

Greensboro FUMC  
Church Council Meeting  
May 12, 2020

Shannon Osborne called the meeting to order at 5:15PM and offered his welcome to all attending. Those in attendance were Gerry Sykora, Shannon Osborne, Steve Gray, Gayle Eicher, Dennis Barlow, Jeannette Burns, Jim Whitaker, Martha Braswell, Kris Hopkins, Matt Stewart, Ann Maddox, Mike Morgan, Jackson Mitchell, Kathy Cawthon, Rodney Moore, Yvonne Moore, Kim Scherer, Larry Bowers, Elisa Reece, and Judy Frank.

The meeting was held in Zoom format due to the social distancing restrictions regarding the Covid-19 pandemic.

Rev. Matt Stewart gave the devotion and opening prayer. His devotion was from Acts 17:22-29 which encourages us to remember that God is not far away, but all around us. Pastor Matt reminded us that we are the Church Council of GFUMC. Our role is not just administrative, it also is to lead and to teach. Do we know the God that Paul knows?

Shannon called for the approval of the Minutes from the February 11, 2020 meeting. Kim Scherer offered two corrections which were both made. Kim Scherer made a Motion to accept the Minutes as written with the two corrections. Ann Maddox made the Second and the Motion passed with no objections.

Mike Morgan gave an update on the status of the UM General and Annual Conferences as follows:

- General Conference for May has been postponed but has not been officially rescheduled.
- The North GA Annual Conference has been rescheduled for August 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020.
- Guidelines have been posted for the re-opening of churches. Pastor Mike and Pastor Matt have appointed a committee to work through the details of how our church would accomplish reopening. Their first meeting will be May 13<sup>th</sup> by Zoom. The committee members are Pastor Mike, Pastor Matt,

Kathy Cawthon, Elaine Hamlin, Larry Bowers, Jeannette Burns, Rebecca Hopkins and a representative from the Ushers and Greeters. They will be working on a rolling model for re-opening and will come up with ways to follow guidelines and keep everyone safe. This includes worship services, church meetings and people in the community who use our facilities. Bishop Sue has asked all UM churches to not meet before June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

- Shannon will send a link to the NGA website with information on this subject.

Pastor Matt Stewart said that he is glad to become our Senior Pastor in September and covets our prayers. He will be sharing his ideas and plans as to ministry and future focus as we get closer to that date.

Steve Gray gave the report for the Strategic Vision and Planning Committee (Chair Vickie Jenkins was not able to be present) as follows:

- They are a small committee consisting of Vickie Jenkins, Rodney Moore, Gayle Eicher, Bill Simmons and Steve Gray. In March and in April they have begun compiling thoughts around a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) Analysis to identify areas on which to best focus.
- They are working to identify a broad-based list of key people in the church to interview. They will then be able to better compartmentalize things.
- The next phase has been put on hold until September when the ministerial transition takes place. They will take the data they have identified and with the Pastors and church leadership will find three or four items that will figure to be the most impactful and able to be accomplished.

Ann Maddox gave a financial update as follows:

- Shannon thanked Ann for all of her hard work in obtaining \$101K from PPP and for her longtime dedication to the church.
- Ann stated that Larry Sykora's organization, Horizons, has been very helpful to her in navigating the PPP process and that she has attended many webinars that Horizons has offered on the topic.
- April was a good month. We received \$83,600. And our expenses were \$62K (which was offset by the PPP loan for payroll expenses). We are holding our own and grateful to God and to our members giving faithfully.
- Our YTD revenues are \$365K and our expenses are \$363K.

- Compared to the same period of January-April in 2019 we are \$67K short on revenue. PPP is a short-term solution and she is very concerned going forward.
- Larry Bowers asked if Ann has had a conversation with the UM Foundation regarding mortgage payment relief. Ann said that at this point she does not feel like she needs to do that. We have \$100K remaining on the short term note and currently have \$68K towards it in the building fund.

Rodney Moore, SPRC report:

- The following Appointments were made by the Bishop to Greensboro FUMC on April 19<sup>th</sup>: Rev. Dr. Matt Stewart - Senior Pastor and Rev. Rick Maeser - Associate Pastor. These appointments will be effective on September 1, 2020. Rev. Mike Morgan was appointed to Senior Pastor at Gainesville FUMC.
- Rodney asked Pastor Mike to give an overview of the general UM process for Appointments. **See attachment** for this timeline.
- Ann Maddox raised the question of financing regarding the new appointments. Discussion pursued but no action was taken.

Jim Whitaker, Missions Chair, gave an update on the Garage Sale. They are uncertain at this juncture if they will be able to have the Garage Sale due to the corona virus. They are rescheduling projected pick-ups. He said that it would be a huge financial hit if we are unable to have the Garage Sale.

Jeannette Burns gave the report for Trustees. She stated that we are on budget so far for the year, due largely to the due diligence and hard work of the Campus Leads, Bob Glaze and Ray Bowden. **See the attached document** for the Trustees report.

Elisa Reece gave the report for Youth Ministries as follows:

- She is actively working to send cards to the Youth on our current active list, as well as “We’re thinking about you” cards to inactive members.
- They put out a Family Devotional every Monday and meet with the Youth on Zoom every Monday.
- On Wednesday Elisa’s devotion goes out to Youth and their families along with videos and activities.

- Thursdays she does activities with the Youth via Zoom. She currently has at least 5 to 6 youth who are active on Mondays and Thursdays.
- They are hoping to be able to meet back with the Youth and Children in July. They have proposed planned activities and are hoping to resume meeting with Youth on Sunday nights at North Campus and Crosswalk on Wednesdays at South Campus.
- Elisa thanked the Nelson Circle for their donation.

Shannon Osborne adjourned the meeting at 6:50PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Gerry Sykora  
Recording Secretary