

**One Board Minutes**  
**January 24, 2023**  
**First United Methodist Church of Los Alamos, NM**

In Attendance: Linda Collier, Valerie Collins, Lynn Kluegel, Carol Mead, Rev. John Nash, Phillip Ortega, Julie Risch, Kathy Siebe, Camille Wescott.

Absent: Don Casperson, Nathaniel Morgan, Amy Worcester.

1. The Opening Devotional and Prayer were presented by Carol Mead based on John 8:12: When Jesus spoke again to the people he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." The article compared the warmth of passive solar light to the warmth of basking in God's love and warmth, something we can regularly take time to do.
2. Linda Collier, new member in 2023, was welcomed to the One Board.
3. Approval of minutes: Review and approval of last month's minutes was tabled until the next meeting due to the corrections several people had, Lynn's need to read a correction I wrote for a section she and I discussed and the quantity of other issues to be covered at this meeting.
4. Pastor's Report: The following additions and highlights were made:
  - a. In May 2023 a special conference will be called regarding the disaffiliation of 25-30 NM churches from UMC.
  - b. BSA agreement following the legal case, affects UMC in that the church will no longer be the chartering organization.
    - i. FUMC – LA has a building use agreement with Troop 2 (girls) and is discussing a building use agreement with Troop 122 (boys).
      1. The Troops will not be charged for use of the church building.
    - ii. Troop 2 is being chartered by the Catholic Church and Troop 122 is going to be chartered by Ponderosa Montessori School.
  - c. The ecumenical Lenten Program will be on the 5 Thursdays in March, at Bethlehem Lutheran.
    - i. A daily devotion booklet is being assembled from devotions written by members of the various churches. FUMC has 7 days, 3 of which are taken and for which 4 writers are needed. Pastor John has the scriptures from which to choose for those interested.
    - ii. March 9, 2023, FUMC will provide the meal and worship
    - iii. First Light will play for the service at Bethlehem Lutheran Church.
5. Leadership Covenant
  - a. Camille said that "everyone that is going to sign the covenant needs to be at the meeting."
    - i. Everyone needs a chance to give their opinion of the covenant.
  - b. Members present at this meeting were in general agreement to add the last 4 points with a few changes inserted.
  - c. There was discussion on the wording of several of the points which Camille will change then present next month for additional discussion.
6. Role and operation of One Board - p. 163 in book\*
  - a. The One Board works on policies, procedures, and gives guidance as needed.
  - b. One Board doesn't micro-manage the ministry teams.
    - i. If a team has a concern, they can bring it to the board.
  - c. One Board can ask the staff to help with issues such as communication with the congregation.
    - i. Staff does the day-to-day implementation.
  - d. The goal is to allow more people of the church to participate through setting of goals and activities in the ministries.
7. Agenda and Format changes – P. 164
  - a. Opening Prayer

- b. Spiritual Formation = intentional faith development
  - c. Equipping Leadership
    - i. Work on the covenant is an example of this agenda area
  - d. Pastor shares new people (individuals or families).
    - i. What is the church doing well or what does the church need to address, that people are looking for.
  - e. Pastor reviews long and short-term goals and accountability.
  - f. Packet and consent calendar items = Reports
    - i. Discuss items from the electronic packet sent out prior to the meeting; examples:
      1. Agenda items the board needs to receive for archival purposes.
      2. Items that require a vote for legal or Book of Discipline purposes.
      3. Approve the minutes.
  - g. The Board chairperson does not do the agenda alone.
    - i. Different people may volunteer to do or be assigned, different parts of the agenda.
  - h. Generative and strategic work = Planning
  - i. Communication
  - j. Summary of the meeting:
    - i. Decisions that were made
    - ii. Who needs to hear the discussions
      1. Who communicates the information to the specific ministries and/or the congregation
      2. Who, what, when, where, how communication is to be done.
    - iii. Work with church staff to accomplish this.
    - iv. List of outstanding action items
  - k. Closing Prayer
    - i. We will take turns doing the opening prayer/devotion and doing the closing prayer.
    - ii. A sign-up list is needed for these items; Kathy will make this.
      1. A reminder can be listed in the Request for Reports and Announcement of Meeting when Kathy sends them out.
8. Day and Time
- a. One Board will stay the same: 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 6:00 PM.
  - b. Retreat
    - i. One retreat per year
    - ii. Date will be revisited at later meeting
9. Chairperson of the following teams as required by the Book of Discipline:
- a. Trustees: Camille Wescott is the board's trustee chairperson designee.
    - i. The Board as Trustees has fiduciary responsibility for the church property, property insurance, workers compensation, state incorporation forms, and writes the report for the charge conference
      1. The Board designee, as the trustee chairperson, signs the paperwork for these entities for the church.
      2. The Board designee, as the trustee chairperson, has no legal liability as liability is covered under the insurance section for leadership.
      3. Staff assists with writing any needed reports.
    - ii. The Board designee informs the Board of completed and proposed maintenance and building projects.
      1. Maintenance Team may go ahead with any project less than or equal to \$5000
    - iii. The sextant reports to the Pastor and is responsible for day-to-day church maintenance and cleaning.

b. SPRC: Nathaniel Morgan is the designee.

