

PLAINFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 13, 2019 CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Those present: John Baer, Bill Edie, Jennifer Finesilver, Tony Doster, Bree Dunscombe, Elizabeth Gilbert, Judy Karstens, Ken Loudenback, Tamara Miller, Mark Preis, Mary Raver, Melissa Shriner, Nikki Shoultz, Shannen Shortt, Mike Simek, Vernon Sullenger, Jacob Tipantasig-Wolverton, Charlie Wilfong, Zoe Wiltrout.

The meeting opened at 7:05 with devotions by Jacob with the theme *Always Open, Service With A Smile* based on Mark 9:34-35. This will also be the theme of the February Children's Sunday morning program.

The minutes of the January meeting were approved as presented.

The group shared glory sightings.

The following Lay Leader reports were presented:

Missions—Mary

Receipts from Alternative Christmas Gifts totaled \$3,455. Madina \$1273, Family Assistance \$1005, Family Promise \$670, Saturday Lunches \$250, Feed the Hungry \$255.

Going to explore new ways to track this to account for different ways of giving (through the office, online, etc.)

Christmas Eve Offering distributed as follows: Sheltering Wings \$800, Saturday Lunches \$800, Family Assistance \$673.96, Just Be Kind \$250, Family Promise of Hendricks Co. \$1600 for operational expenses.

Discussion on how to communicate availability of help when unusual circumstances occur (extreme weather, government shutdown, etc.). More work will be continued on this. Those in need may call 211, but other options may not be as well known.

Mission/Justice Summit was announced for Saturday March 9 to be held at Franklin UMC.

PUMC has provided, mainly through designated giving, enough money to complete a \$5000 sponsorship level of the Family Promise of Hendricks County Capital Campaign. This will sponsor one of the family rooms in their new resource center.

Food drive money has been used to support the Mill Creek and Stilesville and IPS school #34 food pantries.

A group from Congo who worked with Bob Walters and his bike program are visiting in the mid-west and plan to stop at PUMC on March 6. The mission committee is planning to host a small reception to take place at 5PM before the Ash Wednesday service.

Worship—Jennifer

On the Sundays in Lent (Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 6, this year) we will coordinate a series in both Classic and NewDay Praise Worship that will center around hospitality entitled "Crowded." In the stories of Jesus we find that people, often described as the "crowd," were always near Jesus. What was it that made Jesus so attractive? How did Jesus welcome and interact with these people? How can we welcome and serve the people around us and around the church? Romans 15:7 (NRSV) will be a primary Scripture for this series... "Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God." On the three Sundays leading up to Lent, Pastor Elizabeth will do a mini-series in NewDay Praise titled "Grace Wins." We will examine the Wesleyan understanding of grace, discovering more about each of the three primary 'phases' of grace as Methodists understand it, one each week: Prevenient Grace, Justifying Grace, and Sanctifying Grace.

Sunday morning programming:

Preschool & Toddlers are learning that Jesus wants to be my friend forever. Based on the scripture Ephesians 3:18 (NIV), “How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.”

Week 1: Jesus tells the disciples to let the children come to Him (Luke 18:15-16). **Week 2:** Jesus wants to spend time with Mary and Martha (Luke 10:38-42). **Week 3:** A soldier asks Jesus for help, and Jesus miraculously helps him (Matthew 8:5-13). **Week 4:** A woman shows her thankfulness to Jesus for forgiving her and loving her no matter what (Luke 7:36-50).

K-5th grade are learning about serving others, based on the scripture Mark 9:35 (NIV), “Jesus sat down and called for the 12 disciples to come to him. Then he said, ‘Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last. They must be the servant of everyone.’” **Week 1:** Serve others because of what Jesus did for us. **Week 2:** Look for ways to serve others. **Week 3:** Use what you have to serve others. **Week 4:** Serve others without looking for applause.

