

**PLAINFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**MINUTES OF APRIL 11, 2018 CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**

Those present: John Baer, Bill Edie, Jennifer Finesilver, Tony Doster, Bree Dunscombe, Elizabeth Gilbert, Ken Loudonback, Bob Milligan, Bob Montgomery, Kathy Perry, Mary Raver, Paul Schreiner, Nikki Shoultz, Shannen Shortt, Jerry Shultz, Mike Simek, Kelli Snow, Vern Sullenger, Charlie Wilfong, Christie Wright.

The meeting opened at 7:03 p.m. with a welcome from Nikki and Devotions by Mike Simek based on *The Chronicles of Narnia* by C. S. Lewis. Mike reflected on the value of seeing difficult people through a different lens.

The minutes of the March meeting were approved with corrections as presented.

Mary Raver reported for Missions that there is a trip to the Midwest Mission Distribution Center planned for April 22-27 and a trip to Henderson Settlement the week of May 20. The UMCOR offering was \$2,550. Family Promise is holding a golf scramble on May 19 and PUMC will host Family Promise May 20-26. Food drive bags will be distributed May 13. A graduate of Africa University with whom Al Barker had an important relationship will speak at the Annual Conference Africa University Breakfast. There will be a Mission and Justice Summit April 21 at Franklin Grace UMC. The cost of \$15 includes lunch. Signup deadline is April 16.

Jennifer's notes from Worship follow.

Easter Sunday:

\* Classic worship included a living floral cross created by worshipers and the singing of the Hallelujah Chorus by choir and worshipers.

\* NewDay Praise worship featured the creation of a piece of art on the platform during worship by Indy area artist Von Biggs.

\* The morning also included special music by the Bible Explorers, a fun Easter photo booth, and special refreshments.

Looking ahead....

\* Post-Easter Classic Worship Series is "Experience the Risen Christ."

In PUMC's church-wide study earlier this year, we considered the questions John Wesley and the earliest "Methodists" used to grow as followers of Jesus—to grow in love for God and neighbor. It is helpful to revisit those questions often. During these weeks following Easter, when we celebrate Jesus coming back alive from the dead and his continued life among us, the first Wesley question is especially helpful. "Is Jesus real to me?" If Jesus is alive from the dead and continues to live, have I experienced him? Do I know him? How can Jesus be real to me? What we find in the Gospel of Luke helps us understand how we can "Experience the Risen Christ".

\* Next NewDay Praise Worship Series beginning April 29 is titled "Stay Positive" - Optimism, Gratitude and Encouragement are not feelings, nor are they activities we do when all is right in our world and feel like being these things. These are choices we make as followers of Jesus to impact the world around us for good. Scripture guides us in how to stay positive for own spiritual health and for the benefit of the church and the world.

Charlie and Nikki gave an update on Transforming for Tomorrow. The Steering Committee led by Mike Simek met to establish the processes and procedures. The Communications, Projects, and Fund Raising Committees will report to the Steering Committee. Charlie moved and Vern seconded that the following be elected to the Communications Committee: Elizabeth Gilbert (chair), Bree Dunscombe, Stephanie Kirkling, Eiric Shriner, Christie Wright. The motion passed unanimously. Bill Edie moved and Bob

Milligan seconded that Kelli Snow be added to the Fund Raising Committee. That motion also passed unanimously.

Bob Milligan reported for Staff Parish that expenditures for which he was responsible were tracking at or under budget. The effort is ongoing to hire a Children's Director and a Music Director.

Paul reported for Trustees that we are having some roof leaks which he is looking for someone to fix. There are some Eagle Scout projects taking place in the vicinity of the fire pit. Some cooking grills will be added.

Bill Edie distributed a summary of the monthly financial report. Following is a summary for the year:

<b>MONTH</b>	<b>BUDGET TO DATE</b>	<b>CONTRIBUTIONS MONTH</b>	<b>CONTRIBUTIONS TO DATE</b>	<b>EXPENSES MONTH</b>	<b>EXPENSES TO DATE</b>	<b>ENDING BALANCE</b>	<b>BALANCE CHANGE</b>
<b>JAN</b>	\$87,122	\$142,843	\$142,843	\$87,628	\$87,628	\$56,859	
<b>FEB</b>	\$174,244	\$84,718	\$227,561	\$91,646	\$179,274	\$49,931	(\$6,928)
<b>MAR</b>	\$261,367	\$93,057	\$320,618	\$76,054	\$255,328	\$66,934	\$17,003

Under new business, Shannen reported on PUMC's digital outreach. There have been over 515 downloads of our mobile app with the number increasing weekly. 30%-40% of our 1000 weekly eNews emails are opened which is well above the national average. 40%-50% of our digital Circuit Riders are opened which is also well above the national average. We are live streaming both NewDay Praise and Classic Worship on facebook. The NewDay Praise Page has nearly 300 followers and reaches 300-500 persons with each live stream worship. The PUMC Page has 850 followers and reaches 400-600 persons with each live stream worship. Easter Sunday worship attendance was 754 with NewDay Praise having a record attendance of 211 worshipers. This was on a weekend when many area schools were on spring break. Four years ago our on-line giving was about 2% of the total. It is now over 10%. Charlie closed us with prayer at 7:46 p.m.

Our next scheduled meeting is May 9, 2018

Respectfully submitted by: Vernon Sullenger, secretary

**APPROVED 5/9/18**