppo, Kent Shellko, David Fike, Doug Wyer

Staff present: Pastor Josh, Cathy Miller, and Jill Marlow.

Chairperson and guest present: Al Fellner.

**Pastor Josh Elliott** – opened with prayer.

**Devotions:** Paul Pendleton led us in devotions relative to the church's principals: Humility, Grace, Prayer, Love, Compassion and Service. He said he would discuss one each meeting. Grace was the subject for tonight's meeting.

There were no December meetings minutes since we had a celebration Christmas Party.

**Church Finance Report** – Doug Wyer – Not present.

Jill Marlow – stated the church ended the year with \$40,000 in the General Fund. She said there was an adjustment in the Love Offering which she will correct as the year proceeds. Jill also said that the church has not received the Bernath bequest as of yet and she will contact Amy to get an estimated date of distribution.

**Trustee:** Kevin Smith – submitted his report with the numerous projects that have been completed over the last month. They are planning a Workday on the second Saturday of each month from 9:00 am to about Noon. He said it is open to everyone as there are plenty of projects everyone can do.

Kevin said the contract for the cleaners will be renewed in February, but he is not sure if there will be an increase in the price. He did say that they worked extra hours to remove all the salt from the carpet due to the recent snowstorms.

In anticipation of the bishop's visit to our church on Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>, Kevin said the crew is scheduled to scrub the carpet in the sanctuary the week before and the clean it the day before.

There was a discussion about a security system proposed for the front office. Kevin said the present quote is for \$6,000 for all the doors. The Board discussed the value of spending this much money as opposed to other options. It was decided that Kevin would further investigate other options for a security system and cameras.

Kevin added that the kitchen design is being tweaked and should be ready shortly. Jill confirmed there was sufficient money in the fund to cover the costs.

**Christian Education** – Cathy Miller – reported that she has new interest from people who want to start teaching Sunday School. She said that she and Pastor Josh met to discuss dates of activities for 2025. At this time, she said the Chili Cook-off will be Feb. 16 after church. She will be attending a Youth Director’s seminar this Saturday.

Cathy said that the Community Connection Group is hosting a Grant Writing Seminar on Feb. 13 at the church for anyone who is interested.

**Photo Directory** – Cathy added that she has not been able to get with Kathy Kohrs about the Photo Director but will try to do so this week.

### **Old Business:**

**Enhanced Revenue Task Force** - Peggy Spraggins said that her committee met in November but did not have a good attendance. She asked all the Board members to review the list that was prepared of possible items and to let her know one or two priorities. Peggy said she is looking for items that can be done quickly at little or no cost to get things started.

**Rejoicing Newsletter** – Peggy Spraggins stated that Pastor Josh has asked her to produce a publication that shows the accomplishments of our church and how we are changing lives. Peggy prepared an issue for January which was submitted to the Board for review. There were a few comments for feedback made by the Board members. Gina was concerned that all the photos did not come through in the email that was sent. Josh will ask Denise to save the document as a PDF and then send it out to our members. She will print copies for the Welcome Center and the Faithful Friends group.

**Jason Moore Update** – Paul reviewed the accomplishments made by the church from the sessions with Jason Moore. He said that there are several things left to accomplish and that we are still owed 3-one hour Zoom meetings with him for further consultation.

### **New Business:**

**New Members to the UCB:** Paul Pendleton made a motion to approve Kevin Smith, Doug Wyer and Gina Picoult as voting members of the Board and to appoint the following people to serve as Chairpersons for 2025: Susan Hohs as Chair; Dale Leppo as Vice Chair; Kevin Smith as Trustee, Doug Wyer as Finance Chair and Linda Blankenship as SPRC Chair. Julie Bahr seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board members.

Jill announced that the Finance Guidance Team recommends that of the \$13,000 unanticipated donation, \$1,300 will be applied to 2024 Apportionments and \$11,700 will be applied to pay down the mortgage.

Pastor Josh announced that Bishop Hee-Soo Jung will be holding an all-day session at our church on Thursday, February 27. He said the morning session and lunch is just for clergy and laity is welcomed for dinner at 5:00 pm and worship service, Bible Study and a conversation afterward. He said UMC Conference will be renting our church for the day and would like us to plan both meals and other arrangements. He said that the Conference will be paying for all expenses. Pastor said more details will follow soon.

**Investment Group** – Pastor Josh gave an update on the Investment Group that has been meeting and said they are ready to move forward with a Cryptocurrency machine. He said there are currently two machines in the barn which will pay for the electricity used.

**Building Use Form** – Susan said that Denise will be sending out the Building Use Excel spreadsheet to all users to make sure all the information is correct for 2025.

**Mission Trip – 2025** - Paul invited all members to attend a meeting on Sunday, Jan 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at the church to discuss a mission project for 2025 with the Providence Baptist Church.

Jill presented a proposal from Spectrum Enterprise (not Spectrum Business) about enhancing the Internet connection via fiber optic cable. Jill presented the monthly prices which would be an increase to what the church is paying currently, however, the service would be more reliable. Brett questioned where the fiber optic cable is currently located and thought that the line was not available yet, but they were trying to secure users in order to pay for the line. The Board asked Jill to get more information about this proposal and talk to the Tech Team about the possible change.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm, with a closing prayer lead by Pastor Josh Elliott

Next meeting: **Monday, February 17, 2025 – PLEASE NOTE THIS IS THE 3<sup>RD</sup> MONDAY.**

**2025 – UCB – 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday every Month 7:00-8:30pm – Holbrook Room**  
**Mar. 10, Apr. 14, May 12, Jun. 9, Jul. 14, Aug. 11, Sept. 8, Oct. 13,**  
**Nov. 10, Dec 8.**

Notes prepared by P. Spraggins