

**CARLISLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
LEADERSHIP COUNCIL  
December 17, 2018  
OPEN SESSION MINUTES**

Our Mission: “Inviting all to become disciples of Jesus Christ serving Carlisle and beyond.”

Present: Jeff Barnes, Christina Benson, Jeff Boley, Ron Chipriano, Debbi Goeltsch, Wayne Henderson, Mira Hewitt, Kerm Leitner, Stephanie Peffer, and Jim VanZandt. Absent: Roger Woods; Guests: Bill Bunt, Darlene Sheaffer, John Seaton and Marian Gible (Recording Secretary).

- I. The meeting was called to order at 5:45pm by Kerm Leitner, chair.
- II. Devotions and opening prayer were led by Pastor Mira.
- III. Moments with the Pastors:
  - A. Pastor Jim:
    1. Thanked the Leadership Council and staff for the Christmas Party at Mt. Asbury.
    2. All Christmas events are planned.
    3. The first meeting of January we will have the annual signing of the covenants.
    4. The Way Forward meeting is scheduled in February. Some of the folks at CUMC will be leading conversations and participating in book studies.
  - B. Pastor Mira:
    1. The first Pop-Up Church event is planned for December 23 from 6-7pm at Project Share Farmstand.
    2. Alternative Gifts is going well.
- IV. Announcements:
  - A. Kerm Leitner thanked Jeff Barnes, Ron Chipriano and Stephanie Peffer for their service to Leadership Council with their terms expiring on December 31. Jeff and Chip were elected on February 3, 2013, and their five-year terms lasted almost six years.
  - B. Kerm commended Pastor Jim and Pastor Mira for continuing all of the Christmas Eve services in light of the fact that several churches in the area have begun to reduce the number of Christmas Eve services they offer. There will be four services at CUMC on Christmas Eve, plus a service for the residents at Claremont Nursing Home and a new service at Project Share’s Farmstand on December 23.
- V. Presentation by Jeff Barnes, reported on wfx Conference & Expo, “Lessons Learned”:
  - A. Jeff reported on a conference he attended that included national speakers and about 3,000 attendees.
  - B. Jeff reviewed and expounded on these timely topics that were presented at the conference:
    1. Church is changing
    2. Safety and Security
    3. Legal Defense/Compliance Strategies for Churches
    4. Financial Sustainability/Opportunities
- VI. Financial Report, Wayne Henderson reporting:

- A. For November total attendance increased slightly, but tithes and offerings were down a little from last year.
- B. After the start of the new year, we will be in a better position to determine whether we are able to pay 100% or 75% Shares of Ministry. We will be looking at how the conference assesses us per person.
- C. Kevin Stafford, Jeff Harpel, Wayne Henderson, Kathy Charette, Pastor Mira, Pastor Jim and Kerm will meet very early in January to look at the 2019 budget and may make final adjustments. Leadership Council will vote to accept or reject the 2019 budget probably at a special meeting.
- D. Debbi Goeltsch recommended looking at having a different calendar year (using the fiscal year) considering how giving at CUMC in December affects the church budget.

VII. Old Business

- A. Kerm led a short discussion about the party at Mt. Asbury.. Next year we will book the same facility for December 7 if it is available.
- B. Various groups within the church are scheduled to take treats and offer prayers to the SGC workers. Kerm distributed treats to the workers on behalf of the Leadership Council, and the workers were very appreciative of the gesture. Kerm felt we may have an impact on some of the worker's lives at SGC.
- C. Ellen Peters Otto, who was approved for the position of Community Connector for CUMC at our last meeting, met with Kerm for an orientation session.. Pastor Jim also met with Ellen about some of his thoughts, and he stated she already has ideas about what she could do in this capacity.

VIII. New Business:

- A. Last week Kerm Leitner, Pastor Jim, Pastor Mira, Kathy Charette and Bill Bunt met as a subcommittee for Visioning the New Church. The subcommittee will identify programs, policies and procedures which need to be reviewed before moving to the new church. This subcommittee will serve as a steering committee. They brainstormed on various topics:
  1. What needs to be reviewed prior to moving to the new facility.
  2. Determining what areas of responsibilities the steering committee should consider.
- B. The 2019 Leadership Council Meeting Schedule was distributed: January 21, February 18, March 18, April 8, May 20, June 17, July 15, August 19, September 16, October 21, November 18, and December 16.
- C. 2019 Leadership Council Areas of Responsibility:
 

CONNECT	Darlene Sheaffer
FACILITIES	Jeff Boley
FINANCE	Wayne Henderson
GIVE TEAM	John Seaton
GROW (Adult)	Christina Benson
GROW (C&Y)	Kerm Leitner
PERSONNEL	Bill Bunt
SERVE	Debbi Goeltsch
WORSHIP	Roger Woods
- D. Bill Bunt was nominated for vice-chair of the 2019 Leadership Council. This election will held on January 21.

IX. Around the Table

- A. Ron noted that Bob Hale stepped down as leader of My Brothers Table. The Youth Group, led by Erin Fleet, will take over this project. Ron stated he is honored to have served on My Brothers Table and asked for continued prayers for the youth work in this capacity.
- B. Kerm thanked Jeff Barnes for agreeing to stay on as leader of the Building Committee.
- C. Debbi reported 28 prayer shawls were distributed to Cumberland Crossing Nursing Home.
- D. Pastor Jim reported that he feels blessed by getting to know more people by participating at the Leadership Council meetings. As pastors, friendships are often few and far between, and he feels he makes new friends as a result of the Leadership Council. Thanks to those who have served and those who are new to the table.
- E. Wayne asked how we can update the community about our progress at SGC. Jeff Barnes suggested referring people to the Blog on our website. Pastor Mira stated that Kathy Charette has some materials for our neighbors which will be suitable when others outside of church ask about our progress.
- F. Wayne asked that we keep those kids who do not have parents in our thoughts and prayers.
- G. Stephanie is happy that she will hopefully get someone for the SPARKS directorship. She stated she has had a lot of fun serving on the Leadership Council and appreciates the opportunity of serving in this capacity.
- H. John Seaton reported the GIVE Committee will begin stimulating the congregation to give a little more.
- I. Christina Benson reported we have a group of 8 people who will be leading “Crucial Conversations.”
- J. Jeff Boley thanked Jeff Barnes, Chip and Stephanie for their contributions to the Leadership Council.
- K. Darlene Sheaffer is impressed with what is accomplished at each Leadership Council meeting.
- L. Kerm thanked the two pastors for their work and asked for prayers for them during the holiday season.

X. Open Session was closed with prayer by Pastor Jim at 7:04pm.

**Next Meeting: Monday, January 21, 2019 –Executive Session at 5:00pm followed by the Open Session at approximately 5:30 to 5:45pm.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Marian Gible, Recording Secretary