

The church council is the primary group responsible for the overall ministry of the local church. By establishing the vision of the congregation, the council can then help to order and implement the various ministry opportunities.

In attendance: Rev Leslie, Kathryn, John K, Marlene, Matt, Keith, Richard, Rick, Barry, Betty, Mary, Judy
Unable to attend: Rev Lee, Ellen, Nicole, Janeen, John M, Andrea (I messed up zoom), Mike, Joy, Pam

Welcome

Judy Stout

Devotion ~ **When a person does a good deed when they don't have to, God smiles and says, 'for this moment alone, it was worth creating the world. When we go out of our way to be kind to someone, our reward is the knowledge that we have redeemed the world. (Talmud)**

Prayer concerns ~ **Rev Lee, under the weather**

Approval of May minutes ~ **approved**

Additions to agenda? ~ **Purpose of Church Council. Judy reviewed the purpose of Church Council (see statement above and the attachment that was with the agenda) and apologized for not doing so earlier. CC is the visioning body of the church and is comprised of all committee chairs and at-large members. We are not a 'confederation of silos' acting independently, but we are all working together for the good of our church and community.**

Pastor/Staff

Pastors	Rev Leslie & Rev Lee
Financial Secretary	Ellen Shepherd
Church Treasurer	Karen Lumpkin
Music Coordinator	Kathryn Peiffer
Choir Director	Nicole Ceciliani
Youth Ministries Coordinator	Matthew Utley
Children's Ministries Coordinator	
Bell Choir Director	Susan Harding

Committees

Lay Leader	Janeen Anderson
Staff Parish	John Morgan
Finance	Rick Tessean
Trustees	Richard Kittel
Abiding Memorials	Betty Hill
Stewardship	John Kindred
Missions and Social Concerns	Barry Wehrle
Marketing & Outreach	Andrea Ortega
Membership	Janeen Anderson
Safety and Security	Keith Flaming
UM Foundation	Mike Westbrook
Church Financial Secretary	Ellen Shepherd
Lay Members to AC	Mary Hannon
At Large	Marlene Thurman, Joy Shaw, Pam Erickson

New Business

- Approve new Trustee Sam Hauschultz ~ **approved for the class of 2026. There are two other nominees to Trustees who will be approved at Charge Conference to begin their terms in January. Someone asked if they couldn't start attending meetings now, and the answer is 'yes' since Trustees meetings are open to anyone.**
- Mission/Vision statement discussion
 - o 'Loveland FUMC is an inclusive and safe community that values unconditional love. We embrace diversity and strive to live in harmony with the teachings of Jesus Christ.' This was a ~2019 'compromise' welcome statement following discussions about the possibility of becoming a Reconciling Ministries congregation and subsequent 'healing' conversations.
 - o 'Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.' This is the UMC [aspirational] motto.
 - o After reviewing former mission/vision statements, how do we want to proceed?

We haven't had an updated Mission/Vision statement since 2014 (sent out with the agenda), and CC decided we need to create a new one. We are in a different place than we were ten years ago. Our plan to repurpose space in our building is contingent on making sure that whatever we do is consistent with/supportive of our mission. (Some discussion about what to call it—mission/vision/Keith likes 'ministry.' Regardless of the 'descriptor,' we need a *statement* that describes how we want to BE the church in our community, inside and outside our walls.)

Rev Leslie mentioned a statement that was on the Faith + Lead webinar, Workshop on Church Property: Burden or Blessing. The Church of the Resurrection (Adam Hamilton) also has a powerful statement. Judy will send those

statements to Matthew, John K and Barry who volunteered to spearhead our mission to create a new FUMC vision statement. They will have a proposal at the next meeting. Thank you!

Old business

Discussion of potentially renting space in our building.

Judy reviewed information that was sent out with the agenda about renting space.

