



<h2 style="margin: 0;">St. John UMC Leadership Board Meeting</h2>

Date & Time:	Sunday, April 21 , 2024, 12:15 p.m.
Location:	St. John UMC room 108
Pastors in attendance:	Rev. Jenny Anderson
Leadership Board in attendance:	<p>Charles Dixon (Leadership Board Chair & Trustees), Mark Barron (Finance), Rich Bias (Finance—Chair), Greg Capers (Trustees—Chair), Tonya Currier (Staff Parish Relations & Annual Conference Representative), Karen Phelps (New Member), Stephanie Quattlebaum (Mission and Ministries Representative), Allen Smith (Staff Parish Relations & Lay Leader), Denise St. Clair (Staff Parish Relations), Sarah Thomas (Trustees—Secretary), Georgia Vesely (Finance Committee), Alison Wright (Council Secretary)</p> <p>Absent: none</p>
Church members/staff:	none

Agenda Details:

- I. Opening (<1 min) – The meeting was opened at 12:24 p.m. with prayer.
- II. Spiritual Formation (24 mins) – Scripture from Paul was shared with the theme “Road Trips With Paul.” Each Board member shared in response to the question “How is it with your soul?”
- III. Leadership Equipping (12 mins) – “The Message of the Megaphone” and “The Ministry of Communication” from *Rethink Communication: A Playbook to Clarify and Communicate Everything in Your Church* by Phil Bowdle was discussed. The Board engaged with discussion questions from the book.
- IV. Review of New People (3 mins) – It was shared that there were new people in attendance at this morning’s Pastor’s Coffee time. When new people attend the church they are sent a handwritten note, the staff connects them with social media and/or email, and they are invited to Coffee with the Pastor. Currently the staff can keep up with this, but if the numbers increase they might need help.
- V. Goal Review and Accountability (6 mins) – A map of the updated districts in the Conference was distributed. There will now be five districts. St. John is in the South

East District which has 69 churches. It was shared that the Augusta Wesley Foundation will be in a season of transition as the Director, Josh Swanson, has been appointed elsewhere. Debra Stewart has been appointed Chaplain of St. John Towers of Wesley Woods. She is an Elder in the UMC.

- VI. Packet and Consent Calendar Items (2 min) – The minutes from the March Leadership Board meeting and the Mission Committee documents were brought before the Board. A motion was made to approve the documents, with one needed change to the March Leadership Board minutes (in section VII, b, iv the SPR Manual should be noted as a “draft”). One member abstained from voting on the Leadership Board minutes since they were absent from that meeting. The Board voted and approved the documents.

- VII. Generative and Strategic Work (48 mins)
 - a. Trustees (12 mins) – The trustee chair reported. Grounds work is being done. Trustees will work on organizing grounds work as well. Tim James will be coming on board as Facilities Manager. Excitement was expressed for this and reminded the Board that Tim’s time will be limited. Prioritizing will be important. It was pointed out that we have about five years of life left in the roof and the board talked about the need to consider available finances for maintenance updates and church growth.
 - b. SPR (9 mins) – The SPR Chair reported. Keith Ingram will be in his 25th year as St. John’s Security Guard in 2025. Members were thanked for their work on the manual. Tim James has been hired and is getting a lot done. It was pointed out that Tim was hired at the budgeted hourly rate. The board was reminded of plans to have a June 30 informational event for the congregation and that it needs a name. Staff will work together about coordination, and it was suggested the food be done like the Easter Breakfast. Information will be in the May newsletter.
 - c. Finance (27 mins) – Finance chair reported. The current financial situation and the Finance Team Report was reviewed with its recommendations.
 - i. Recommendation on Insurance: “The Finance Team recommends that we proceed with the Brotherhood valuation this year and consider budgeting for a replacement value appraisal in 2025.” There is an approximately \$3,000 cost each quarter not budgeted for due to the rate increase. The finance chair spoke with Conference Treasurer, Allison Berg, and found that we do not have to do an appraisal. Berg provided possibilities for a new insurance company. The Board voted on the recommendation, and it was unanimously approved.
 - ii. Recommendation on Kitchen Fund: “The Finance Team recommends that, before any additional meals are planned for this fall, plans be developed to assure that the program is at least self-sustaining.” It was pointed out that the church has been supplementing child meals more than adult meals. The Board voted on the recommendation, and it was unanimously approved.
 - iii. Recommendation on request to the Endowment Committee: “The Finance Team recommends that by mid-May, a joint recommendation from Finance and Trustees be submitted to the Endowment Committee for a portion of this year’s available funds.” It was reported that a church member has been asking for donations for the plaster repair and the sound system. It is thought those costs can be covered through donations.

The Board voted on the recommendation, and it was unanimously approved.

- iv. Recommendation on signature authority: Paperwork will need to be done to remove Betty Aldridge's name from the South State accounts due to her move. "The Finance Team recommends that while these changes are being made, Betty be replaced by Kathy DeLoach. This would result in the following four individuals being approved to have signature authority on the South State accounts: Rich Bias, Chip Matson, Georgia Vesely, and Kathy DeLoach. All four signatures on bank accounts are to be reviewed and approved by the Board annually." The Board voted on the recommendation, and it was unanimously approved.

- VIII. Communication (4 mins) – The board reviewed the business that took place at today's meeting. At the next meeting, the Board will need to vote on restructuring the Pastor's pay on paper.
- IX. Next Meeting (<1 min) – The next meeting will be on Sunday, May 19 at 12:15 p.m.
- X. Closing (<1 min) – A closing prayer was said, and the meeting was adjourned.