



St. John UMC Leadership Board Meeting

Date & Time:	Sunday, June 25, 2023, 12:30 p.m.
Location:	St. John UMC room 108
Pastors in attendance:	Rev. Dana Everhart
Leadership Board:	Charles Dixon (Chair), Rich Bias (Finance Committee Chair), Tonya Currier (Staff Parish Relations & Annual Conference Representative), Jim Garvey (Resident Storyteller), Allen Smith (Staff Parish Relations & Lay Leader), Warren Spooner (Trustees Chair), Sarah Thomas (Trustees), Georgia Vesely (Finance Committee), Alison Wright (Council Secretary), Marie Young (Staff Parish Relations) Absent: Rev. Jenny Anderson, Sawyer Branham (Finance Committee & Young Adult Representative), Stephanie Quattlebaum (Mission and Ministries Representative)
Church members/staff:	

Agenda Details:

- I. Opening (1 min) – The meeting was started early at 12:19 since all attendees were ready. The opening prayer was prayed.
- II. Spiritual Formation (17 mins) – Each Board member shared how they had seen God this week.
- III. Leadership Equipping (0 mins) – There was no new business on this topic.
- IV. Review of New People (4 mins) – Information was reported that a new family has been attending. Others also shared about visitors they had spoken with in church today.
- V. Goal Review and Accountability (26 mins) –
 - a. Information was shared about Lighthouse Congregations, a new program of the Conference. Currently, Woodlawn UMC is the only Lighthouse Congregation in our District, and the District is asking St. John to become a Lighthouse Congregation. Informational handouts were shared with the Board. A Lighthouse Congregation is called to extend radical hospitality, is focused on Christian discipleship and formation, and is likely to receive people who could no longer stay with their previous church. There is no financial cost, and training is provided. Lighthouse Congregations are committed to remaining UMC. There

was a motion for St. John to become a Lighthouse Congregation, which was seconded. Discussion ensued. The Board voted, and this passed unanimously.

- b. It was shared that the All Saints Collective is looking to have a Service of Hope, Healing, and Reconciliation on September 17 at 6 p.m. St. John is being asked to host the service. A motion was made and seconded for St. John to host the service. The Board voted, and this passed unanimously. Dana left the meeting.

VI. Packet and Consent Calendar Items (1 min) – The Board was asked for any corrections or changes to the May minutes. There were none. The Board approved the minutes unanimously. It was recommended that the Trustees and Finance items be addressed in their respective sections of the Generative and Strategic Work part of the agenda.

VII. Generative and Strategic Work (76 mins)

a. Trustees (31 mins) –

- i. Parking lot and Wesley Woods – A report was given on three options related to the parking lot and Wesley Woods and it has been found that there can be tax implications for some options that have been considered. A discussion found that we can enter into a Covenant Agreement (rather than lease/contract) with Wesley Woods since we are both UMC. After discussion, it was recommended that the Board delegate to the Trustees Team to move forward with determining the language of the Covenant Agreement with help. A question was raised about where the money from Wesley Woods would go. It was said the finance committee would need to think about that. The Board took a vote to allow the Trustees Team to finalize the language of the agreement between St. John and Wesley Woods for use of the parking lot and to execute the agreement. This passed unanimously.
- ii. It was shared that Georgia Music Educators Association (GMEA) wants to use St. John's facilities for an event in January 2024. The Board was provided an information document from GMEA when they held such an event at another church. Through discussion, it was determined that GMEA would need to have security during the performance part of their event at their expense, and they would have to follow the guidelines for the Fellowship Hall, clean-up, etc. that are in place. There was also discussion about whether St. John's facilities are adequate in size for the performance. GMEA will be asked to review the facility to be sure its size fits their needs.

b. SPR (20 mins) –

- i. It was noted that SPRC will now be referred to as SPR since it is no longer a committee.
- ii. It was shared that both the Employee Handbook and the Policy and Procedure Manual have been taken to Denise St. Clair for review. Denise was very helpful. It is anticipated that the Handbook and Manual will be ready by August.
- iii. A discussion followed answering questions about the 90-day employee review process.

c. Finance (25 mins) –

- i. A question was asked about the recent \$50,000 donation. It was explained that it has not yet been applied to the financial numbers, and

the money is not tied to 2023. It was also shared that appreciation follow-up on the donation has taken place.

- ii. It was noted that the video that was to be recorded to ask the congregation for additional giving was halted. The Board realized the need to make that ask soon in order to stay on track for developing and voting on a budget by year-end. A follow up discussion will happen outside of formal meetings.
- iii. It was shared that there is a plan for an attic/craft sale guided by United Women in Faith (formerly UMW) in October. A question was asked if the income can go through the UMW account and then be sent out to missions through that account without going through the budget. The finance chair said he is okay with this if the pastor is. He also noted that there needs to be consideration of whether the money needs to show up in the budget for Conference purposes. It was also suggested a clear report on the money to the Board and congregation.
- iv. It was shared that Lee Herndon said money had been given for the Parlor renovations and that the Parlor was to be named related to the donation. This was confirmed. It was determined that taking care of the naming (plaque) is to be an action item for the Trustees team.
- d. The Finance Report and Consent Packet were voted on and approved by the Board.

VIII. Communication (3 mins) – The Board reviewed the business that took place at today's meeting. We will work on communication to the congregation.

IX. Next Meeting (2 mins) –

- a. There is no Leadership Board meeting in July. The next meeting will be on Sunday, August 27 at 12:30 p.m.
- b. The Board was notified that consent packet items for the August meeting will be due to Christina by 9 a.m. on August 21.
- c. It was brought up that there has yet to be a report on Annual Conference to the congregation. A follow up discussion will happen about this. It also noted that there will be a 10% reduction in apportionments.

X. Closing (2 min) – There was a closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned.