



GUM CHURCH

Our vision is to actively live the example of Jesus

GUM Governance Board Agenda

Sept. 18, 2023, 7:00 pm, Library

In attendance: Karen Ambs, Doug Barry, Marie McDonald, Lindsey Meredith, Karen Owen, John Stamm, Jon Tuscan, *Sherri Swanson, *Michelle Wood

Absent: Shaun Skibinski, Karen Strickland

(*non-voting member)

1.) Devotions

Doug shared a devotion of a poem titled, "That Which Holds All," by Nancy Shaffer.

2.) Pastor's Report

- Good kickoff event. Special kudos to Amy for her organization!
- Fall activities starting. Busy time.
- Staff meeting again weekly.
- Study on the book, **Revival** - 12 participants, good discussions.
- 5 people interested in New Member class.
- United Methodists at a Crossroad began.
- A few funerals recently.
- Church directory: Did not turn everything in until July, proof was in August, but had to send back for another proof. Hoping to have it soon!
- Sidney will be stepping down from Communication Specialist position
- Continuing training.
- Son's wedding was wonderful and a very happy day.

3.) Activities/Ministries Reports

- Lindsey, Church and Society - upcoming event on 10/29: New Thanksgiving Dinner and another upcoming event on 12/3: Crafts, Cards and Clause.
- Karen Ambs, Food Pantry - Rainie reported that the pantry is going strong, avg.10-15 families per night. \$800 from Feeding America - stocks pantry first

Tuesday of month, Hungry for Christ also helps stock for free. Blessing boxes utilized often. March 2023 - the pantry turned 10 years old!

- Lindsey, Family Camp - announcement on Sunday 9/24.
- Karen Ambs, Feeding America Food Truck - see above (food pantry)
- Marie, Intentional Faith Development - Kay DeMoss leads the group. Beginning the adult study, United Methodists at a Crossroad. Meeting on 9/26 to talk about other topic ideas.
- Pastor Sherri, Leadership Development Team - Met several times as a group. 3 people will roll off Governance Board - Chris K. and Cindy H. have agreed to join the group in 2024.. Lee H. will be moving out of Finance Chair committee. Jeff W. will step into the role and move off SPR-C once elected at church conference.
- Karen Ambs, Missions - focus on local programs.
- Doug, Staff-Parish Relations co-chairs - Jeff w. Reported that Laura's transition is going well. Sidney will stay on until 11/1. In the process of finalizing Pastor Sherri's evaluation.
- Lindsey, Trustees - meeting minutes now on website.

4.) **Discussion:**

Can we look at the Activity/Ministry reports and re-distribute, and determine if we need all of these (especially the 2 times per year designations)?

Governance Board will table until January when new board members join..

**Next meeting's updates:

- Karen S., Java Center
- Marie, Prayer Chain
- Karen S., Prayer Shawl
- UM Women in Faith, Marie

5.) **New Business**

- **Action Item Payroll Audit:**

- The GB needs to vote to affirm (or not affirm) hiring an outside consultant to do a payroll audit with special attention to Pastor Sherri's Social Security.
 - Pastor Sherri's compensation package was reported differently to Government the past several years and needs to be audited.
 - John S. offered another contact of an outside consultant and will get Pastor Sherri the name.

MOTION: Doug made a motion that The Governance Board requests that the Finance Committee look into the matter and hire an outside consultant to resolve the issue.

SECONDED: Jon T. seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

- **Fall Kick Off: what did you think about it; suggestions for next year?**
Try to encourage people to wear their name tags. Maybe have sticker name tags next year?
- **Discussion, 10:00 Blended Service: We need to decide if the current model is going well, and if we want to keep it this way or change it back to two services in Jan. 2024. If we make a change, staff needs to know now.**

The Governance Board decided to stay with one service at this point.

- **Active Shooter Training update:**
4 staff attended, 2 will attend an upcoming Part 2. They will make recommendations to us in November.
- **Annual Church Conference, Nov. 19, Valley Church**
 - November 19 @ Valley Church (5980 Lake Michigan Dr., Allendale)
 - 3:00 HUB Gathering & Discussion
 - 4:30 GUM Church Conference - voting on new leaders, active/inactive members, pastor salary compensation package

6.) **Closing Prayer - Karen**

Karen closed the group in prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

7.) **Next Meeting: Monday, November 27**

Devotions will be led by John S.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Wood, Governance Board Secretary