

**THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA  
GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING AND CHURCH CONFERENCE**

**AGENDA**

**MARCH 15, 2021 AT 7:00 pm, VIRTUAL**

**Governance Board**

1. Welcome
2. Attendance
3. Opening: Celebrate, Dream, Invite
4. Adoption of the Agenda
5. Approval of Minutes
6. Progress Towards Goals, Approval of Reports
  - a. Finance
  - b. SPRC
  - c. Trustees
  - d. Submitted Reports
  - e. Presentation: Communications
  - f. Presentation: Worship
7. GB Business
  - a. REALM data
  - b. Spring activity
  - c. Nola Gentry Estate
  - d. GB Goal Items
    - i. Stewardship and Generosity Team
  - e. Operating Principles
  - f. Slate of Officers and Representatives
8. Questions and Answers
9. Announcements
  - a. Five FUMC members have been accepted to participate in the upcoming Annual Conference Meeting
  - b. Upcoming Meetings
    - i. Church Conference and GB Meeting, Monday, April 19 at 7pm
      1. Agenda items due to Bill Walker by Monday, April 5
      2. Agenda announced by Monday, April 12
    - ii. GB Meeting, Monday, May 17 at 7pm
    - iii. GB Meeting, Monday, June 21 at 7pm
10. Adjournment

**Church Conference**

1. Approval of Operating Principles
2. Approval of Operating Plan
3. Approval of Officers

## Finance Report

First United Methodist Church Operating Plan			
2019 & 2020 Actuals, 2021 Projected			
	Actual	Actual	Plan
	2019	2020 <sup>1</sup>	2021
<b>Revenues</b>			
Tithes & Offerings	\$572,612.79	\$566,327.21	\$566,000.00 <span style="color: green;">\$625,800.00</span>
Loose Offerings	7,994.05	1,978.85	1,500.00
Special Appeals	0.00	6,000.00	0.00
Building Use	23,880.00	14,050.00	14,000.00
Miscellaneous	27,621.53	3,329.83	3,000.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$632,108.37</b>	<b>\$591,685.89</b>	<b>\$584,500.00<sup>2</sup> <span style="color: green;">\$644,300.00</span></b>
<b>Expenses<sup>3</sup></b>			
UMC Tithe	\$68,859.97	\$65,202.52	\$63,600.00
Pastoral Staff	188,530.34	214,487.02	229,900.00
Lay Staff	273,636.69	181,158.75	173,900.00
<b>MINISTRY TEAMS</b>			
Children's Program	\$11,199.29	\$1,625.07	\$8,600.00
Church Growth	8,725.84	5,396.06	6,500.00
Adult Education	1,281.10	1,086.82	1,000.00
Worship & Music	30,905.12	18,866.46	21,700.00
Youth	9,964.52	231.94	3,000.00
Property Maintenance	83,579.86	68,234.54	\$66,400.00

Utilities	62,788.94	54,560.87	59,000.00
Church Office	14,766.11	6,051.61	10,700.00
<b>Total Operating Plan Expense</b>	<b>754,237.78</b>	<b>616,901.66</b>	<b>\$644,300.00</b>
<b>Net</b>	<b>(122,129.41)</b>	<b>(25,215.77)</b>	<b>(\$59,800.00) \$0.00</b>

#### Comments on 2021 Operating Plan

- <sup>1</sup>Revenues for 2020 do not include the Payroll Protection Plan loan (PPP). It is expected that this loan will not need to be repaid. If the PPP funds (approximately \$100,000) do not need to be repaid, there was a net positive for 2020.
- <sup>2</sup>2021 total projected revenues are based on 2020 actual revenue. 2021 total expenses are also based on 2020 actual expenses adjusted to reflect the hope that we will be meeting face to face for a larger part of the year than in 2020.
- Projected 2021 revenues do not cover projected expenses. With Loose Offerings, Building Use, and Miscellaneous revenue similar to 2020, Tithes and Offerings will need to be at least \$625,000, an increase of 10.4% from 2020, to have sufficient income to cover total expenses. Can we collectively reach this aspirational level of tithes and offerings?

