

Minutes
North United Methodist Church
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
October 27, 2021 * 5:30 p.m.

ZOOM MEETING – see email for complete login instructions, including phone number.

Members

Marie Powell, Chair
Orson Mason, Vice Chair
Troy Barker, Secretary
Jessica White, Treasurer
Jacqueline Blackwell (LL/SPRC)
Eric Lekberg (LL/MC)

Jeff Bonner (Trustees)
Peter Chen (At large)
Charles Young (Finance)
Mai Cooper (At large)
Garland Graves (SPRC)

Ex Officio

Darren Cushman Wood
John Drake, Finance Director

1. Roll Call the following members were present: Marie Powell, Orson Mason, Troy Barker, Jessica White, Jacqueline Blackwell, Eric Lekberg, Jeff Bonner, Peter Chen, Charles Young, Garland Graves, Darren Cushman Wood, and John Drake; Board Member Mai Cooper was not present. Guest Mark Gilgallon
2. Opening Devotion (Darren) – Generosity
3. Approval of Minutes of September 22, 2021, meeting (Marie)
The motion was made by Jessica White and seconded by Charles Young.
The board unanimously approved the minutes of the September 22, 2021, meeting.
4. Ministry Update – Mark Gilgallon, Director of Music-
Mark shared what his ministry team has been doing with the board and provided some thoughts and plans. Youth and Adult Ringers have begun ringing again and will be present on November 21. North Winds will be playing in the chapel on December 12. The children’s choir (Joyful Noise) is still on hold for the safety of the children.
Pastor Darren provided a word of appreciation for Mark’s collaboration and his diligence regarding the safety of others.
Mark can be reached at mgilgallon@northchurchindy.com - Phone: (317) 924-2612 x29
5. Discussion and Proposal to amend/change bylaws (copy attached)
Darren Presented changes to the bylaws. (attached).
The motion was made by Troy Barker and seconded by Charles Young.
The board unanimously approved the proposed changes.
6. Committee/Board/Senior Pastor Reports
 - Finance – Charles Young
An all-church finance meeting was held on 10/24/2021. 17-20 individuals were in attendance for this meeting. The meeting was hosted through Zoom.

- Finance - John Drake provided a recap and report (attached)
- Trustees – Jeff Bonner
Jeff provided an update on the restroom and parlor upgrades. Jeff is hoping that the project will be completed by the end of the year. They have run into some supply issues beyond our control. Work continues planning for the centennial (2031). Trustees are collaborating with the Green Team concerning the landscaping including the courtyard. Jeff indicated that Beth Porter has been a blessing. Trustees are also evaluating changing the names of some rooms.
- Ministries Council – Eric Lekberg
Ministries council passed a policy requiring all volunteers in the children and youth ministries, all musicians in the choir, and all players of wind instruments to show proof of COVID vaccinations due to respect of staff members.
- Staff Parish Relations Committee – Garland Graves
SPRC and a subcommittee continue to review potential candidates for the Youth Pastor position. SPRC has two promising candidates being evaluated. SPRC did an abbreviated evaluation for Pastors Darren and Sunil.
- Land Development – Pastor Darren
Pastor Darren advised the board that the Land Development Committee (Land Use) intended to send a letter to Flanery and Collins discontinuing the letter of intent and thanking them for their partnership.

Mapleton Fall Creek Development Corporation was awarded a 1-million-dollar block grant for the planning and development of a grocery store. This project has the potential to use the property of North Church. To that end, Darren would like the Board to consider this. The following motion was made by Orson Mason and seconded by Jessica White.

The board authorized North Church (Pastor Darren) to engage in exploratory conversation about using the land in collaboration with Mapleton Fall Creek Development Corporation.

The board unanimously approved this motion.

The grant is a Lift grant. Lift Indy is a comprehensive community development program that promotes equitable neighborhood revitalization through affordable housing, economic development, and placemaking. Each year, the City of Indianapolis will select one strategic, focused area with market potential and make a multi-year commitment of HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding to help meet neighborhood goals.

