



# First United Methodist Church

*The Heart of Downtown Gainesville* 352-372-8523  
419 N.E. First Street Gainesville, Florida 32601 FAX: 352-372-2524  
[www.fumcgv.org](http://www.fumcgv.org)

## FUMC GAINESVILLE COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA 28 March 2017, 6:00 PM

***Note To All:** Church Council is focusing on doing God's work. Accordingly, please provide written reports to the secretary for the record and the webmaster for the website. Oral comments about reports will be limited to matters of extreme urgency, great significance or requiring action by the Council.*

**Welcome by Chairman**

**Devotional**

**Communion**

**Minutes: Approval of 29 November 2016 Minutes**

**New Business:**

**Cuba mission brief**

**State of FUMC-Gainesville**

**Budget status for 2017**

**Revised Policy on FUMC Fundraising (Finance Committee motion)**

**Staff update**

**Steeple to the Streets update**

**Continuing Business:**

**Administration, Leadership, and Public Relations news**

**Closing Prayer**

**Next Meeting: 25 April 2017, 6:00 PM**

**Thank you, keep smiling and God bless you!**

**Dan Greathouse, Chairman/Lay Leader :-)**



# First United Methodist Church

*The Heart of Downtown Gainesville* 352-372-8523  
419 N.E. First Street Gainesville, Florida 32601 FAX: 352-372-2524  
[www.fumcgnv.org](http://www.fumcgnv.org)

## FUMC GAINESVILLE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**28 March 2017, 6:00 PM**

**Attending:** John Bevis, Elise Costa, Margaret Couch, Leon Couch, Kay Greathouse, Dan Greathouse, Beth Farabee, Kevin Johnson, Mary Kilgour, Lynda Knight, Jim Nation, Carolyn Scheaffer, Elizabeth Shaw, Larry Shaw, Brendan Shortley, Joe Ward

**Welcome, Opening Prayer, and Devotion :** Dan Greathouse.

**Communion:** Kevin Johnson and Elise Costa.

**Minutes:** The minutes from the meeting on 24 January 2016 were approved as presented..

**New Business:** Kevin Johnson gave a review of his experiences in visiting our sister church, La Moza, Cuba. He said that the Church had about 80 persons in attendance most Sundays. Kevin said that over the past year our Church gave \$100 per month to La Moza to help support their work. Kevin indicated that a dinner program about Cuba is planned for Sunday, April 23. Some discussion of raising the amount our Church will give this year; the result was a motion by Lynda Knight, seconded by Joe Ward, to empower the Finance Committee to make the final decision about whether to raise the amount given, and if so, how much for our Church to give. The motion passed unanimously.

Mary Kilgour handed out a written page on our policy on fundraising in our Church. She presented the document as a recommendation from the Finance Committee. It was approved unanimously, and a copy is attached (attachment No. 1) at the end of the minutes.

Joe Ward, Chairman of Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee, said a person has been hired to fill each of the two previously open positions, a financial position and a secretarial position. The SPPRC committee has interviewed some of the applicants for the Director of Music Ministries position that is open, and more applicants likely will be interviewed. Joe handed out a short summary of committee activities (attachment No. 2).

Kevin Johnson talked briefly about the initiative from the North Central District of the Florida Conference called "From the steeple to the Streets" designed to get church members in greater interaction with the community. A statement he passed out is attached (attachment No. 3) at the end of the minutes.

John Bevis, Chair of Trustees, reported that some pews in the sanctuary have been shortened in order to provide greater access for a wheelchair user. John said that some thinking is underway about the possibility of some kind of elevator access to the upper floors in Epworth and Bell Hall and a possible wheelchair ramp for the stairs in Epworth Hall.

No further actions were taken and the meeting was closed by prayer.

**Closing Prayer:** Leon Couch

Next Meeting: 25 April 2017, 6:00 PM Bethany Room.  
The minutes were prepared by Jim Nation.

