

FUMC *Special Charge Conference*  
October 17, 2024 5:30  
FUMC Sanctuary & Zoom

Present: DS Mark Calhoun, Rev. Leslie Wood, Rev. Lee Anderson Harris, Judy Stout, Marlene Thurman, Dale Thurman, Martha DiCicco, Rick Tessean, Janeen Anderson, Joy Shaw, Pam Erikson, John Kindred, Debbie Tikka, Joanne Scheihing, Ginny Angelovic, Rev. Steve Goodier, Bev Goodier, Rob Proctor, Doug Mannering, Betty Hill, Cindy Utley, Matthew Utley, Penny Kindred

Judy Stout, Church Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:35, and welcomed participants. She shared an observation made by Council member Joy Shaw that the opportunity to lease space to Loveland Preschool (LPS) is a God-wink. FUMC has been praying for guidance and the preschool has been praying for help. Coming together is an opportunity for both.

Heb. 13:16 reads, "Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." Amen

Rev. Leslie gave a brief explanation of the process FUMC has begun with LPS (who lost their lease in their current space) so see if FUMC could lease space to them. After considerable discussion Church Council unanimously approved motions to move forward with plans to lease space to LPS.

Judy welcomed DS Mark Calhoun to preside over the conference.

DS Mark expressed appreciation for being asked to preside over this important special Charge Conference, and he explained the process. He will ask for a motion, ask for a second, provide time for discussion, then ask for a vote.

Rev. Leslie nominated Judy Stout to be the secretary for this meeting. Motion was seconded and passed.

DS Mark noted that there are a number of moving pieces to bring an outside organization into a church. He said that the size and scope of this project does not require a building committee or a project manager, but that in our case it would probably be a good idea to have both. Charge Conference is the formal way to let church members/friends know what is going on.

DS Mark called for the motion.

Pam Erikson read the motion:

**'I move that this Charge Conference approve plans for FUMC Loveland to move forward to lease space to Loveland Preschool beginning in the 2025-26 school year. These plans include naming Rob Proctor as project manager and John Kindred, Pete Shaw, Rich Stiverson and Judy Stout as members of the project committee.'**

Rick Tessean seconded.

Questions/Discussion

DS Mark asked if anyone was *not* aware of the possibility of FUMC leasing space to LPS.

One response: 'I am aware, but don't know specifics.'

DS called John Kindred to give an overview of the project and where we are in the process.

FUMC became aware of LPS's need for space about the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August. They have a Nov 1 deadline to have plans for moving forward next year.

Charlie Bouchard met with Jen Kuzmich, LPS director and brought their conversation to Rev. Leslie and other members who had been working on the 'repurposing space' project. The idea of leasing space to LPS was brought to Church Council who agreed to spend up to \$10,000 for a study and architectural plans. John referred to the proposed architectural plans for LPS space. (Copies of these plans were available to Charge Conference attendees.)

An ad hoc committee has worked with the preschool to find acceptable space in the building. Plans call for current users of some rooms to be moved to other places in the building. All those persons affected have been contacted and they are good with plans.

John asked for questions:

- Will there be a new space for FUMC Sunday school? John: Yes, the nursery will have a wall in the middle and half will be used for the music room and children's Sunday school. If children's Sunday school grows, more space is available in the Youth Range.
- Cost?? John: Cost is a moving target because plans are still under way. John Freeman (architect who knows our building well) believes that the cost will be between \$30-40K. Church Council believes we can do it for ~ \$50 K. LPS plans to split the construction costs that affect their space 50-50, so the cost to FUMC should be ~ \$25K.
- Are we renting the space? John: Yes, we are working on a lease agreement. They will have more space here than in their previous location, they will have a longer lease (10 months instead of 9) and they will use more space than previously because they hope to have an afternoon session.

John is chair of the Stewardship Committee, and from that perspective he noted: We have an opportunity to meet a community need; if we don't do it, that is bad stewardship.

DS Mark said that because of the size and nature of this project, it is under the discretion of Church Council. Other committees will be involved as well, especially Trustees.

Are there any more questions?

- I work construction, and wonder if you know who you will use or what is being done to make these changes? What kinds of trades will be needed? John: LPS is a parent co-op, and some of the parents may be doing the work as part of their volunteer commitment. Rob Proctor (project manager) further explained that the project committee will be answering these questions. Our architect, John Freeman, has given us the names of three contractors (electrical, plumbing, HVAC), and the project committee will interview them, look at bids, and pick one.

DS Mark: If there are no more questions, please read the motion one more time.

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All in favor: nine in the room, two on Zoom

All opposed: none

Abstentions: none

Motion passed.

Rev. Lee offered a prayer of gratitude for God's voice, encouragement and hope.

Judy adjourned the meeting with appreciation for all those who have brought us to this point.