### Staff/Parish Relations Report

The SPRC works with the staff and congregation to focus on the relational aspects of the mission of the church. SPRC Highlights:

- Paired GB teams to each staff person for encouragement, nurturing and support.

#### Dreaming:

- Hiring a PT Marketing/Communications 10 hours a week person to manage newsletters, social media, mailings, website.
- Return to in-person and building volunteer groups for children, youth and adult outreach ministries.

#### FUMC Member Support:

- Become a FUMC Ministry Team Coordinator: (Adult Education, Youth, Communion, Ushers, Welcome Team, etc...
- Phone Outreach Team – Calling 5 members and regular attenders. Check in with them and see how we can be praying for them.

### Trustees Report

The Trustees works on the maintenance of FUMC property. The following are updates on recent work.

- The gutters on the building leak and need to be disassembled and resealed. Completing this work became more urgent when one of them failed by the playground door. A contractor estimate to get them all resealed is around \$10,000.
- We just got rid of snow and it is time to start thinking about mowing. More information about mowing and how to help will be in the March and April Prevue, so stay tuned.
- Help is needed with minor repairs and maintenance. Contact Don Caddy if you can help.

## **Communications Team Report**

The communications ministry is focused on improving FUMCs communication. The group has focused on two key tasks:

- The refresh of the website
- Grant development to support strategic brand and marketing communications planning for the church.

Items the group is celebrating!

- The website is live. (Same URL as previous website). <https://www.fumcwl.org/>
- The group is scheduling interviews with possible consultants (recommended by the Conference Grant Awarding manager).

Items the group is dreaming about:

- Having a website and communication program (newsletters, emails, social media) that is contemporary and meets the needs of the congregation (today and in the future).
- Extending our communication efforts to the broader community and supporting the growth of new ministries.

Upcoming Opportunities:

- Provide content: The website is a dynamic tool. Project leaders are encouraged to consider how they want their projects to be presented on the site. There is a blog function that allows topical news items to be featured – we just need to know about them.
- Engage in the strategy development process: At the core of the brand/marketing communications strategy process will be a process of gathering insights from the church community. When the time comes - Your participation will be critical.

## **Family Ministry Report**

Celebrations: We had several youth turn out on February 27 for the Food Finders' Distribution. It was good to see some of the youth I had not seen in a while. Since the COVID numbers are going down, we will begin meeting in-person for youth group at 1:00 pm every Sunday, but continue with Zoom Sunday School until in-person worship resumes.

Dreams: We hope to plan a second Hometown Mission Trip this summer. Vanessa Martin is hoping to begin a Parent Ministry Small Group on Sunday Evenings via Zoom.

Areas where we need help: We need service projects for the youth to participate in (even if it is washing your outside windows or washing your car). I would like to schedule one service activity per month.

### **Missions Team Report**

At the beginning of the year, Mission Team member Denny Frank had an idea – to give people a place to put their stimulus money to good use if they didn't need it themselves. On Saturday, February 27 we were able to do just that as we fed over 100 families in the Klondike community using funds donated by the congregation. We are celebrating that the food distribution ran very smoothly with leadership from Food Finders, and the 30 volunteers who did everything from directing traffic, to checking in families, to loading heavy boxes in cars, and even taking the sticky notes off vehicles before they headed home. In total, we raised about \$3,500 for this project, but only needed \$1,500 for this truck. So, we're looking very forward to being able to do this again in the summer!

We're dreaming about the day that fewer of these types of missions will be needed. We're hoping to get more involved in these initiatives further upstream. In March, we'll be learning how we can impact policy as we engage with Bread for the World, and we'll continue to try to find innovative ways to serve others. We welcome your suggestions!

This month, we're turning our focus to UMCOR, and would encourage anyone who feels passionate about relief efforts to join us. Jo Moffat is working on bringing some personal stories to our worship services so that our congregation can learn more about the work UMCOR is doing. We're encouraging folks to give with their heart on UMCOR Sunday (March 14) and are hoping to follow that up with some opportunities for folks to create relief kits for future response efforts. If you or a group that you participate in would want to help with that effort please contact Anna Clark at [aclark54@gmail.com](mailto:aclark54@gmail.com).