## POLICY ON FUMC FUNDRAISING

The Finance Committee approves all new fundraising activity. It is the goal of our Church to finance its ministries through the regular budget that reflects the Church's priorities and which is supported through regular pledging *and* non-pledged giving. To subject fundraising to the same rigor as items in the budget and to avoid excessive demands on donors, appreciating that donating to a particular appeal could well affect giving to the budget, new fundraising requests must be presented to the Finance Committee in writing. The request should state the reason for the fundraiser, the amount sought and the time frame. The timing should not conflict with current approved fundraisers, as shown below.

### Current Fundraisers: (excludes weekly Mission Boxes)

January:

February: Boy Scout breakfast

March: Lenten Luncheon (moveable date)

April: Art Festival booths for:  
Youth (food sales)  
Preschool (baked goods) (alternate years -parking in rear lot), others to be determined.  
Music Program (alternate years -parking in rear ot)  
Boutique in Fellowship Hall

May: Gifts to Missions from UMW  
Preschool fundraising dinner

June UMW Yard Sale

July:

August: UMW Grandparents' Day gift solicitation (through 9/11) for Preschool

September: Preschool Coupon Book Sale

October: Scouts Fundraising Dinner

November: UMW pecan sales

December: Dickens Inn (free will offering for Children's Home & Preschool)

**RECOMMENDATION:** The above defined policy and procedures be approved.

**APPROVED:** by Finance Committee, on March 28, 2017

**APPROVED:** by Council, on August 28, 2016

## Staff Parish Relations Committee Report

March 28, 2017

The Staff Parish Relations **Committee met on March 21~**. The Chair thanked the members of the Exit Interview Committee for their fine work getting feedback from Kyle Webber regarding his resignation. The Committee also reviewed the latest draft of the Policies and Procedures, made some minor changes and agreed that the document should be passed on to the HR expert at the Conference level.

The other major item of business was to provide the entire committee with the progress being made to fill the Director of Music Ministries opening. The Chair reported that we had received over sixty applications and that the subcommittee was carefully screening each applicant's paperwork. Six candidates had been interviewed as of the meeting, but the Chair reported that the interview committee would probably have at least one more night of interviews.

### Attachment No. 3 From the Steeple to the Streets

Each Sunday in the churches of the North Central District of the Florida Conference, an average of 13,628 people gather for the worship of God. Imagine what God could do if those same 13,628 people simultaneously and very intentionally took the opportunity to go and pray for, observe, and engage their communities, On Saturday, April 8th, our church will be participating in just such an event called "From the Steeple to the Streets." We are inviting you to join us in selected public locations or over your own neighborhood to pray, observe, and engage our community. You're probably wondering what exactly we are asking you to do. The truth is, we aren't really asking you to do anything different from what you ordinarily do on a Saturday.. we're just asking you to do it with friends from church and with greater intentionality. Maybe you like to go out for breakfast, for example. So, go to enjoy breakfast, but go with a posture of prayer. Pray for our community and the people who live among us. Also, carefully observe what is happening around you. What might God want you to see? What might speak to your heart? Finally, seek an opportunity to engage someone new with kindness. This could be as saying to your server, "We'll be praying a blessing before we eat. Is there anything that you might like us to pray for you?" You might be surprised at the beautiful ways I've had people respond to that question. Between now and then, we simply want to know you'll be joining us by emailing [Kevin@Ft,JMC~NV.org](mailto:Kevin@Ft,JMC~NV.org) and pledging your participation by giving us your name and intended location.

We've identified the following locations within our proximity:

Parks and Playgrounds: Possum Creek Park, Depot Park, Albert  
"Ray" Massey Westside Park  
Restaurants Civilization,  
Downtown Bo Diddlely Plaza, Thomas Center, Sun Center  
Malls & Shopping Centers  
Trails La Chua Trail, Hogtown Creek, San Felasco

Or, you can fill in your own neighborhood or your own desired locatioi around town. We simply want to know all the places the people of First United Methodist Church will be intentionally praying, observing, and engaging. So, please talk to your friends an email Kevin. And, since our average worship attendance is over 200 we expect a lot of sign ups! Saturday April 8th, let's take it From the Steeple to the Streets!