

Agenda/Minutes

Krum First United Methodist Church

Board of Stewards First Meeting

January 20, 2018

Meeting attendees: Pastor Kevin, Tim J., Patty J., Shane R., Bryan N., Leo H., Floyd R. and Gary K.

I. Prayer: Pastor Kevin

Pastor Kevin led with prayers, included are our thoughts and prayers to and for Vicki W.

II. Mission and Purpose of the Simple Board allowed by the UMC Book of Discipline.

- Discussed new name of the board and decided on “Church Council”.
- Future meetings will be scheduled third Monday @ 6:30 pm each month.
 - Some meetings may be done electronically for carrying out daily, more routine matters of church business.
 - Meetings date and time will be shared via e-news, announced in bulletin and on church website. Meeting notifications will broadcast via e-news and the website the week prior to the meeting and in the bulletin the Sunday before the meeting. All church members are invited to participate in the meetings but only the pastor and council members may vote.
 - For unexpected changes, such as cancellation of an upcoming meeting, notification should be submitted no later than the midnight Wednesday prior to the forthcoming Friday eNewsletter, preferably a week prior to this deadline.
 - Minutes will be shared via the church’s website, posted on a bulletin board in Narthex area of the church, and be available in printed copy form when requested. As follow-up, Bryan to present versions of minutes suitable for church and website.
 - Bryan presented an example of how Simple Board meetings are conducted. By example of another church, the first third of the meeting is intended toward fellowship and growth. A focus more on what took place in our lives recently that gave us pause to reflect in our Christian devotion, our benevolence, our duty to God and others. The next third is an in-depth review of goals set forth, goals achieved, and goals in process. A review of what we are doing to achieve our Mission Statement, progress reports, what we’ve done right, what we could improve upon, and what lessons each of us learns and wishes to share. The final third of the meeting covers normal church business is conducted, bills paid, monies allocated, etc. (In retrospect, this in turn gives credence to the “so that...” philosophy.)

1. BOD paragraphs 247.2 and 243, recommended for vote by 2017 Administrative Council and approved by Church Conference vote in 2017.

2. Takes the place of all other Boards or Committees except for Nominations Committee. Nominations which consist of three members and the Pastor nominates the members of the Simple Board. The nominations board for 2017 was Vicki Jones, Mary Crouse, and Jaylia Rentfro. The nominations board for 2018 which will select four new members for 2019 are nominated: Helen Reneau, Lee Collins, and Rod Barthold.

3. The responsibility of the Simple Board is to choose desired outcomes for Krum First United Methodist

Church ministry according to its mission statement (To make disciples by loving individuals and families through our Lord, Jesus Christ) locally as part of the larger commitment to the mission of the UMC (To make disciples of Christ, for the transformation of the world), set measurable standards for these outcomes, hire paid staff and appoint lay leadership responsible for these outcomes, hold paid/appointed personnel accountable for successful outcomes, and continually evaluate outcomes and select goals which best bear fruit for the church's mission. The Simple Board is the official final authority of the local church. The Administrative Council recommended 12 members plus the pastor, then approved going with as few as six and the pastor, the nominations committee finally went with eight and the pastor for better representation from the church and there were a lot of strong candidates discussed. Eight also gives us two representatives from the four previous committees; Finance, Trustees, SPPRC, and Outreach.

III. Board Housekeeping: Elect a Chair to call and preside over meetings, (Including the rest of this one) elect a keeper of the minutes, select four members to serve one year, select a contact for the district superintendent concerning staff issues and a designate for next year, select a name, discuss meeting times, discuss communications, discuss announcements of meetings, meetings are open to the public unless paid staff is discussed, Paid staff discussions are private and confidential, I am requiring paid staff to attend formal meetings except for this first one. Only the eight members and the pastors are voting members. Approve necessary by-laws. **Board Discipleship: Book, Small on Purpose by Lewis Parks at Amazon**