Preschool Programs:

We have been actively registering students for the summer & fall programs. We are excited to report that we have transitioned our registration process to an online registration. In addition, we have successfully improved & streamlined our administration tasks which have resulted in better fiscal responsibility, parent communication, community engagement, and better assessments for classroom needs. Each classroom has been assessing our students in the following areas for growth: phonics, mathematics and critical thinking. We had a very successful mom’s night in January and are gearing up for parent/teacher conferences.

Kids Connection:

As we have utilized our new online registration process, we have seen a significant increase in enrollment numbers for the summer & fall programs. We continue to provide our students the opportunity to receive one-on-one tutoring for their homework, striving to give each child the opportunity to enjoy a model of life-long-learning.

Adult Religious Education:

Two courses are emerging for adult religious education: *The Five Love Languages* and *Financial Peace University*.

The Five Love Languages: Pastor Elizabeth and her husband Mike are leading an eight-week small group experience using Gary Chapman's relationship classic, *The Five Love Languages*. Through video lessons, small group discussions, and study-guide exercises at home, couples will discover their unique love languages and how to use those languages to grow deeper in love and closer to each other. First meeting will be this coming Sunday, February 17, 11:15 a.m. - noon in the Worship Annex of Clayton Hall. Subsequent seven meetings will also be late morning or early afternoon on Sundays through April 7. Exact time to be determined by the group when they meet on the 17th. To register, email Pastor Elizabeth at egilbert@pumc.org. Fee of \$20 covers the cost of one participant guide that couples may share. Childcare will be provided.

Financial Peace University: PUMC-ers Marcus and Kerry Cossey are once again leading a Financial Peace University for people wanting to grow in their ability to effectively manage their financial lives and reduce their debt. This nine-week course will begin on Wednesday, March 13, 7:00 p.m., in the Koinonia Room. Persons may register at financialpeace.com/groups/1085945. The cost of the class is \$109. Questions may be directed to Marcus and Kerry at fpu@pumc.org.

PUMC Worship Arts:

The PUMC Concert Series is excited to announce that we will be having a Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner with entertainment by the B-Town Bobcats Dixieland Band on Tuesday, March 5th from 6:30pm-8:30pm. Donations are gladly accepted and will be going towards the PUMC Youth Scholarship fund to help send youth on mission trips & summer camp.

We are also excited to announce that the 2019 Concert Series schedule is soon to be published which will include performances by Purdue University's Purduettes, various organ concerts including the Great Organ Spooktacular, a November hymn festival, performances by jazz ensembles, and the continuation of our wonderful annual Christmas Eve service with the PUMC Celebration Orchestra & Choir.

Mike, Bill, Mark and Elizabeth reported for T4T that fund raising numbers were the same as last month, they are hoping to authorize the remodeling of the restrooms project soon and that communications efforts will continue and there will be a March event to share stories of welcoming and hospitality.

Tamara reported for Staff Parish that one interview has been completed and another scheduled for the position of Principal Organist/Choir Director. After that position is filled, that person will assist in filling the position of either Organ Scholar or Accompanist. Staff Parish is also working on creating a credit card policy for PUMC staff credit cards. Charlie and I attended a conference for Staff Parish on 2/9.

Mark reported for Trustees that the ice machine has failed and a new one is on order. Several volunteers have been identified who will be trained by a contractor to take down the walls in the NewDay Praise area.

Bill Edie reported for Finance that this year we will be doing the annual audit differently. The audit will take place on April 6th. We will be seeking volunteers to assist with this project. Following is the January financial report:

MONTH	BUDGET TO DATE	CONTRIBUTIONS MONTH	CONTRIBUTIONS TO DATE	EXPENSES MONTH	EXPENSES TO DATE	ENDING BALANCE	BALANCE CHANGE
JAN	\$86,487	\$123,055	\$123,055	\$83,877	\$83,877	\$39,178	\$29,909

Charlie closed the meeting with prayer shortly before 8:00 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 13, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Vernon Sullenger, secretary

APPROVED 3/13/2019