

**First United Methodist Church
Charge Conference / Governance Board Meeting
April 24, 2023**

Present: Pastor Duane Carlie, Mike Johnson, Jan Beatty, Jim Battey, Jane Frankenberger, Suzie Kline, Stewart Kline, Perry Brown, Rebecca Kaverman, Amanda Rowe, Kathy Vill, Diana Hoke, Max Hoke, Denny Frank, Dorothea Good, Don Caddy, Ginny Dienhart, Larry Huggins, Lola Huggins, John Norberg, Kory Pritchett, John Jones, Craig Dobbins

Charge Conference

The Charge Conference was called to order at 7:05 pm

- Following Pastor Duane's opening prayer, he explained that we were assembled as a Charge Conference to determine if Korey Pritchett should be recommended for ministry in the United Methodist Church.
- Duane indicated that a Charge Conference was different than a Church Conference in two aspects. First the District Superintendent presides over a Charge Conference. However, if the Superintendent has a conflict, the Book of Discipline allows the Superintendent to appoint another person to preside over the meeting. This is the procedure that is being followed for this meeting. Pastor Duane has been appointed by the District Superintendent to serve as Chairperson for this meeting. The second difference is that the people allowed to vote in a Charge Conference are people holding an executive position in the local congregation or in our case the Governance Board.
- Kory Pritchett provided a short summary of his journey towards becoming a Licensed Local Pastor. He indicated he was an active participant in his local church growing up. When he came to Purdue, he was actively involved in the music programs of the Wesley Foundation and First Church. He also supported camp experiences for the youth with his time and talents. He has been searching to identify his next step in his call to ministry. He was not aware of the licensing process for local pastors, but when this program was discovered, he knew this was the next step for him. The Governance Board recommended Kory for this program earlier this year.
- Don Caddy moved: This body affirms and recommends Kory Pritchett move forward in candidacy for ministry in the United Methodist Church in Indiana. Seconded by Perry Brown.

Discussion resulted in members identifying several acts demonstrating that Kory was helping to support the spread of Jesus' message and God's Kingdom. The motion was unanimously approved.

- The charge conference was adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Submitted by Craig Dobbins, Secretary

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Governance Board Meeting

Agenda

- Pastor Duane suggested that the Staff Parish Relations Committee discussion be moved to after the Q & A topic. By making the Staff Parish Relations Committee discussion the last item on the agenda, this would allow people not involved with these issues to leave early. Approval of the modified agenda was moved and seconded. The motion passed. The meeting agenda is attached.

Minutes of the March meeting

- The March Meeting minutes were distributed to Governance Board members and posted to the church web site. There were no identified corrections. It was moved and seconded to approve the March minutes. The motion passed.

Reports

- Pastor's Report – Pastor Duane

Pastor Duane indicated there has been a new development related to the Freedom School that will be conducted this summer. To link this out-reach program to the broader church, an effort is underway to develop an all-church educational event.

- Committee on Lay Leadership– Pastor Duane

Kathy Abramson has indicated that she needs to step down from the Governance Board. The Lay Leadership team, Pastor Duane (Chair), Mike Johnson (Governance Board), Jan Batey, Patty Will, Karen Hull, and Emalee Havel (Members At-Large) have met and are nominating Kathy Dill to serve the remainder of Kathy's term which ends in 2024.

It was moved and seconded to approve this nomination. The motion passed.

- Treasurer Report – Larry Huggins

Upon her death, Nola Gentry created a charitable trust that named First Church, Prophetstown State Park, 4-H Foundation, and Lafayette YMCA as equal beneficiaries of the trust proceeds. The 4-H Foundation's representative has raised several concerning issues regarding the management and communications of the trust. Larry Huggins shares many of these concerns. There is an effort among the trust beneficiaries to investigate what can be done to improve the management and communications with the trust. This might include replacing the trustee, an undertaking that could become costly. Larry is seeking advice about whether First Church might want to participate in this action. After discussion, it was decided that First Church should participate at this time but reserve the right to change our mind at a future date.

- Church Sign Changes – Suize Kline

The part of the sign identifying the Korean church and the Village Nursery School does not match the color scheme at the top of the sign. After a discussion of the options, it was decided we should request the letters be changed to white. The light green background should be fine. Suize will contact Huston Electric about this change.

- Church Security Plan – Perry Brown

There continues to be concerns expressed by some Village Nursery School parents about the need to be sure that the main entrance doors are locked and not being propped open. A general discussion about possible alternatives occurred but a conclusion about what action should be taken was not identified. Don Caddie, as Trustee, will explore what alternatives the door locking system might provide. There will be further discussion of this at our next meeting.

- Question & Answer

Dorthey Gould stated that our Threshold Counseling outreach worked with 55 clients in 2022. This outreach program provides a needed service at a time when mental health issues are higher than normal.

The Governance Board meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Submitted by Craig Dobbins, Secretary

First United Methodist Church of West Lafayette

April 24, 2023 Charge Conference

April 24, 2023 Governance Board Meeting

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Attendance
3. Opening Prayer
4. Adoption of Agenda
5. Approval of Minutes
6. Reports (to include positive developments and areas of concern)
 1. Senior Pastor
 - A. Committee on Lay Leadership
 2. Review and adopt Treasurer's Report
 3. Trustee Report
7. Issues of interest
 1. Sign changes
 2. Continued discussion around church security plan
8. Q & A
9. Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC)
10. Closing