- With nomination from Pastor Kevin and acceptance from Bryan, all agreed Bryan would serve as Chair of our Church Council for the coming year.
- All agreed to ask Vicki if she would take minutes of Church Council meetings in the future, but for the time being Patty volunteered...and Tim later took over as Patty had to leave. Bryan cobbled together these words by chisel, axe and grindstone.
- Gary, Floyd, Shane and Vicki graciously volunteered to "graduate" after one year. Leo, Bryan, Tim and Patty will reach graduation in two years.
- The pastor will serve as the ninth member.
- Bryan agreed to create and distribute a Word document of a Church Council by-laws example offered from Ponder UMC for further discussion, development and approval by the next meeting (if not sooner).
- Gary volunteered to serve as point of contact for the District Superintendent (DS) in all matters between K1UMC and the North Texas Conference.

- Leo volunteered to update the various conference forms with current member names. As follow-up, the conference website offers further challenge in fulfilling this obligation, so more to follow as things develop. Same Bat time. Same Bat channel.
- Pastor Kevin presented the church's organization chart, passing around copies for review. He also provided several other handouts and held a general discussion of the puts and takes between the various church entities and personnel, their responsibilities, goals and challenges, just the typical day-to-day goings-on that make a church as unique as K1UMC work and function daily.

IV. New Business: Update to Simple Board from the previous four committees and address any pending business

SPPRC: Gary Kennedy, Trustees: Bryan Nolan, Finance: Leo Hicks, Outreach: Pastor Kevin
 Small Church Initiative Update: Pastor Kevin

- Gary provided much insight on the general workings of SPPRC, their purpose and hence responsibilities, their realm of influence and duty, and most importantly the always vital conference paperwork that goes with these responsibilities. There are presently four part-time paid positions within the church, Pastor Kevin, Mark W. (IT/Music), Norma B. (Administrative) and Jane D. (Finance).
- Bryan presented a general overview of the Board of Trustees, their responsibilities, realm of influence and duty, and some of the more important aspects of ongoing and future plans for the church building and property. The latest of which is rearrangement and repurposing of office space and facilities between the nursery and main office and pastor's office. Once rearrangements are completed this will provide better openness and access to church offices to all visitors and church members.
- Leo presented the budget and spoke of all things Finance Committee-wise, a very enlightening and in-depth review. Members reviewed the puts and takes that make-up our annual budget, found interest in how to bookkeep "designated giving" and what effect this has on "from the plate" budgetary aspects for the next year's budget.
 - To more keenly judge the church's annual budget, Council members discussed the importance of redeveloping and nurturing an annual congregational stewardship campaign. Use the success of the anonymous donor card program. Include presentations by various church family and membership, including our youth and children, providing their personal reflection on the importance of our church and reason for giving.
- Leo mentioned the Dropbox account holds documents we might want to review at some point. At first this may seem mundane, it could bring value to purpose.
- With former Trustee Chair Dave M. and wife's nearing departure for points beyond, we need to update our signatory card records and further carry forward what makes our church run smoothly. A nominee was suggested and follow-up is forthcoming.

- Outreach: We commend both Jane D. and Patty J. for their past and present, respectively, success and dedication to Appleseed Reading Program and Half-an-Apple Ministries.
- CDO: A church ministry, period. Not a money-maker nor profit center, but a ministry. Nuff said. Reputation much improved over the past two years but could always stand further improvement. (We can say that about all of us!)
- Community Garden: Lots of potential, lots of opportunity, especially when the retirement complex is built next door. Speaking of which, talk also centered on building sidewalks on our church property to make for a more welcoming and friendly path to traverse (as compared to the dirt and ditches one must pass thru now!) As a follow-on, Dr. Pat to contact oil company with regard to further work needed on the access road to improve drainage.
- Congregational Care needs more stability, such as established procedure and purpose. Purpose meant more toward knowledge of the individual to be cared for, where they have helped our church and/or church members. Their importance to others becomes our importance, becomes our reason for caring. What drives us to never stop helping others.
- Small Church Initiative: According to our SCI mentor, Pastor Rocky E., former K1UMC member and senior pastor at Ponder UMC, we have done a good job on most initiatives compared to other small churches of similar state and stature. There is always room for improvement, as there are scheduled dates missed by SCI standards, but our missing these aspects is easily attributable to all the internal changes and timing of year and holidays and...well, you get the picture... but we're still "following the recipe" and making great headway. Further activities forthcoming...to be expounded upon in future minutes, I'm sure...so suffice it to say the main focus will be introduction, nurturing and development of the Discipleship Pathway Program which will then further develop and define SCI challenges, goals and future plans toward achievement.

