



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

FUMC GAINESVILLE COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA 28 November 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 October 2017 Minutes

New Business:

Finance Committee Policy on FUMC Fundraising (see attachment)

Mission & Outreach Committee Vision and Decisions

Preschool

Status

Budget

Recommendation (Motion)

Trustee Committee's Activities

Continuing Business:

Charge Conference Report

Reaching Your Neighbor Workshop

State of FUMC-Gainesville

Administration

Budget status

Leadership

Preschool status

Public Relations

W. A. Metcalfe Elementary School Partnership Update

Closing Prayer

Next Meeting: 30 January 2018, 6:00 PM

Thank you, keep smiling and God bless you!

Dan Greathouse, Chairman/Lay Leader :-)



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FUMC GAINESVILLE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 28 NOV 2017, 6:00 PM

Attending: John Bevis, Margaret Couch, Leon Couch, Muffet Emmanuel, Beth Farabee, Kay Greathouse, Dan Greathouse, Kevin Johnson, Mary Kilgour, Dorothy Nation, Jim Nation, Janet Rocap, Becky Sammons, David Sammons, Elizabeth Shaw, Larry Shaw, Brenden Shortley, Cindy Woodruff, Mike Woodruff

Welcome, Devotion, Prayer: Dan Greathouse

Communion: Kevin Johnson and Kay Greathouse

Minutes: The minutes from the meeting in October 2017 were approved as presented..

New Business: Mary Kilgour, Finance Chair, said that it was the hope to payout our budget for 2017 in full. She reported that the Preschool will pay more of the expenses associated with its operation in 2018. Mary also presented a Policy and Calendar for Fundraising for 2018, and it is attached (**Attachment 1**) at the end of the minutes.

David Sammons, Chairman of the Missions and Outreach Committee, handed out a written report summarizing activities for 2017, and plans for 2018. The summary is attached to the end of the minutes as **Attachment 2**.

PreSchool

Becky Sammons, chair of the Preschool Board, reported that the Preschool has added 1 new line item to the 2018 budget called Preschool Surplus. This line item would be in addition to two existing line items, namely Preschool Foundation and Preschool Savings.

Chairman Dan Greathouse called for a vote to accept this line item addition, and the motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Becky continued her report by noting that significant growth has occurred in the Preschool finances and in the number of children enrolled this year. Presently there are 10 teachers and the Director Lorin Winters, and 48 children enrolled. There are a few openings in the 2-3-year-old classes, but enrollment is near the capacity of the facilities. There are 17 4-year-old children enrolled in the VPK program in which the State of Florida pays into the program. Becky reported that the Preschool intends to pay back to FUMC a total of \$8900 in 2017, and is paying about \$4000 back for previous pension payments by FUMC for Preschool personnel. In addition, the Preschool will pay back money borrowed from the Trustees (Carmichael Fund) by paying \$3000 per year from profits, starting in December 2018 until the full amount of \$18000 is paid back,

Dan Greathouse asked for a vote on the recommendation to pay back the Carmichael Fund, and the motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Becky said that the balanced Preschool budget for 2018 is \$313,000.

Dan Greathouse asked for a vote on the recommended Preschool budget proposal, and the motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

John made a brief report from the Trustees in which he noted the new wheel-chair accessible ramp (which was funded by a donation) to the back door of Epworth Hall. Automatic door openers are (or will be) added to the doors in Fellowship Hall, also funded from donations. John said a Lift apparatus is going to be installed at the 3-step stairs that lead to the Parlor, Library, and Conference Room in Epworth Hall. John further mentioned that at some point in the future we will have to consider replacing some of the roofs on FUMC.

Old Business: Elizabeth Shaw mentioned that she would like to see a short addition to the Sunday Worship Guide that indicated the major events of the week with times and meeting site. Pastor Beth Farabee mentioned that Cindy and Mike Woodruff and Janet Rocap and several others including herself and Kevin Johnson attended the workshop on How to Reach New People, and Cindy handed out a summary from the Workshop that it is attached at the end of the minutes (**Attachment 3**).

There were some additional brief reports on the issue of public relations and the W.A. Metcalfe Elementary School Partnership that we have with Metcalfe Elementary School. This partnership program is continuing well.

Closing Prayer: David Sammons

Next Meeting: 30 January 2018, 6:00 PM.

The minutes were prepared by Jim Nation.

ATTACHMENT 1 POLICY ON FUMC FUNDRAISING

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 in writing to the Finance Committee for approval. The request should state the reason for the fundraiser, the amount sought and the time frame. The timing should not conflict with currently 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 lot)
Boutique in Fellowship Hall

May: Gifts to Missions from UMW
June UMW Yard Sale
July:
August: UMW Grandparents' Day gift solicitation (through 9/11) for Preschool
September:
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 November 14, 2017.

APPROVED: by Council on November 28, 2017.

Attachment 2

Summary: FUMC Mission and Outreach Committee decisions November 16, 2017

The purpose of the November 16 meeting was to review the 2017 priority mission and outreach commitments of FUMC and then to decide on priority commitments for 2018. The review was not characterized as a "report card" on our commitments nor a competition among 2017 commitments but rather as "due diligence" with regard to our responsibility for good stewardship of congregational resources. The key question that we wished to answer was: Are our commitments making the best use of our resources in support of our mission and outreach priorities?

