

Administrative Council Minutes December 18, 2016

Julie Burdin opened the December 18, 2016, Administrative Council meeting at 6:30pm. In attendance were: Debbie Baker, Julie Burdin, Ben Williams, Rev. Riegerix, Rhonda Linsley, Mandi Brown, Chad Smith, Chris Nelson, Pastor Knapp, Sherwin Dent, Chuck Stockton and Ellen Gehringer.

Pastor Knapp led a devotional based on Matthew 2:11-12 – What shall we bring?

Business

The Administrative Council reviewed MUMC's Local Church Officials list and the 2017 Ministry Team list. Possible placements for vacant positions were discussed and the lists were approved unanimously after a motion by Debbie Baker, seconded by Rhonda Linsley.

Plans for a Leader's Retreat for all individuals involved in MUMC Leadership Team or on a committee. Sunday, January 29 was selected. The 4-5 hour retreat will take place after the Unity Service on that Sunday. Ellen Gehringer will work on putting together lunch for those in attendance. Pastor Knapp asked if we should look at utilizing an outside facilitator or keep this as an internal organizational meeting. The Council agreed by consensus that we preferred for this meeting that an outside facilitator was not needed.

Budget – Council members discussed the 2017 budget and the concerns related to presenting a budget when expenses exceed income. General consensus was that the budget is realistic and shows there is a need for more focus on gathering income. In response to decreased giving, we discussed ways to focus on the discipleship of giving and a suggestion was made to have leaders provide their stories on why they give financial support to MUMC.

Discipleship

Pastor Riegerix followed up last month's discussion of discipleship by asking, "What do we expect a disciple of MUMC to look like?" Chad Smith shared information on *The Four Doors to Faith Development*, saying that he thought it made a good guide. These include committing to weekly participation in worship, weekly participation in spiritual development, to giving time in service to others weekly, and contributing financially to God's work.

The Council will continue this discussion at the Leadership Retreat in January.

Focus Areas

Pastor Knapp led a review of what we've discussed meetings about our three focus areas. This included:

Worship

- Attendance
- Quality
- Variety of ways we worship

Spiritual Growth

- Discipleship Pathway
- Focus on prayer in a variety of ways
- Unity in Spirit (finding community)

Congregational Care

- Caring for our members through prayer
- Caring for our members through visitation
- Guest follow-up

We discussed the importance of visiting with people who have left the church to find out if there was something we should/could have done that would have changed their mind about leaving. The staff members shared that they believe that work is being done to address the concerns that they have discovered through private discussions so it is unnecessary to revisit some. Ben Williams has offered to be available to visit with individuals who are no longer attending MUMC in the future when needed.

Pastor Riegerix will continue to work on details for our discipleship pathway.

The meeting closed with prayer at 8:15pm.

Next meeting: The Leadership Retreat will take the place of the January meeting so the next meeting will be Tuesday, February 21, 2017, 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Gehringer