- Leadership Development – Pastor Darren
Pastor Darren reported that all nominations are slated for the upcoming Charge Conference. The Charge Conference is scheduled for November 16, 2021, at 6:30, at University UMC. Pastor Darren requested and encouraged the boards attendance.
- Senior Pastor/Administrative – Pastor Darren
East 10th will discontinue its worship services effective December 26, 2021. East 10th will officially close at Annual Conference 2022.

Stewardship Sunday is 10/31/2021. As of today, we have received 64 (26 electronic) pledges of \$304,000.

Darren asked for three board members to provide stewardship updates for November 7th, 14th, and 21st. The following board members volunteered. Eric on 11/7, Orson 14th, and Jessica on the 21st.

Darren will be asking board members to send thank you notes to new members related to stewardship giving.

A new members class has started. So far nine members planning to join. Darren estimates 50% of the person joining are do so related to North’s stance on inclusions.

COVID protocol. The current positive case numbers are as follows:

*Aug 2 – 337, Aug 9 – 494, Aug 16 – 677, Aug 23 – 857, Aug 30 – 1112, Sept 6- 1003, Sept 13 – 1020
Sept 20 – 838, Sept 27 – 710, Oct 4 – 643, Oct 11 – 475, Oct 18 – 406, Oct 25 – 350.*

Christmas Eve – One service at 7:30 – Candlelight Service, communion will not be offered.

Boy Scouts – Pastor Darren asked for the board’s authorization to send a letter to the church members in November. Pastor Darren is suggesting requesting the letter by mail and Marie will read the letter during worship. The letter would be mailed the week of November 14th, and Marie would read the letter on November 21, 2021.

7. Next Meeting will be on December 15, 2021.

8. Executive Session (if requested) See [January 2015 minutes](#), page 6, item 7.

Meetings Scheduled for 2021

January 27	April 28	July 28	October 27
February 24	May 26	August 25	November 24
March 24	June 23	September 22	December 15

**Notes to September 2021 Financial Statements
Prepared by John Drake**

Balance Sheet

Cash: \$1,406,756.75 as of September 30th compared to \$1,621,664.05 as of August 31st. The decrease in cash reflect the payment on the Mortgage for 2021/2022 of \$80,501.46 from previous bequest. The Trustees have been busy spending \$80,550 for the renovations and other projects. Please note that we receive \$30,000 per month via on-line giving. Please review the Cash Summary for September 2021 to see cash amounts by account.

Budgeted Income Statement

Income

Budgeted Amounts Explanation: The monthly budget amounts shown for Current Year Pledges and Non-Pledge Contributions have been adjusted to reflect seasonal variations by using the average of actual results over the last three years as a guide. The budget amount shown for each of the other income line items is its annual budget amount divided by 12.

Pledges: \$6,430 under budget for September, and \$1,223 over budget YTD. Please note that we will receive a check for more than \$20,000 in early October. Actual prior YTD pledge income was \$80,000 more than actual current YTD pledge income.

Forty-seven Giving Units have contributed at more than 100% resulting in \$74,108 in funds received ahead of schedule. Of the forty-seven, twenty-four are at 101% or more.

Non-Pledge Contributions: \$809 over budget for September and \$11,521 under budget YTD. Actual prior YTD non-pledge contribution income is \$6,000 less than actual current YTD pledge income. The budget amount was reduced from \$125,000 to \$80,000 to reflect the effect of not having live in-person services.

Non-Discretionary Income: This is reflects the transfer of Memorial Funds to the General Funds plus reimbursements by East 10th Street.

Expenses

Budgeted Amounts Explanation: The monthly budget amounts shown for Utilities and other expenses such as Grounds and Upkeep, Audit and Janitorial Supplies have been adjusted to reflect seasonal variations by using the average of actual results over the last

three years as a guide. The budget amounts shown for other expense line items are annual budget amounts divided by 12.

Wage and Salaries: We are \$749 over budget for September, and \$63,522 under budget YTD. Please note that three positions are not filled: one custodian, one childcare, and the Minister of Youth and Young Adults. The September amount includes the payment of bonuses in the amount of \$8,259 for pastoral and lay staff.

