

**Minutes of the
North United Methodist Church
Board of Directors Meeting,
March 26, 2025, 5:30 pm**

Present: Kathy Gifford, Jacqueline Blackwell, Lyn Berkebile, Eric Oehler, Perry Kea, Garland Graves, Jeff Warbinton, Darren Cushman Wood

Absent: Shawn Denney, Karen Horiszny, Eric Lekberg

The meeting began with a devotion and prayer by Pastor Darren. Perry volunteered to bring the devotions at the April meeting.

Minutes of the February Board meeting were unanimously approved.

Approval of Revised 2025 Budget

Darren presented a revised church budget for 2025 which was unanimously approved following a discussion of items that had changed from the version presented in February.

Stewardship Update

Kathy reported that the long-range Strategic Financial Planning Task Force met March 12th and discussed the creation of an ad hoc team tasked with raising non-pledged contributions for the general fund. The team will consist of Doshia Stewart, Robin Reagan, Shannon Priddy, and Becca Choate. The campaign will run from after Easter through Labor Day. The Task Force also discussed the goal of reviewing and possibly updating the role of lay leaders in the budgeting process. This goal has been referred to the Finance Committee and SPRC. The Finance Committee began this conversation at their February meeting.

SPRC—Housing Allowance Approval

The following resolution was unanimously:

Whereas, section 107 of the Internal Revenue Cod permits a minister of the gospel to exclude from gross income (in computing federal income taxes only) a church-designated allowance paid to him/her as part of his/her compensation to the extent used by him/her for actual expenses in owning or renting a home;

and whereas, Rev. Jill Moffett (hereinafter “the Pastor”) is compensated by the Church exclusively for services as a minister of the gospel;

and whereas, the Church does not provide the Pastor with a parsonage;

therefore, it is hereby resolved, that the total compensation paid to Rev. Jill Moffett for the calendar year 2025 shall be \$46,666.66, of which \$20,000.00 is hereby designated to be a housing allowance pursuant to section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code;

and it is further resolved, that the designation of \$20,000.00 as a housing allowance shall apply to the calendar year 2025 and all future years unless otherwise provided by this board of directors meeting.

The housing allowance shall be so designated in the official church records.

Please note that the total salary reflects that she will not work a full 12 months in 2025.

A letter will be sent to Jill notifying her of this resolution.

Trustees Report

Eric Oehler reported that the Sacred Places Indiana grant pledges are up to \$130,000 from individual donors. This does not include the Trustees' commitment from their endowment distribution (\$62,500). The team soliciting individual commitments aims to raise enough contributions so that the entire amount of the Trustees' commitment will not be needed and can be used to meet other needs.

Eric also reported that the Trustees have received two bids for replacing HVAC units equaling approximately \$160,000. The Trustees are exploring options for how to complete these replacements this year.

Finance Committee Report

The Board received the February financial reports from the Finance Committee (via email prior to the board meeting).

Leadership Development Committee

Jeff Eggert has resigned from being Treasurer. The committee will be meeting April 22 and will bring a nomination back to Board of Directors.

Meeting adjourned: 6:30 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Darren Cushman Wood.