Funds that have been contributed by members of the congregation for mission and outreach thus far in the year (to November 12, 2017) for our priority commitments were reviewed. It was noted that in every instance the church members' donations for mission and outreach have exceeded or are expected to exceed the goals that were set at the start of the year. In addition, the committee has stewardship of undesignated funds from Mission Box contributions totaling over \$4000. These funds are used for special needs that arise through the year. In total, giving to our 2017 priority mission and outreach commitments including undesignated funds (to November 12, 2017) is \$40,092.14.

With the above background in mind, the committee conducted a careful review and discussion of our seven principal mission and outreach commitments for 2017: Community Outreach Ministry (including the Monday meal); Family Promise; Helping Hands Clinic; Metcalfe School partnership; UMC Children's Homes; LaMoza (Cuba) partnership; UMC Special Sundays including UMCOR. After this review and discussion, the committee concluded that the current array of commitments ought to be sustained for another year. Thus, by committee consensus, the priority mission and outreach commitments identified for 2017 will continue to be FUMC's priority mission/outreach commitments for 2018. As special needs arise through the year, the committee will consider and recommend support for those special needs using resources from the undesignated Mission Box funds.

The committee decided not to set aspirational financial goals for mission and outreach priorities for 2018 but agreed that we will track donations through the year and review them against receipts for 2017. In effect, the funds contributed by FUMC members for each priority mission and outreach commitment in 2017 thus become the aspirational goals for those commitments in 2018.

Prepared by:

*David Sammons, Chair
Mission and Outreach Committee
First United Methodist Church, Gainesville
November 28, 2017*

Attachment 3

How to Reach New People - Summary 2017

125,000 churches closed between 1990 and 2010. That's 17 churches a day! Those churches used growth strategies which worked in 1955. Our culture has changed, so those strategies no longer work.

First United Methodist has no intention of closing; but we are at risk of not attracting new people if we don't change our outreach methods. Our mission is: "To connect our Church with our Community and our Community to Christ." If we apply what we learned in the workshop, we won't be closing our doors.

Celebration UMC held the workshop, "How to Reach New People", which focused on proven strategies for attracting people to Christ. The presenter is a Pastor with experience in church growth. Rather than focusing on getting people to come to church, the workshop focused on the church going out to where the people are in the community.

The workshop highlighted which strategies gave poor results. One example, General Advertising, was shown to be ineffective. Few, if any, people in the community build relationships with church members, come to know Christ, or share about their faith because of ads, fliers, or billboards.

The workshop also shared success stories of churches which became vibrant and which attracted new members who grew deeper relationships with the church community and with God, Growing churches:

Reintroduce ourselves to the community—Churches grew when they participated actively in events already being held in the community, took prayer walks in their surrounding community, and held most of their church meetings in the community.

- Expect pastors to be in the community 8 hours a week –Pastors’ presence in the community increased their contact with the unchurched and modeled to the congregation how to connect Christ to others outside of church.

- Ask Pastors to Develop Networking Strategies and supporting Pastors financially when they are “on-the-clock” –Pastors must become “regulars’ in different venues in order to see the same people frequently, and develop relationships.

- Promote a Culture of “Personal Invitation” –Only 2% of church members ever invite anyone to church. Our pastors cannot do it alone.

- Create pathways of Invitation .Small social gatherings away from church, or “Member-Guest” activities, build a culture of invitation. A **Reaching New People** team equips the congregation to help new people find and keep connections within the church.

Will these strategies work? Yes! Are people willing to come to church if we invite them? Yes! Only 13.5% of Floridians have a church. There are plenty of people who we can ask, and invite, once we build trust and show that we sincerely love them.

During the workshop, we began a 6-month plan for outreach with ideas of how we can incorporate the successful strategies. We met again two weeks later to review the plan and discuss how the strategies presented in the workshop will fit best in our context.

Below is what we came up with to implement in

2018:

How to Reach New People Summary 2017

- Continue our strong presence at Spring Arts and take the opportunity to be a part of at least One other community event.
- Form a team to offer hospitality at community events held at FUMC. (Gainesville Pops, Voices Rising, etc.)
- Start a group/s that meets off campus to increase our visibility/impact in the community: this could be a Bible/book study or a prayer group or affinity group that comes together around a particular activity.
- Harvest Hoedown and one additional event in Roper Park for fun and fellowship reaching out specifically to our neighbors in the Duckpond Community.
- Be a part of the District Event, “From the Steeple to the Streets” March 17-24.
- Provide tools to church members and regular attenders to share with people in the community during activities they’re already doing anyway (something like a card with church logo, “Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.’ on one side and “We are thankful for you!” on the other to give to a server at a restaurant along with a generous

tip)

- Revamp our building use policy to make our classrooms and larger spaces more accessible to non-profit groups who are serving the community.

In order to change these ideas into action we need your prayers, your agreement and your help. We look forward to the ways God is going to use all of us to live more intentionally into our mission, “to connect our Church with our community and our community to Christ.”

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Preschool (baked goods) (alternate years – parking in rear lot),
others to be determined.
Music Program (alternate years - parking in rear lot)
Boutique in Fellowship Hall

Cuba Dinner and Fundraiser (Pastor Kevin)

May: Gifts to Missions from UMW

June UMW Yard Sale

July:

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

September:

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.

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