

**Minutes**  
**North United Methodist Church, Inc**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**October 4, 2023, in place of September 27, 2023, \* 6:30 p.m.**  
**In-Person Meeting**

***Members***

Orson Mason, Chair  
 Kathy Gifford, Vice Chair  
 Troy Barker, Secretary  
 Jessica White, Treasurer  
 Eric Lekberg (LL/MC)

Jeff Bonner (Trustees)  
 Charles Young (Finance)  
 Jacqueline Blackwell (At large)  
 Dan Wegg (SPRC)  
 Mary McDonald  
 Lyn Berkebile

***Ex Officio***

Darren Cushman Wood  
 John Drake, Finance Director

1. Roll Call - The following members were present: Orson Mason, Kathy Gifford, Troy Barker, Jessica White, Eric Lekberg, Jeff Bonner, Charles Young, Dan Wegg, Mary McDonald, Lyn Berkebile, Ex Officio members Pastor Darren Cushman Wood and John Drake and guest Marie Powell. Not present were members Jessica White and Jacqueline Blackwell.
2. Opening Devotion (Orson Mason)
3. Approval of the Minutes from the August 23, 2023, meeting (Orson Mason) seconded by Jeff Bonner; the minutes were approved unanimously.
4. Finance – (John Drake & Charles Young)

**Notes For September 2023**  
**2023 Financial Statements**  
**Prepared by John Drake**

**Balance Sheet**

**Cash:** \$711,584.66 as of September 30th, 2023, compared to \$ 717,074.26 as of August 31st, 2023. The decrease in cash is due to the payment of the Line of Credit (Mortgage). Please note that we receive \$25,000 per month via on-line giving from sixty giving units. Please review the Cash Summary for September 2023.

**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 seven years as a guide. The budget amount shown for each of the other income line items is its annual budget amount divided by twelve.

**Pledges:** \$16,901 under budget for September. Year to date we are \$11,916 over the 2023 budget through September. This September was a slow month for pledge income.

**Non-Pledge Contributions:** \$3,807 under budget for September. We are \$9,496 ahead of the Budget for this income as of September 2023. This income is more of a wildcard than pledge income from year to year.

**Interest Income** – Increased the 2023 budget this year to cover the Salary increases. Please note that our total income for Interest as of September 30th is \$28,912. This covers the Salary increases and other shortfalls in income.

**Transfer from Designated Funds:** Will move \$25,000 from Designated Funds to fill the planned operating deficit for September.

## Expenses

**Budgeted Amounts Explanation:** The monthly budget amounts shown for Utilities, Audit and Janitorial Supplies have been adjusted to reflect seasonal variations by using the average of the last four years as a guide. The budget amounts shown for other expense line items are annual budget amounts divided by twelve.

**Wage and Salaries:** We are under budget for Salaries both for the month and YTD due to the lack of a Security Guard during most of September.

**Benefits:** We are under budget for the total of all benefit lines both for September and YTD.

**Utilities:** Total utilities (electricity, water/sewer, and heat) are down for September since electricity is under budget for the month. YTD these lines are over due to electricity. Savings have been in the Heating Line where a prearranged price contract is saving us money.

## Summary:

- Actual revenue and expenses are over budget for September. YTD our actual expenses are \$15,616 under budget.
- September was a slow cash month. I would expect to meet the budget on Income for October. November and December are typically strong cash months.

5. Ministry Council – (Eric Lekberg) \*Report Provided

The Ministries Council met three times this month. The first two meetings were specifically scheduled to brief the Ministry Council on the preliminary findings of the Strategic Budget Task Force (SBTF). Marie Powell, Pastor Darren, and I briefed the Ministry Council to allow for feedback from the Ministry Areas that may be most affected by the potential changes and the overall Ministry Council. We have used the feedback in the final drafts of the SBTF Proposal.

The third meeting in September was our regularly scheduled Spring planning meeting. This meeting is used to create the blueprint of the spring programming calendar. This planning process continues over the next few months. No other topics or business were discussed.

If there are any questions or issues, please let me know. Thank you, Eric Lekberg, 317-513-3435

6. Trustees – (Jeff Bonner) \*Report Provided

Jeff Bonner provided the following advance report.

The Trustees continue to do our best to care for our church. Some items that may be of interest include:

- We are updating the exterior spotlights to LED's.
- Trustees are waiting to schedule the elevator rehab, but it may not even happen this year.
- Andy Hein and Jeff Bonner plan to get to the lighting to the west entry steps. Trustees approved the quote for the window inserts in the Gathering Center.
- Trustees approved the addition of North to the Landmarks Tour this coming December. Trustees are hoping that this may bring others into our beautiful church. Trustees are looking into options for the bushes on the north edge of the northeast parking lot.
- Our budget is tight, and we are about out of funds.

As always, I am here if you have any questions or comments. Thank you, Jeff Bonner

7. Staff Parish Relations Committee – (Dan Wegg)

SPRC met in September, in coordination with the choir, to help plan a celebration for Mark Gilgallon on October 22 in celebration of his 20th anniversary. The other topic at the SPRC meeting was details of the Strategic Planning Task Force report.

8. New/Other Business

9. Meeting Adjourned 7:05

**Meetings Scheduled for 2023**

January 25 Zoom ✓	April 26 Live ✓	July 26 Zoom Canceled	October 25 Zoom
February 22 Live ✓	May 24 Zoom ✓	August 23 Live	November 22* Live
March 22 Canceled	June 28 Live ✓	October 4 Live <small>date change</small>	December 20* Zoom

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2. Opening - Orson Mason
3. Presentation of Strategic Budget Task Force report - Marie Powel and Kathy Gifford  
 Marie and Kathy led the group through the findings of the Strategic Budget Task Force (SBTF). Attached is a copy of the presentation provided to the board.
4. Discussion of the Strategic Planning Task Force report. - Board  
 After the presentation was completed, board members discussed and asked questions.
5. Orson Mason presented the following motion:
  - The board now accepts the recommendation and findings of the Strategic Planning Task Force as presented.
  - The various impacted committees and sub-committees are now empowered to execute the plan as presented.
  - Lastly, commission this task force (Strategic Planning Task Force) to continue the task force through 2024 and provide quarterly reports to the Board of Directors.

The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session ended at 6:30 PM.