

**PLAINFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
MINUTES OF MARCH 13, 2019 CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**

Those present: John Baer, Bill Edie, Jennifer Finesilver, Tony Doster, Bree Dunscombe, Ken Loudenback, Kathy Perry, Mary Raver, Melissa Shriner, Shannen Shortt, Mike Simek, Vern Sullenger, Jacob Tipantasig-Wolverton, Charlie Wilfong.

In Nikki's absence, Bill Edie opened the meeting at 7:03 p.m. and Shannen shared devotions on the theme, what is Lent.

The minutes of the February meeting were approved as presented.

The group shared several Glory Sightings.

Jennifer presented the following for the Worship Committee: Classic Worship and NewDay Praise Worship are presenting a coordinated series through the season of Lent.... "Crowded"... a series that centers around hospitality. Examining stories in the Gospel of Luke, we will seek to discover how Jesus engaged, served, and blessed the crowds that gathered around him, and how we might do the same. This Sunday, March 17, we will receive three adults as new members in NewDay Praise Worship. In Classic Worship after Easter, the message will include themes from Star Wars. Universal Lessons from a Galaxy Far, Far Away.

Kathy Perry presented the following report prepared by Jacob:

KIDS@PUMC & PUMC Christian Education | PUMC Worship Arts

Sunday morning programming:

Preschool & Toddlers are learning that we are all wonderfully made by God. **Week 1:** I am wonderfully made and I am unique in my own special way. **Week 2:** I am made in God's image. God made us like Him, and that makes us wonderful! **Week 3:** I am important to God. What does the word important mean, and how does God see each person. **Week 4:** God made me to respect myself. Respecting ourselves, we learn about taking care of our bodies with healthy choices. **Week 5:** God made me to respect others. This means we use kind words, sharing, and playing nicely.

K-5th grade are learning about the connection between individuality and God's character, as shown through God's big story. Individuality is a reflection of the character of God. **Week 1:** Genesis 1:26-28, when God created people, He did something special. He created them in His image and gave them the job of taking care of creation. **Week 2:** Luke 15:1-17, the shepherd who leaves the 99 sheep behind to search for the one sheep that was lost. God wants to have a relationship with us. **Week 3:** I Timothy 4:12, God made me to make a difference. God reminds us to stay faithful to the task God gives us and that God created us for a purpose. **Week 4:** I Samuel 16, David was the least likely to be crowned king, yet God helped him discover that the true worth is not what we see on the outside but who we are on the inside. **Week 5:** Matthew 22:34-40, the great commandment to love God and love others as we love ourselves. God made me to love others.

Easter Eggstravaganza:

April 13th from 9am-10:30am right here at PUMC. Kids will enjoy face painting, a photo booth, games & the bounce houses as they hear & experience the great love that God has for each of them. All are welcome to attend, and volunteers are very much needed. Reach out to Jacob for more information on how you can help!

Preschool Programs:

Hosted an informative Teacher In-service, focusing on teacher development, best practices and lesson planning.

- Began the transition to move administrative operations online, for example, sending the monthly calendars and newsletters home for parents via email. We hope this will increase communication with families. In addition to helping the program cut back on printing costs so that we can move to increase fiscal responsibility. We have fully implemented Quickbooks as our financial management system, ensuring financial stability and transparency.
- We have initiated an online platform to create and organize lesson plans for the preschool & Pre-k classrooms. Teachers will be able to organize and plan ahead months in advance and retain details to be utilized in the following years.

Kids Connection:

We continue to enroll more and more kids into our summer & fall programs. The online registration continues to be widely successful which has helped spur the interest in enrolling students into our program. We are exploring the option of opening up an additional class in order to accommodate the need that our community is expressing.

PUMC Worship Arts:

The Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner & Dixieland Jazz concert was highly attended with an attendance of nearly 200 people. Donations that were received are set help send our youth on their mission trip & summer camp.

As we continue to build out the 2019 Concert Series, we are excited to share with you that there will be an upcoming PUMC Worship Arts staff concert featuring the music staff & friends of PUMC. Be on the look out for a date & time soon!

Shannen Shortt presented the following report: On Tuesday, March 5th, the youth served approximately 175 people at the Fat Tuesday Pancake dinner. The good will offering was \$1002. After costs for supplies, the youth mission trip benefited by ~\$600. The youth are also selling their popular oven ready casseroles to help support their summer mission trip. They were available this past Sunday and again next Sunday. On March 12th, Rev. Dr. Jim Bushfield held a conversation/question & answer gathering about the decision from the General Conference 2019. It was well attended by ~60-70 people from PUMC and other churches. March 13th, Financial Peace begins again for 9 weeks, lead again by Marcus and Kerry Cossey. Encore Ministry is collecting used ink cartridges. They will be taken to a recycle center and the money will benefit Sheltering Wings

Mary Raver reported for Missions: The next trip to MMDC is happening in April, the roster is full. Work is being done to update the "missions" brochure prior to Missions Sunday which will be taking place April 28. Eiric reported to the committee about new formatting of PUMC's website and requested updated contact information and descriptions of missions for inclusion. Ruth Ellen Stone took the lead host roll as PUMC hosted delegates from Congo prior to Ash Wednesday service. UMCOR Sunday is March 31. Family Promise Sign-ups will begin in April. On April 11 there will be an Open House/Dedication event at the new Family Promise resource center. PUMC's presence is requested that evening for a presentation as a room will be named in honor of PUMC.

The Transforming For Tomorrow steering committee reported that the contract for the rest room renovation project has been signed with Guyco with work to start around May 1 and should be a 120 day project. Several communication events are being planned. Only approximate financial numbers were available at this meeting.

Tamara supplied the following report for Staff Parish which was presented by Charlie: Bob Preusch, who sits on the Board of Pension and Health Benefits, joined Staff Parish to talk about offering 403B benefits to Lay Staff members. We can do so at no cost in fees to the employees or the church, but it would add additional responsibilities to the Financial Administrator. We are researching further and will then seek approval from Finance and Church Council if Staff Parish decides to move forward. We also discussed moving all the staff for the Children’s Program under Staff Parish and one handbook. We have formed a small group to review the handbooks and make suggestions for combining. We were able to obtain another church policy on staff credit cards, and we have formed another small group to draft that policy. Stephen Price accepted an offer to join PUMC as the Choral Director and Organist effective Sunday, 3/3rd. Staff Parish held a reception to welcome him.

Mark reported for Trustees that the new ice maker has been purchased and installed and that the project to remove the moveable walls that form the center aisle in Clayton Hall is still being pursued.

Following is Bill Edie’s finance report:

The month of May will be identified as Endowment Awareness month.

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
FEB	\$172,974	\$82,372	\$204,427	\$82,862	\$166,739	\$37,688	(\$1490)

Charlie reported on the results of the special session of the General Conference. In summary, no changes were made in the denomination’s stance on ordination of those who self identify as homo-sexual or on the performing of same gender marriages on church property. The constitutionality of some of the decisions that were made are under review by the judicial committee.

Charlie closed with singing and prayer at approximately 8:00 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 10, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Vernon Sullenger, secretary

APPROVED 4/10/2019