### **Welcome and Connection Team Report**

No report.

### **Worship Team Report**

This winter has been challenging for Music Ministries. MorningStar and Chancel Choir meet regularly on Zoom, but the ability to rehearse is limited. However, each group did meet outdoors to record on a sunny but cold 35-degree day: they were real troopers! We look forward to the return of warmer temperatures when we can meet regularly outdoors or in the garage with the doors up for good ventilation. Handbell choirs have not been able to meet since the beginning of December.

Worship Team Celebrations:

- We are thrilled to be working with Haewon Yang the new FUMC pianist/organist. She is a vital and wonderful asset to our church!
- Vanessa Martin offered her musical gifts to share the Message in Music with her bassoon.

Worship Team Dreams:

- Warmer temperatures to return to in-person safely distanced and masked rehearsals outdoors.
- Being able to rehearse all ensembles and to worship in-person and indoors.

Worship Team Upcoming Opportunities that FUMC Members Can Support:

- Tuesday Evening Hymn-Sings on Zoom: It's not just for choir members! Several church members attend that are not members of any musical ensemble. All are welcome.

**THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA**  
**GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING**  
**MINUTES**  
**FEBRUARY 15, 2021 AT 7:00 pm, VIRTUAL**

**Attendance**

- Bill Walker, Reid Hochstedler, Karen Hull, Don Caddy, Anna Clark, Kris Bross, Michael Johnson, Jana Day, Bill Fornes, Heidi Fornes, Ann Caddy, Jim Beaty, Janet Beaty, Craig Dobbins, Ellen Wilson, Tim Delworth, Jane Frankenberger, Lauren Hall, Lynn Griffin, Larry Huggins, Lola Huggins, Duane Carlisle, Ronda Kroeschen, Suzie Kline, Ginny Dienhart, Mary Welch

**Welcome (7:02 PM)**

- Opening prayer offered by Pastor Duane Carlisle
- GB Introductions

**Opening: Celebrate, Dream, Invite (7:15 PM)**

- Celebrate our good works, Dream fruitfully, Invite others
- Thinking abundantly vs thinking in terms of scarcity

**Adoption of Agenda (7:20 PM)**

- Motion to accept - Karen Hull moved, Kris Bross seconded
- Passed unanimously

**Approval of Minutes (7:22 PM)**

- Motion to approve minutes - Larry Huggins moves, Jana Day seconded
- Passed unanimously.

**Reports**

**Finance (7:24 PM)**

- Summary of 2020 Operating Plan
  - \$616,901.66 total expenses
- Summary of 2021 Operating Plan
  - \$644,300 total expected expenses
- Approval of Operating Plan in March

**SPRC (7:36 PM)**

- No issues to report

### Trustees (7:36 PM)

- Landscape agreement signed
- Youth mulched playground, saved \$700
- Saving on snow plowing
- Network infrastructure upgrade
  - Saving ~\$500/month bypassing Netwise
- Help needed (Plumbing & other minor issues)
- Motion to accept \$5000 cash gift from Phyllis Hemmer
  - Moved by Don Caddy, seconded by Karen
  - Motion passed unanimously

### Family Ministry Report (7:43 PM)

- Celebrating new activities from December
- Meeting families by dropping off craft kits at homes.
- E-mail communication can be troublesome if people don't open their emails.
- Expected to have VBS in the summer, not in the traditional sense, more like a Day Camp. An attempt to make use of the land the church owns. Not being tied to a specific VBS program allows us more flexibility in running the program.
- Feel free to reach out to Pastor Lauren about families that might be interested in Youth/Child programs.
- Need volunteers to assemble kits.

