

**NORTHWEST HILLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 20, 2015**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pastor Charlie Baskin; Associate Pastor Audrey Spencer; Neill Gruver, Board Chair; Les Broomall; Ken Moyer; Joseph Hello; Gary Johnson; Daniel Dietz; Carol Wratten; Greg Gitcho; Millie Shimfessel; Ron Bruney; Harold Cline; Brad Hoffman; Clyde Barre; Elliott Moulton

RECORDING

SECRETARY: Judy Johnson (Non-Member)

1. Opening prayer

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. Opening prayer given by Charlie Baskin .

2. New members welcomed.

Clyde Barre was approved by the Board to take the place of Alan Woelke who resigned.

3. Approval of December Charge Conference Minutes

Minutes had previously been sent out for review. Neill Gruver moved approval. Presented for vote and approved.

4. Trustee Issues – Brad Hoffman

Sprinkler work has been finished and inspected. A drinking fountain in the lobby of the Family Life Center will be installed this week. Building and Grounds Committee needs volunteers. Another workday is in the works.

5. Finance issues – Les Broomall

MFH continues a positive financial position with net income ahead of their 2014 budget. Monies will be set aside in 2015 for a major kitchen upgrade.

We were able to meet our full Apportionment Benevolences levy of \$54,077 by the due date. Bottom line for 2014 is we have \$69,697.96 to carry forward into 2015 (which includes \$24,040 in prepaid 2015 pledges). The Operating and Money Market account at Compass Bank, all of the church's accounts at Texas Methodist Foundation, and all of My Friend's House accounts at Compass Bank have been reconciled for the month of December.

Local Church Report to Annual Conference is due on January 21 and will be completed when we receive the TMF reports. This is the report that helps determine our Apportionments levy.

The youth have requested permission for two fundraisers: the chili cookoff on February 8 (a fundraiser for an intern to help build an Upper High School and Undergrad College Students group) and a mystery dinner on March 7 to help fund the summer mission trip. The Finance Committee approved both.

Financial report presented, and Les Broomall recommended approval. Board approved.

A stairstep chart was presented showing the breakout of total contributions and pledge contributions to the church in 2014. It is hoped to have people "climb the stairs".

6. Stewardship – Greg Gitcho

Approximately \$714,000 have been pledged so far from 155 families. This is approximately \$155,000 away from a balanced budget. Brain stormed in a meeting held before today how to bridge the gap. An e-mail blast will be sent out to make everyone aware of the budget shortage.

7. Budget Preparation Report – Les Broomall/Neill Gruver

The budget committee met, and the bottom line is we need to get additional pledges from those who haven't pledged yet (who pledged last year) and to encourage first-time people to pledge in order to balance the budget.

8. SPRC issues – no report

9. UMM update – Ken Moyer

The golf tournament has been scheduled for May 9 with a fish fry and dessert auction afterwards. Men continue to meet weekly at 7:00 in the FLC and all men are invited every week.

10. UMW update – Millie Shimfessel

Great speakers coming up this year for the UMW. Bonnie LaBoon had asked that any memorials in her name be sent to the UMW and to date the amount of \$2,214.32 has been given in her memory to the UMW. Brief report given on current activities and organizations that the UMW supports. Money support for the UMW comes from the annual pledges of its members.

11. Youth Update – Elliot Moulton

A verbal report was given on upcoming youth events, including the Chili Cookoff coming up on February 8. There will be decorated bowls available for sale at this event on the 8th.

12. NWHUMC Youth meeting report. Charlie Baskin & Audrey Spencer

There is an effort to encourage spiritual growth within families (doing devotionals with family and promoting discussion with the family) to draw families closer together and set good examples. A meeting held last Saturday regarding the direction of our youth program was a positive one. College students are looking for more growth. New praise band leader Alex and his fiancée Lindsey have agreed to take on a class of young college students. High schoolers are needing mentors to facilitate them in a Sunday School class, as well, if anyone is interested in taking this on.

13. Communications team update – Audrey Spencer

Not much to report on at this point. We're looking at a new platform for the website. What we have now is difficult to maneuver. A meeting is scheduled for next week. We're looking at promotion of events coming up and how to effectively communicate with the congregation. Looking at a new church database that is much more interactive with people, and Cloud based.

14. Healthy Church initiative update – Charlie Baskin

Not much to report on yet. A group is working to flesh out our discipleship path – but we have a long way to go.

15. Looking ahead - Plans for 2015 – Charlie Baskin & Audrey Spencer

We have a preaching schedule through the end of the year. We have different series we're going to be doing, i.e. Heros of the Faith - Extreme Spiritual Makeover during Lent. Other series are in mind following that. We have a time period blocked out for stewardship next fall earlier than in the past – the end of September, first of October.

16. Other issues:

Dan Davidson Forum will be held on January 25 (Habitat for Humanity) and another one on March 8. 5th Sundays coming up are March 29 and May 31 - ideas and suggestions for those Sundays are welcome. Habitat Build \$6,500 discussed. District Leadership Training upcoming on February 7 from 9:30 to 12:15 at St. John's UMC. The keynote speaker will be Rev. Jeremy Basset, Director of the Office of Mission, Oklahoma Annual Conference. There will be several workshops presented.

17. Meeting opened for general comments on various issues.

18. Closing prayer by Audrey Spencer. Meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.