V. Mission Alignment: Per prescription of the SCI, we were tasked with aligning the new mission statement with the budget and paid staff.

- Pastor Kevin prefaced this as an issue needing further review and input, for which no immediate action was needed. However, as Church Council and fully assuming all responsibilities of the Finance Committee, we must take a hard look at the budget and how the various allocations make sense from a Mission Statement and church expense-affordability standpoint. As Gary and others have learned thru Small Church Initiative, one must apply "so that..." reasoning and scrutiny, and our budget is by no means exempt. In fact, it's probably most important of all.

VI. Organizational Chart and Team Development. Possible teams; Worship, Communications, Congregational Care, CDO Advisory, Maintenance, Community Garden, Flower Beds, Lawn, Communion-Liturgy, Seasonal Decorations, Appearance, History, Treasurer, Audio/Video, Bulletin, Web-Page, Social Media, E-News, Advertising, Technology, Half Apple, Appleseed, Food Pantry, Methodist Men, United Methodist Women, Welcoming, Discipleship, Inviting, Scout Liaison, AA Liaison, Lay Speakers, Vacation Bible School, Sunday School, JOY Group, Lay Leader

- Pastor Kevin started off by emphasizing the need to align ministries, programs and activities with our Mission Statement.
- From a teambuilding standpoint, it should be generally acknowledged that the pastor will work with all paid staff. However, this does not apply for church member teambuilding. Here again, the “so that...” test readily applies.
- Lay Speakers: As previously mentioned, Pastor Kevin plans to use our church lay speakers to fill-in when vacationing or otherwise absent. To this extent, the church should form a Lay Speaker Team.
- CDO: As a ministry of the church, we addressed the importance of our CDO governance. All agreed we should establish an advisory team led by church members with educational backgrounds. More to follow. Check future minutes for the latest.
- Acolytes Team: It is important to involve the younger children as acolytes for each service. Of most benefit would be for existing acolytes to induct new or visiting children to help with the lighting of the altar candles. What could be done to make this happen?
- VBS Team: Current VBS Leader recruits those to assist with this year’s event, but more importantly and since this, for all intents and purposes, will continue for years to come, also inducts a likeminded individual to take over for the forthcoming year, and so on and so forth. It gives pause to consider one’s level of commitment to our various missions. For long term programs lasting years to come, we must consider “the R & R factor”: “Resources and Resolve”.
- Worship Team: This is working well, “running like a top” so to say. But there is always room for improvement.
- Internet Team: Mark W. is an invaluable asset in all respects and teambuilding here would only further excite and bring forth new and better technology and resources to our church, our worship service, and our communications and information technology aspects. To this end, several “tech-savvy” church members have come to mind for our near future.
- Youth Meal Team: Good idea? Bad idea? Regardless it is something to address. Our focus is on our youth and their bellies are forever “bellyaching”. A need so simple and yet at times it confounds us in developing sustainability for the obvious.
- Contacted by North Texas Food Bank about setting up a potential food bank at the church.

VIII. Set next meeting: Review Action Steps: District Leadership Training Sunday Jan. 28 3-5 @ McKinney 1st UMC.

- The Leadership Training will be invaluable to our Church Council and as such, we should all plan to attend. What’s also important is our own forthcoming meeting about a month from now on Monday, February 19th, 2018. Put it on your calendar, paste it to your forehead or do whatever it takes to make sure you come. I promise it won’t be near as long as this ungodly...oops!... Godly meeting was!

IX. Closing Prayer: Board Chair

- We thanked the Lord for the progress made in spite of the pain from the many hours of sitting.