### Missions (7:59 PM)

- Goal is to support missions already in place (LUM, Food Finders, etc)
- Looking for new efforts to focus on.
- Meets quarterly, aims to be action oriented as opposed to meeting oriented.
- Participated in Hunger Hike
  - Raised over \$3500
  - Third highest fundraising team
- Helped with LUM Jubilee (Amazon Wishlist, Communication, Onsite volunteering)
  - 35 families able to be helped
- Food Finders food truck
  - Funds raised for two food trucks
  - Food truck will be at Klondike on February 27th
    - Starts at 10 AM
- UMCOR
- Bread for The World
  - Focused on policy changes and upstream issues
  - As opposed to our other missions which focus on boots on the ground

### Additional Reports (8:09 PM)

- Karen moves, Kris accepts
- Passed unanimously

## Governance Board (8:10 PM)

- Worked with Melissa Spas, from the Lake Institute on Faith and Giving
- Focus on a Abundance Mindset
- Vision and Mission - Telling the story
- Creativity in Worship
- Leading Through Mission
- Celebrate - Dream - Invite
- Goals
  - Promote the work of Ministry Team
    - Empower existing teams
    - Organize new teams
    - Complete operating principles for teams
  - Plan for Worship
  - Phase in in-person activity
- Treasurer's update
  - Ended the year in better shape than expected, federal PPP loan was instrumental in that.
  - Investment portfolio
    - Net gain of 12.9% for 2020
  - Received cash donation from Nola Gentry Charitable Trust
    - November 2020 - \$50,000
    - January 2021 - \$217,000 (far more than expected)
    - Donation of that size was an outlier and should not be indicative of future donations.
- Operating Principles
  - Purpose (Effective and transparent)
  - Referenced other documents
  - Article I: The Governance Board
    - Define annual goals
    - Determines functions overseen by GB
    - Establishes eligibility, membership officers, character, ad hoc committees
  - Article II: Meetings
    - Meetings are public
    - Training/orientation, team-building, and SPRC are non-public
    - Meetings are announced in advance
  - Article III: Ministry Teams
    - Administrative and Specialty Teams
    - Operating Principles for Ministry Teams are in development
  - Article IV: Replacement of Members
  - Article V: Ratifying and Amending
  - Moving forward
    - Feb 15, comment period open
    - Feb 26, comment period closes
    - Mar 8, final draft
    - Mar 15, vote to approve
  - Motion for Kris Bross and Duane Carlisle to lead committee for Operating Principles
    - Motion made by Bill Walker, seconded by Jana Day
    - Passed unanimously
  - Slate of Officers and Representatives



- Reid Hochstedler - Vice Chair
- Mike Johnson - Secretary
- Tim Delworth and Craig Dobbins - Finance
- Jana Day - SPRC
- Don Caddy - Trustees
- Approval of Officers (Vice Chair and Secretary) in March

## Q & A (8:31 PM)

- How will we vote at Church Conference? - Tim Delworth
  - Likely to use a Google Form, don't expect immediate results
- Questions regarding Membership Rolls - Kris Bross
  - How will we correct information in our rolls?
  - People can be marked inactive in Realm - Don Caddy
  - Multiple people have made progress in trimming the database - Karen Hull
  - Pastor has responsibility to maintain rolls according to Discipline - Rev. Billy Bross
  - Encourage people to login to Realm to update their information - Ronda Kroeschen
  - Realm is difficult for some to use - Rev. Billy Bross
- Methods of communication need to be reviewed. - Craig Dobbins
- Should a *Visioning Group* be established to determine how we use the cash gift from Nola Gentry? - Kris Bross
- How do we reach Governance Board/Ministry Teams? - Rev. Billy Bross
- What is needed for re-opening plan teams and technology - Reid Hochstedler
  - Need a small group focused on phasing-in in person worship
  - Needs to be fast & nimble to react to changing situations.

## Announcements (8:57 PM)

- Need for teams (education, stewardship, family ministries)
- Upcoming Meetings
  - Church Conference - March 15th @ 7 PM
    - Vote to approve GB Operating Policies, Operating Plan, and GB Officers
    - Agenda items due by Mar 1st

## Adjournment (8:59 PM)

- Closing prayer by Duane Carlisle