

FAIRHOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
MINUTES, REGULAR MEETING HELD AUGUST 4, 2020, VIA ZOOM

The Board of Stewards of the Fairhope United Church met via the Zoom App. Gene Lammers opened the meeting at 6:04 p.m. and gave a devotional and prayer.

PRESENT (Roll was taken by observing the names signed in as Participants on the Zoom app.):

Gene Lammers, Linda James, Darren McClellan, Colby Cooper, Grant Barricklow, Sonny James, Ann Pearson, Ari Ojanpera, Bill Munson, Doug Garner, Emily Garner, Jackie Trueblood, Jamie Waldhour, Rachael Waldhour, Jane Dolan, Jennifer Myrick, Johnny Northcutt, Antonio Christie, Mark Mathias, Wendy Pierce, Michael Spicer, Michele Manasco, Christa Myrick, Michele Graham, Jack Justis, Diana Justis, Brenda Robinson, Martha Monckton, Natalie Woodrow, Ed Colvin, Lynn Asus, Jeff White, Rebekah Chambless

ABSENT: Agee Adams, Rusty Allman, Will Autrey, Rebecca Bell, Patt Branyon, Davis Brock, Michael Casallo, Michael Chambless, Anne Dorman, John Estes, Mary Finger, Jeremy Friedman, Brandi Fulford, Pat Gamble, Karen Goldy, Wanda Harris, Shannon Hesse, Mary Hodgkins, Ginny Hollis, Chuck Huguley, Michele Huguley, Ann Jones, Fred J. Jordan, Claire Kimbrough, Chad Kirtland, Susan Koenig, Robyn Koser, Scott Koser, Holly Langston, Rachel Lovingood, Mary Helen Marks, Heather Middleton, Terri Myrick, Steve Pearson, Katie Robertson, Alex Robinson, Nicole Sansom, Alicia Searcy, Amy Smith, Linda Smith, Leah Sowell, Steve Sowell, Molly Spain, Amber Sparks, Kay Speir, Sarah Stacey, Lee Turner, Pam Turner, Tom Tyler, Chuck Wilson.

MINUTES: The minutes of the prior meeting were approved online prior to this meeting.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES: Michele Graham reported the Sunday School lessons had been mailed to all SS students, along with small gifts, and praised the SS teachers and volunteers for their help and service. She told the group of the Family Challenges, Acts of kindness and Covid-19 time capsules the children had participated in, along with helping to collect for back-to-school uniforms and supplies. She further reported that the fifth and sixth graders had begun meeting via Zoom.

MISSIONS: Jennifer Myrick reported on a multitude of missions carried out during the summer thus far, including working with Rotary Youth and Prodissee Pantry to prepare and deliver meals. She spoke of the drive-through Back to School Bash scheduled to deliver book bags and uniforms, and hair cut stations. She said that Family Promise had been suspended, but the Missions had sent out gift cards and helped support a local family; and that our church was helping to distribute PPE supplies throughout the conference.

STUDENT MINISTRIES: Rachel Waldhour reported that small groups were meeting via Zoom; that students of our church had helped with Prodissee Pantry, and participated in game

nights; and that it was planned for students to begin in-person meetings on August 26th.

CARING MINISTRIES: Ann Pearson began her report by stating that, in her opinion, Caring Ministries had been more active and accomplished more during the Covid pandemic, than before it, that she had more volunteers and more excited support than she could have imagined. She outlined some of the activities of Caring Ministries: Stephen Ministers phoned every member of the church to check up on them and to ask if they had prayer requests or other needs the church could help with; the various support groups had been meeting via Zoom; Caring Ministries had delivered small gifts and cards every week since March; with the help of the ministerial staff had created a Prayer Walk; had hung large banners to encourage the church and the community to pray. She also reminded that a blood drive was scheduled for August 5.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE UPDATE: Gene Lammers updated the Board on the schedule of the upcoming meeting, and reminded that non-members are invited.

TRUSTEES: Jeff White reported that the circular drive to the nursery was to be repaved; that the Trustees had approved certain resodding and the reflooring of the 11 year-old gym floor. He told the group that Bill Lawson had asked him to tell the BOS that eliminating the UMC logo from the center of the gym floor should be discussed. A discussion then ensued with various members pointing out pros and cons of said omission.

FINANCE: Bill Munson reported that through June, revenue was under budget, but expenses were also; that while the financial statements indicated that the church was operating better than budgeted year-to-date, those figures included Paycheck Protection Program funds, which were ending; that these PPP funds had made a huge difference in the financial position; that it was possible that the church would have to go into cash reserves when PPP ended; that the BOS should begin considering at what point it was necessary to reduce expenses, even possibly reducing staff.

STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS: Rebekah Chambless praised the staff FUMC for their hard and good work during the pandemic. She said that SPR hoped to resume in-person, regularly scheduled meetings at the end of August.

STEWARDSHIP: Darren McClellan reported in absence of Shannon Hesse, who was injured shortly before the meeting started. He stated that Shannon was to remain as chairman after her term expired; that the stewardship campaign process had not started, and that the campaign would reflect modifications due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

RE-OPENING READINESS: In the absence of Chuck Huguley, Darren McClellan reported that the goal of the committee was in-person inside worship, rather than outdoor worship; that after a recent staff meeting, it is now projected that FUMC will resume in-person worship services on August 30 with 4 services with 50 people each with reservations required, and that services would continue to stream on-line; that the church office was projected to open to the public on August 17; pre-school was slated to start August 19;

that the committee was considering the purchase of a sanitizer sprayer to be purchased to add an additional layer of safety of members.

ANTONIO CHRISTIE: He gave accolades to the staff for their work during this difficult time, especially Bobbie Jo Hobbs and Jamie Waldhour.

ADJOURNMENT: After a closing prayer by Emily Garner, the meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m., with the next meeting scheduled August 27, 2020 at 6 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

LINDA S. JAMES,
Recording Secretary