**Motion: Was made by Carol and seconded by Linda that we accept Camille as the Trustees designee and Nathaniel as the SPRC designee. Motion passed.**

c. Finance: Don Casperson will be asked to fill this position.

i. Treasurer: Kim Granzow

ii. Bookkeeper: Amy Worcester

1. Amy has also been doing some of the duties of the Financial Secretary.

d. The updated Board preforms the role of Trustees, Finance, and SPRC according to the guidelines of the Book of Discipline.

i. Fewer people on the Board means there are more people available to do ministry in these areas.

#### 10. Name change for One Board

a. Further discussion was tabled to the next meeting

b. Suggestions for the word One included: Leadership, Administrative, Guidance, Policy and Procedure, Church.

c. Suggestions for the word Board included: Team, Council, continue to use Board.

i. Church Council was a name used previously for a group similar to One Board and was rejected because the duties and procedure for doing them has changed.

#### 11. Financial Report and discussion

a. The annual values for:

i. Budget = \$456,050.00 over budget 4,501.00

ii. Income = \$431,700.65 not received 24,349.70

iii. Expenses = \$452,238.05 excess expenses 20,647.40

b. When expenditures are more than income, the excess is taken from reserves

i. FUMC-LA reserves = \$159,861.28

c. Special funds include the contingency fund (undesignated) which is \$44,800

d. Pastor John will talk with Amy on budget adjustments

e. Pastor John's goal is to eliminate debt in 4 years which will be the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of FUMC - LA

f. The new endowment chairperson is Sheila Molony

i. Planned giving and endowments were discussed by Sheila and Dennis Gill and will be discussed with Pastor John.

#### 12. Short Term Goals

a. Nominations Committee needs one more person

i. Currently on Nominations: Geniece Courtright and Crystal Dale

ii. Pastor John has asked them for suggestions – no names given

iii. Pastor John is going to ask for volunteers during church services

b. Lay Leader needed

#### 13. Long Term Goals

a. Lenten Series

i. A team is in place and has met twice

ii. Questions for the congregation have been mapped out

iii. Pastor John has scriptures matched to the questions

iv. The questions will be presented to the Sunday school classes, Program Night participants, Youth

v. Engagement and activities for the congregation have been and will be discussed

b. Items that the church should address

i. Obstacles to success as a thriving church.

ii. Strengths and Opportunities

iii. Who does this church want to be?

- iv. What do we want people to think we are?
- v. How do we want the community to know us?
- vi. What do we need to work on?
- c. Guiding Principles
  - i. Mission: God's love in action
  - ii. Core values of our church, we are:
    - 1. Christ-Centered
    - 2. Inclusive
    - 3. Growing Spiritually
    - 4. Compassionate
    - 5. Caring
    - 6. In Service
    - 7. Mission
  - iii. Vision:
- 14. Spiritual development and Leadership development
  - a. Pastor John will introduce this idea of practicing the spiritual disciplines with accountability at the next meeting
  - b. Set a personal goal
    - i. Accountability – at the following meeting say whether you met the goal
- 15. Communications with the Congregation
  - a. Recognize and thank the past One Board members – at church services and in Midweek News
  - b. List current One Board Members in Midweek News
  - c. Request volunteers for the Nominating Committee and Lay Leader – at church services and in Midweek News
  - d. Introduce Leadership Covenant idea
    - i. What we are trying to do by having the covenant.
    - ii. Note that it is a work in progress
- 16. Closing Prayer was given by Julie Risch

\*Book being used to update One Board: *Mission Possible 3+ A Simple Structure for Missional Effectiveness* by Kay Kotan and Blake Bradford

**Next Meeting: February 28, 6:00 pm**

**Reports due: February 23.** There will be a link in the reminder that hopefully opens an email to my e-address plus the e-address will be next to the link in case it doesn't work.

Respectfully submitted by Kathy Siebe