Health Insurance: We are \$5,124 under budget for September and \$16,474 under budget YTD. I have asked the Indiana Conference to cash two checks totaling \$3,000 for 2020 Health Insurance and they have not done so. As a result, I have voided the checks and reduced 2021 expenses.

Utilities: Total utilizes (electricity, heating fuel, and water/sewer) were \$271 over budget for the month and \$5,250 under budget. YTD.

Technology Hardware: We are over budget for the month of September since we paid the August and September bills in September.

Janitorial Supplies: Paid two months bills for Cintas and ordered cleaning supplies. As the foot traffic picks up in the church more supplies are needed. Shepherd center now meets each week.

Summary:

- Total revenue was \$6,686 under budget for September and \$9,406 under budget YTD. Actual prior YTD income was \$66,000 more than actual current YTD income.
- Expenses are \$5,093 under budget for September and \$136,359 under budget YTD. Expenses for 2021 YTD are \$47,000 under 2020 YTD. We are tracking well on the expense side of the budget.
- The actual operating deficit through September was \$78,177. The budgeted deficit through September was forecasted as \$205,130. September looks better with the over \$20,000 check recorded.

Proposed Amendments to NUMC By-Laws [October 2021]

EXPLANATION: There are 2 types of proposed changes: (1) updated terminology to make the bylaws conform to the Discipline so that the bylaws will not need to be amended every four years (e.g. “committee on nominations and leadership development” and “current edition of”; (2) eliminate a paragraph regarding outmoded communications process.
--Darren

Article II

Section 2

(b) At the annual meeting, the Members shall elect, upon recommendation by the Committee on Lay Leadership, or by nomination from the floor, any of the following positions that are open: the Board of Directors and its Chair and Vice Chair, as set out in Article III, Section 2(b); ~~the Committee on Lay Leadership~~ **committee on nominations and leadership development**....

Section 5

~~(e) If the Corporation's membership consists of more than one thousand (1,000) Members, notice of the place, date, and time of an annual, a regular, or a special meeting, and in the case of a special meeting, the purpose of the special meeting, may be given by one (1) publication in a newspaper of general circulation, printed in English, in the county in which the Corporation has its principal office if the publication is made not less than ten (10) days and not more than thirty (30) days before the meeting date.~~

Article IV

Section 2. Standing Committees. The following shall be the standing committees of the Board of Directors:

(a) Board of Trustees. There shall be a Board of Trustees which shall function as provided in ~~¶2524 – ¶2551~~ **the current edition** of the *Discipline*, except that the authority and power referenced in said sections of the *Discipline* shall reside with the Board of Directors and shall be delegated to the Board of Trustees at the discretion of the Board of Directors. The Board of Trustees shall be nominated by the ~~Committee on Lay Leadership~~ **committee on nominations and leadership development** and elected at the annual meeting of Members.

(b) ~~Committee on Lay Leadership.~~ **Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development.** There shall be a ~~Committee on Lay Leadership~~ **Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development** which shall function as described in ~~¶259.1~~ **the current edition** of the *Discipline*. The Committee on Lay Leadership shall be nominated by the Committee on Lay Leadership and elected at the annual meeting of Members.

(c) Staff-Parish Relations Committee. There shall be a Staff-Parish Relations Committee which shall function as described in ~~¶259.2~~ **the current edition** of the *Discipline*. The Staff-Parish Relations Committee shall be nominated by the ~~Committee~~

~~on Lay Leadership~~ **committee on nominations and leadership development** and elected at the annual meeting of Members.

(d) Finance Committee. There shall be a Finance Committee which shall function as described in ~~¶259.4~~ **the current edition** of the *Discipline*. The Finance Committee shall be nominated by the ~~Committee on Lay Leadership~~ **committee on nominations and leadership development** and elected at the annual meeting of Members.

Amendments To The By Laws

4. Effective January 1, 2014, Article IV, Section 2(e) shall be amended and restated to read as follows: (e) Ministries Council. There shall be a Ministries Council, the Chair of which shall be a Lay Leader who is nominated by ~~the Committee on Lay Leadership~~ **committee on nominations and leadership development**