

UUMC Servant Leadership Board Minutes

In Urbana UMC Curriculum Room/Zoom

1/28/2025

Attendees:

Pastor Christopher Dinnell

Dave Case

J.T. Rice

Shawn Wolfe

Judy Tullis

Amber Smith

Jordan Thurman

Cheryl Poppel

Steve Terry

Becca Mengel

Gary Schenkel

- **Prayer** - Cheryl Poppel
- **Devotion** - Pastor Christopher

Devotion on Covenant Items 9 & 10: I will hold other board members accountable and allow them to hold me accountable for honoring this Covenant. As noted in the Accountability Principles of the Board, I will hold the lead pastor accountable for leading the church according to its mission, vision and goals.

1. Accountability to One Another, Galatians 6:1

“Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently.”

2. Holding Leaders Accountable, Hebrews 13:17

“Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account.”

3. Humility in Leadership and Accountability, Philippians 2:3

“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves.”

4. General Principles of Accountability and Integrity, Proverbs 27:17

“As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.”

- **Pastors Conference Recap – Pastor Christopher**

Pastor Christopher reported on his and Bekah’s attendance at the Pastors Conference in Sacramento, Jan. 20-22. Prior to the conference they vacationed in California, at their expense, and used funds allocated by the church to travel to and attend the conference for continuing education and renewal. He shared the following key points about the conference:

- “Keep first things first”: love of Christ
- The importance of pastors prioritizing their own families
- Included breakout sessions for pastors’ spouses, which Bekah attended
- As leaders, pastors need to sacrifice to the same degree as their congregation
- Each pastor needs to learn to lead in their own way, as God made them
- How pastors can empower members of the congregation. This is illustrated in Joshua 3, which Pastor Christopher read to the SLB, and said illustrates what he sees happening at Urbana UMC.

- **Finance Team - Amber Smith and Shawn Wolfe**

Shawn presented the finance report. At year end 2024:

- \$83,545 in general checking account
- \$126,263 in capital checking account
- \$81,976 in missions (This included \$27,231.70 donated in the Christmas offering for the WhereHouse)
- Investment accounts benefitted from a strong market, ending the year with a balance of \$220,992
- Only \$10,000 was budgeted in 2024 for apportionments, but the church ended the year with \$25,000 in apportionment payments
- Administration expenses for the year totaled, \$42,000, 129% of budget
- Ministries were over budget, 130.5%
- Yet, total spending only 8.8% over budget
- Plus, good news on the income side ... \$495,000 estimated giving for the year, with church members giving 96.99% of that amount through tithes and offering – \$480,104 – for a \$12,000 surplus for the year, when counting in other income.

- **HR Team - Jordan Thurman and Dave Case**

Dave reported that he, Jordan and Pastor Christopher will meet Friday for a midyear review of smart goals. Also, HR is developing an employee handbook.

- **Building Team - Andy Myers and Steve Terry**

Steve reported that earlier this winter the church was down to one working boiler. A second boiler, of the church's four boilers, has since been repaired by Snyder's Heating and Cooling, which has quoted repair of a third boiler at \$1,100 to \$1,200. Kevin Snyder also quoted \$4,300 to repair the church's fourth boiler, but recommended replacing that boiler. Quote for new boiler: \$18,500. Steve said that he believes that two working boilers with a third boiler as backup will be sufficient.

Steve also reported a quote from Snyder's to replace two of the four heating units in the sanctuary: \$9,700 per unit. The other two heating units in the sanctuary are still working, but not at full capacity. With two replaced units, he said, that should be sufficient.

No decision was made at this time.

It was also reported that the parsonage garage door is not working properly. It is the original garage door of the parsonage. Seals are broken, allowing water and cold air into the garage. In addition, it lacks an external key pad and the springs and wheels fall off the tracks.

- **Lay Report**

Christopher reported that he and lay delegate Chris Jones will attend Annual Conference, May 28-31, at Capital University.

- **CCCC Update**

Chris Jones, Shawn Wolfe, JT Rice and Amber Smith will meet Friday with Kim Hartsell, director of the Creative Child Care Center, to review information about the CCCC, such as enrollment, fees and employee pay, toward developing plans for the day care center's growth and future service.

They will bring a variety of scenarios for the CCCC to next month's Servant Leadership Board meeting.

- **The Table Grant**

Urbana UMC has been awarded a \$2,000 Go Grant to restart the church's The Table community meal and worship, which was discontinued due to the pandemic. The Table will also serve as a recovery ministry. Pastor Christopher and Bekah will be accepting the grant on the church's behalf Feb. 2.

- **Mutual United Methodist Church**

District Superintendent Jim Wilson has approached Pastor Christopher for Urbana UMC to consider partnering in some way with the Mutual United Methodist Church, such as supplying a pastor for the church. Pastor Christopher asked the SLB to pray on this and discuss at our next meeting.

- **Closing Prayer** – Cheryl Poppel

- **Next Meeting** 7 p.m. 2/25/25