

FAIRHOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
BOARD OF STEWARDS

REGULAR MEETING  
OCTOBER 8, 2020

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A regular meeting of the Board of Stewards of Fairhope United Methodist Church was held on October 8, 2020 on the Zoom app. Gene Lammers opened the meeting at 6:00 PM with a reflection on Joshua 1:9 and a prayer.

- ATTENDANCE** Twenty members were present, along with five staff members: Kristin Capstraw, Rebekah Chambless, Ed Colvin, Colby Cooper, Bealle Dawson, Jane Dolan, Mary Finger, Emily Garner, Wanda Harris, Chuck Huguley, Fred Jordan, Diana Justis, Claire Kimbrough, Susan Koenig, Gene Lammers, Mark Mathias, Bill Munson, Ari Ojanpera, Steve Pearson, Brenda Robinson, Antonio Christie, Darren McClellan, Jennifer Myrick, Laura Parker, and Ann Pearson. Michele Manasco and Johnny Northcutt had excused absences.
- MINUTES** The minutes of the last meeting were approved online.
- CARING MIN.** Ann Pearson reported on the work Caring Ministries is doing to keep everyone connected during Covid. She spoke about support groups meeting by Zoom. She also reported on an upcoming blood drive, the need to restock the Lord's Pantry, and a program to make fruit baskets for homebound members.
- CHILDREN'S MIN.** Kristin Capstraw reported on moving to in-person meetings for children's groups, hopes for Breakfast at the Manger, and improvements to the worship bags for children at services.
- MISSIONS** Jennifer Myrick reported on the church's response to Hurricane Sally. We are coordinating with the District and Conference. At the City's request, we have served as a distribution point for water, ice and other supplies. Teams from Ohio and Georgia have been helping with debris removal and chainsaw work in Fairhope and Marlow. Community Café has been distributing meals to the homebound.
- TRUSTEES** Bealle Dawson reported that the church property itself had not suffered much from the storm. The basement under the Sanctuary flooded, which damaged air conditioning equipment, and one large tree was lost in the parking lot. The downspouts have been repainted, the boundary fencing improved, and the gym floors refinished.

FINANCE Bill Munson reported on the August financial statements, a copy of which is on file with these minutes. Though revenues have been below budget, expenses have been even further below budget, which leaves the church \$230,000 in the black through August. Bill pointed out several areas where spending was far below planned levels. A detailed 2021 budget has not been developed, but the Committee expects to recommend that next year's budget be the same as this year's.

STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS Rebekah Chambless reported that our pay for nursery workers is below market rates, which makes it hard for us to hire. Staff salaries were increased last year, but probably won't be increased next year. October is Pastor Appreciation Month.

NOMINATIONS Darren McClellan reported that the slate of positions we are formally approving is being reduced to the essential executive teams. This is being done to give us more flexibility and reduced red tape in creating and filling specialized teams for specific projects. Darren presented the report (a copy of which is on file with these minutes) to the Board for approval. Gene asked if there were any objections. There being none, the report was approved by a chorus of "ayes" and a show of raised hands.

REOPENING READINESS Chuck Huguley reported on the adjustments being made to arrive at a consistent schedule of in-person services. Advent plans will be based on Covid numbers for the county. There are opportunities to help out with greeting, ushering, and maintaining sanitary supplies.

PASTORS' REPORTS Laura Parker, Ontonio Christie, and Darren McClellan spoke briefly.

ADJOURNMENT After a closing prayer from Steve Pearson, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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T. Shawn Drummond  
Substitute Recording Secretary