- There are several links on umc.org that confirm that renting space in a church building is 'allowed.' In fact, GCFA advertises some rental opportunities.
- We need to think about how revenue is used—should be related to the mission/ministry of the church.
- From umc.org's article 'Six Tips for Improving Your Church's Cash Flow:' "There may be some tax implications for income streams that are not tied directly to the work of ministry, but this shouldn't discourage you from looking into these streams. Check out a video from the UMC General Conference on Finance and Administration on 'Unrelated Business Income.'"
- And during discussion, Keith said that we need to think about 'income' instead of profit.

We are agreed to move forward, but need direction as to what 'forward' looks like.

- Rick suggested a Gantt chart (tool used to plan projects in case, like Judy, you have never heard of one!) to organize our plans. Since we are further along in our plans and discussions with the TV school district and have a projected possible start date of August 2025, making a chart for the preschool project might be a good place to start.
- A Gantt chart includes an outline, timeline, person responsible and records milestones.
- We need a 'project manager' to guide and monitor progress. Dale Thurman was 'nominated,' and Richard or Rick will contact him to see if he is willing. (Rick contacted Dale and Dale asked for a few days to think it over.) Dale has respectfully declined.

There was a lot of discussion about safety issues.

- What kind of flooring will be required in the nursery to be consistent with what the school district will want, carpet or vinyl?
- We should have the same safety standards for our own children as for a TV preschool.
- The current flooring in Coy Hall is a safety hazard with torn carpet and loose tiles. Joanne Scheihing has gotten bids on a quality vinyl flooring for Coy Hall. The same flooring may be appropriate for other spaces in the building.

Preschool

- No final word from the school district about whether this will happen, but district officials are definitely interested.
- The nursery is the only area that would be required for the preschool at this time.
- Alison has not been contacted, but Richard will talk to her.
- Question: will the church still be able to use the nursery? Answer: Probably. We haven't gotten that far in planning, but in other churches there is such an agreement.

Community

- Who are we targeting? What are their needs? For example, if we create office space to rent, do we know anyone will rent it? How will we know? (Random thought from the random chair—if we handed out some flyers or put a sign on church property that said something like: "Rental space for offices available at FUMC, call ##### if interested," we might get responses that would answer our questions. No response would also be an answer...)

There was some conversation about responsibilities of Trustees as related to projects that CC is planning.

- CC is investigating repurposing some space in our building to meet the needs of the community that may cover costs and generate income to use for mission. CC has the final say on these changes.
- In Coy Hall, we are talking about new flooring, removing the basketball hoop, removing/replacing dividers. No final decisions yet.
- Trustees will prioritize and address safety concerns (hopefully with funding from the Foundation).
- Marlene and Joann are on a Trustees décor committee, and in the past, this committee has hired a professional designer and has been in existence for several years.
- At Annual Conference, churches were reminded to pay attention to the physical aspect of their buildings.

General comments/questions:

- Marlene asked if General Conference planned to update the whole *UM Discipline*. It will be updated, but will take some time.
- Rick noted that while the church has money, operating funds are at a deficit. We will look to the UM Foundation to invest in capital projects.
- Rick also talked about the 'sphere of influence' that our church could have. When we provide space/opportunities for our church to 'be present' in the community good things will happen.

- **Judy followed up with compliments to the work that Andrea and Rev Lee did to host the Community Event. It was very successful, with neighbors coming to see the city vehicles in the parking lot and then enjoying ice cream in Coy Hall. The city employees, police, SWAT team, firefighters and a WWII vet joined us as well. Another proud moment to be an FUMC member!**
- **Mary ~ The theme of Annual Conference was The Journey is Our Home and centered on new starts and positive rebuilding. She reported feeling very proud that FUMC is ahead of the game on this!! That is a great theme for what we are doing.**
- **Richard ~ Remember that we are all on the same team!**

Closing thought ~ **Let's go forth to do good deeds and make God smile!**

Next meetings:

Sept 9, mini retreat 5:30 – 7:30

Oct 28 @ 6:30

Nov 18 or Dec 1 to approve budget

Church Conference date TBD

“Though we cannot think alike, may we not love alike?
May we not be of one heart though we are not of one opinion?
Without all doubt, we may. Herein all the children of God may unite,
notwithstanding their smaller differences.”
John Wesley