

Minutes
North United Methodist Church
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
January 25, 2017
5:30 p.m.

Members

Shannon Priddy, Chair	John Drake, Treasurer
Ron Gifford, Vice Chair	Eric Galloway (MC/LL)
Jim McDonald (SPRC)	Eric Oehler (Trustees)
Richard Kluger (Finance)	Jeff Eggert (AL)
Jacqueline Blackwell, (LL to AC)	Mark Foglesong (AL)
Mark Grove, Secretary	Kathleen Custer, LL

Ex Officio

Darren Cushman Wood
Josh Jordan

Absent

Faustin N'tala (AL)

1. Pastor Darren opened the meeting with a prayer.
2. The minutes of the December 21, 2016 were approved unanimously (McDonald/Eggert).
3. Land Development (Darren)
 - In 2017, the tax credit for the area goes from 4% to 9%. Targets of this credit will make it easier to separate our project from the United Way building and may help address ownership issues between North and the developer.
 - Indianapolis [recently received](#) a \$55 million dollar federal grant in New Markets Tax Credits that are designed to spur development in distressed neighborhoods. This may open up additional grant options for the proposed project.
4. 2016 Financials and 2017 Budget review (Darren, Josh, and Richard)
 - Following the success of the extended Stewardship Campaign, the Finance Committee recommended a balanced FY2017 budget to the board for consideration.
 - The budget incorporates some changes in accounting policy as well as how it handles revenue coming from designated funds. The latter includes direct pass-throughs where the funds are collected and immediately distributed, such as for the Appalachian Service Project (ASP).
 - Budget lines are now allocated differently by month to account for seasonal fluctuations in revenue and expenses. In the past, these were distributed evenly throughout the year, requiring informal mental adjustments for months with traditionally higher or lower giving or expenses.
 - The Finance Committee will track the budget over the course of the year with a focused review in the summer to identify any potential problems in revenue or expenses.
 - The board unanimously passed the budget as recommended by the committee.
 - The last three months of income for 2016 were strong, reducing the budgetary shortfall for the year significantly.

5. Connectional Discussion (Darren)

- Darren and Shannon recommended having regular opportunities of discussion/reflection on different topics at board meetings over the course of the year. Darren led board members in the first of these on the concept of *connectionalism* and how North fits into the larger denomination, whether in the city, district, or beyond. How might we use this concept to broaden our horizons beyond the specific needs and activities at North?
 - Two examples are with church tithe and in the annual charge conference. In addition to those, how are we connected beyond the Book of Discipline and in legal matters?
 - Shared set of beliefs
 - Polity and bylaws
 - Leadership through bishops and district superintendents.
 - Common mission
 - Ethos
 - Though we may not often think of them as forms of connection, we already draw on or otherwise benefit from a number of shared resources or activities such as the hymnal, UMW, and the youth camp.
 - Some more obvious examples of local connectionalism include North's confirmation classes visiting four other churches where they see a variety of ministries as well as our participation in some joint activities with Board Ripple UMC and Vita Nueva.
 - In looking at churches in our immediate area there are some with which we currently relate and others that may be candidates for increased connection. *See handout below.*
 - There are other possibilities to work with other churches at different ministry levels, including UMW. This is a possible topic for Ministries Council.
 - We recognize there could be a major shift in connectionalism in the denomination as a result of the [2019 General Conference](#) that will consider the current impasse on church teachings on inclusiveness and church unity.

6. Committee/Board/Senior Pastor Reports

- Trustees (Eric O.)
 - Two new heating units were installed on the roof to serve the Community Room and the west entrance.
- Staff Parish Relations Committee *SPRC* (Jim)
 - *SPRC* is completing the Senior Pastor Performance Review process; Jim and Shannon will discuss results with Darren. Responses from the surveys are strong and the narratives should be helpful.
 - Darren, Josh, and Jim are finalizing the targeted salary increases for three staff members as were approved by the board.
 - The annual staff appreciation luncheon is at noon 8 February. Thanks to Kathleen for taking lead in making this happen.

- Ministries Council (Eric G.)
 - HEM is experiencing a strong success in the Community room on Sundays. Board members were encouraged to stop by and share in the fellowship.
- Lay Leadership (Kathleen)
 - The Leadership session was held January 24 and was well received.
 - There are a couple of openings on committees that still need to be filled. Members can send any recommendations to Kathleen.
- Senior Pastor/Administrative
 - The new members' class is starting soon.

7. There was no Executive Session.

See [January 2015 minutes](#), page 6, item 7

Upcoming Meeting Dates

2017

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| • February 22 | • August 23 |
| • March 22 | • September 27 |
| • April 26 | • October 25 |
| • May 24 | • November 15 (3 rd Wednesday) |
| • June 28 | • December 20 (3 rd Wednesday) |
| • July 26 | |

United Methodist Churches in Center Township

Barnes (around 30th & MLK)
Charles Harrison

Broadway (29th & Fall Creek Pwky)
Mike Mather
Rachel Matheny

*Calvary (State & Hoyt)
Tim Ditchley

*East Tenth (10th & Keystone)
John Hay, Jr.

*Forest Manor
Rosa Harris

*Otterbein (21st & Emerson)
Carl Fannin

Scott (22nd & Andrew J Brown)
James Anyike

*Morris Street (near Madison Ave & Morris St)
Don Janis

Roberts Park (Delaware & Vermont)
Andrew Scanlan-Holmes

*St. Paul-Brightwood (near 25th & Sherman)
Brightwood Community Center
Tiffany Caprice Williams

Vida Nueva (Washington & Warman)
David Penalva

*Woodside (near Southeastern & English)
Diana Sturm

**part-time pastors*

United Methodist Churches relating to North

Meridian Street

St. Luke's

Broad Ripple

University

Other United Methodist Churches we might relate to

Church of the Savior

Wesley

Epworth

Castleton

¶ 132. The Journey of a Connectional People—Connectionalism in the United Methodist tradition is multi-leveled, global in scope, and local in thrust. Our connectionalism is not merely a linking of one charge conference to another. It is rather a vital web of interactive relationships. We are connected by sharing a common tradition of faith, including Our Doctrinal Standards and General Rules (¶ 104); by sharing together a constitutional polity, including a leadership of general superintendency; by sharing a common mission, which we seek to carry out by working together in and through conferences that reflect the inclusive and missional character of our fellowship; by sharing a common ethos that characterizes our distinctive way of doing things.