

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CURCH  
MINISTRY SUPPORT TEAM  
January 17, 2017**

STAFF:

Daniel Hilty  
Jerry Kelly

Keith Vessell

MEMBERS:

Doug Bartley  
Melinda Bentley  
Katie Doman  
Darryl Engelhardt  
Ryan Freeman  
Mark Holzem

Anna Holt  
Ginger Meyer  
Christina Barnett  
Dee Dee Shelton  
Julie Allen

VISITOR:

Dave Harris

WELCOME:

Dee Dee Shelton, chairman, welcomed 11 members and 3 staff to the January meeting of the Ministry Support Team which was held in Room 107. Since this was the first meeting of a new committee, members were asked to introduce themselves and let folks know how long they had been attending FUMC.

Dee Dee referenced a writing by John Wesley, the father of Methodism who had many profound sayings. This particular piece stated that we should "Do no harm do good, and stay in love with God". Dee Dee urged the team to keep those instructions in mind when dealing with the issues before them.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the November 15 meeting were reviewed and approved, with the correction of the spelling of Doug Bartley's last name.

SENIOR PASTOR REPORT:

Daniel Hilty welcomed the new members and explained the ongoing work with Woodruff Sweitzer in discovering how our church is viewed by members and community members with the goal of identifying a brand for the church going forward. The first phase should be completed in the coming months, with decisions on further activity taking place after that.

Daniel also talked about what he viewed as improvements in the general spirit of the church. He also is moving toward forming a group called the First Care

Team for congregational care. Daniel also wants to explore the possibility of holding a retreat for staff and MST members at some point this year.

#### EXECUTIVE PASTOR REPORT:

Keith Vessell announced that we have hired a new Nursery Coordinator, Kadi Hood. Jaime Ordway had to resign due to increased work load at her full-time job at the legislature.

#### YEAR-END FINANCIALS:

Jerry Kelly distributed the Financial Information Summary and more detailed Financial Information Sheet as of December 31, 2016. (see attached) The figures show a surplus (net of renovation expenses) of \$52,502 for 2016. Income for the year increased by 7.9% over 2015, while expenses decreased by 1.2%. Overall, across all restricted and unrestricted funds, total cash decreased by less than \$3,000 – even with the \$160,000+ renovation.

The figures also included attendance figures, which showed about a 10% decrease compared to 2015. Daniel stated that some of this decrease had to do with the change in worship times and how the children were counted for worship purposes. Jerry also stated that he believes the availability of a live stream for Sunday services has a negative effect on actual physical attendance. Live stream numbers have been averaging 30+ hits each Sunday. Those figures will be included in these reports to the team in the future.

#### 2017 BUDGET:

Keith began the discussion by outlining changes from the 2016 budget, most of which were bolded in the budget presented to the committee for 2017. Jerry discussed a projection based on a variety of factors, including pledges received and historical data. Some of the goals presented to the congregation in the fundraising process were able to be included in the budget, while others were not, due to commitment limitations.

At Dee Dee's request, line items for music ministry and senior adults ministry have been added back to the budget after have shown as zero for the past two years. Those ministries are supported by restricted assets. Income from those assets have been added to the miscellaneous income section of the projection, so the net effect is zero, but the support of the ministries is included in the budget itself.

After considerable discussion regarding everything above, Ryan Freeman moved and Doug Bartley seconded that the 2017 budget of \$1,139,174 be accepted as presented. The motion carried.

FIRST PRAISES AND CONCERNS:

The concept of giving staff bonuses instead of raises and the fact that financially this was possible at this time was raised as a positive item.

The committee in general, and Daniel in particular, expressed excitement about the First Connect program, whose winter/spring term will commence on January 18.

There was a concern expressed that some did not care for the fact that a financial giving message was included in the weather announcements the previous weekend.

CALENDAR ITEMS:

Next Meeting – Tuesday, February 21

MST serves Community Dinner – Thursday, October 26

Meeting was adjourned

Jerry Kelly  
Acting Secretary