

**Manchaca United Methodist Church (MUMC)**  
**Church Council Meeting Minutes**  
**June 21, 2021 - 7:00 PM – MUMC Fellowship Hall**

**Presiding:** Rev. David McNitzky, Sr. Pastor and Rick Bowman, Church Council Chair

**Present:**

Ron Mize	Brice Custer (via Zoom)	Malcolm Nelson
Bart Sturzl	Beth Watkins	Lance Lunsford
Mary Looney	Loretta Loyd	Ken Kattner
Dave Bourell	Ed Engleking	Leslie Piggott
Ron Hawkins	Roxana Gramada Loyd	Emmett Thomason
*Kim Carol		
*staff		

**Absent:**

Russell Ehrlich	Tonia Norman	Jennifer Bautista
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Rick Bowman, MUMC Council Chair called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM and asked for a recording secretary from among the members. Loretta Loyd volunteered to record the meeting minutes. Pastor Chansin is not in attendance due to the Youth Mission Trip to Arlington, TX.

**Devotional and Opening Prayer:** Rick shared devotional Wake Up, Scripture Revelations 3:2.

**Administrative Team Update:** Rick asked the council, in lieu of the Administrative Team meeting prior to July 1, to review the current mask protocol. Dave Bourell has provided weekly COVID updates and as of last Friday, COVID cases continue to decline in Travis County and the surrounding areas and more than 50% of population is vaccinated. Most, not all, businesses are opening back up as mask optional. Following discussion, Ed made a motion to approve a change to a mask optional policy and shift gear on messaging. Children's Ministry will continue to require masks as the under 12 age group remains unvaccinated at this time. Lance Lunsford will provide draft language to staff to use in communication to go out this week. Will begin a shift back to pre-COVID procedures (i.e., no pew ropes, hymnals back in place, and both parking lots open on Sunday etc.) via phased in process beginning with masks. Leslie seconded and it was approved via a unanimous voice vote.

**April 27, 2021 Minutes:** Rick presented the minutes of the April 27, 2021, council meeting. Rick asked for a motion to approve the minutes, Bart seconded, and the minutes were approved via unanimous voice vote.

**Pastors Report:** Pastor David presented progress on Future Church Summit (February 2021) follow up. He thanked all those who attended the Mission MUMC Conversation held on June 6. At the meeting three groups came up with nine possible experiments for 2021-22 (Welcoming/Accepting and Outside/Service #2 had two parts (A and B)). He had wanted to narrow the list down but did not feel there was time to do so during the June 6 meeting. The staff discussed these ideas on Monday, June 14 and decided that they could serve as the Task Force for two initiatives: 1) Within/Acceptance #2 (education on welcoming) and 2) Within/Service #2 (communication of service opportunities). Staff thought Trustees should manage Outside/Acceptance #1 (visibility and accessibility).

Leadership is now looking for volunteers to be on task forces for the following experiments. An email has gone out asking for "yes" votes only on areas of interest where you feel called to serve.

The two that receive the most votes will be where the church focuses its energy this coming year.

Option A—Acceptance/Welcoming:

#1 **within** the church and **acceptance**: a) build community with nearby churches or b) development of Volunteer Services Ministry; and

#2 **outside** the church and **acceptance**: a) outreach to people in new home and apartment developments.

Option B—Service to Those in Need/Community:

#1 **outside** the church and **service**: a) Hot meal for people we minister to in our community or b) designate a Community Outreach Coordinator c) become a trauma informed church.

I hope these designations will make sense as you read the minutes (attached). He hopes that one of these ideas touches your heart that you will contact Deanna or him and volunteer for that particular Task Force. Then as a church we will move forward giving priority to those ideas with the most interest. He has already heard from a few people but there is still time and he hopes to hear from you by the end of June so that we may be ready to start our meetings as soon as the summer season ends.

The Senior Pastor at Lake Travis UMC asked Pastor David to train members of his congregation on “guest preaching.” Pastor David agreed as long as MUMC members are welcome to attend. The classes will be via zoom every other Sunday from 4 – 5:30 pm through the summer, the sessions will be recorded. Let Deanna know if you would like to participate. No commitment to guest preaching required.

Annual Conference has funded the filming and editing of a class entitled “Simple Seminary” that Pastor David will be providing. At the end, Annual Conference may provide a certificate. This course will start with 20-30 minute lecture followed by small group discussion. If you are unable to attend, you can watch on your own schedule.

General Conference has been delayed again and tentatively scheduled for August 29, 2022 dependent on 40% of the participants ability to obtain visas post-COVID.

**Christian Education:** Kim has hired a childcare coordinator, a former CDC teacher (already trained) her start date is July 1. Has also hired four childcare workers (two will depart in August) so continues to recruit. The nursery will open July 4 and in person Sunday School officially happens July 11 (will continue to have participation remotely). No idea what August will look like yet. VBS will be one day family style—July 17, two sessions, morning and afternoon. Volunteers are needed to man stations etc. and VBS sign up is on website. Will be providing Movies with a Message four times in July on Tuesdays at 2:30 pm, hopefully in FLC.

Adult Christian Education (ACE) currently has three Sunday School classes meeting in person; one, maybe two returning in July. In wait and see mode. Three bible studies ongoing, attendees have elected to continue meeting via zoom. New classes available in the Fall.

**Sunday Schedule Task Force Update:** Leslie Piggott presented the results of the task force review of the Sunday morning schedule. The task force met two times and tossed around lots of ideas and different options but ultimately made the unanimous decision to return to the pre-2012 and Healthy Church Initiative schedule with contemporary service remaining in the Family Life Center and traditional service in the Sanctuary. The task force is leaving it up to staff/leadership to decide which service is in which slot.

8:00 – 8:45 am            Traditional Service with communion (no choir)  
9:00 – 10:00 am        Service  
10:15 – 11:00 am       Sunday School  
11:15 am – 12:15 pm   Service

**Trustees Team Report:** Beth Watkins presented for trustees.

1. Pam McNitzky did a great job organizing a burn day for the brush piles behind the pavilion with the help of the fire department. Due to rain, not everything burned, will organize again later.
2. Plumber replaced sump pump for retention ponds \$1,000. Had plumber replace a broken outdoor valve that required water shut off to property, when turned back on, water pressure broke an old supply line in upstairs restroom and wasn't found until water was spotted in downstairs hallway. A big mess, esp. in CDC that has been cleaned up-\$2,500 insurance deductible.
3. Landscape company took care of shrubbery; still monitoring two olive trees by bell tower.
4. Banners will soon be replaced out front to say we are now worshipping indoors as well as on FaceBook and will be replaced again in the Fall. Electronic sign will be reviewed when FM 1626 work is complete.
5. Continue to monitor A/C units. Bart keeps up with it.
6. Russell is working on ways to cut off access to West parking lot from Mi Ranchita.
7. Work on Pavilion lights scheduled for next week.

**SPRC/PPR Report:** Mary Looney reported that Pastor Chansin reached out to her and PPR to bring on a part-time 5-10 hours/week person to help her with the website and communications. She wanted to hire Roxana Loyd who had been helping as volunteer. Roxana said yes. Kim thanked Mary for all the help with hiring childcare workers.

**Finance Report:** Dave Bourell went over the Finance Report (attached). He says we are in good shape but may be financially uncertain in the coming year. Throwing around ideas to pay remaining debt when BSG is done. Maybe short-term capital campaign or a Miracle Sunday.

#### **Other Items**

Leslie said kudos for prayers and cookies for youth as they headed off to Arlington.

**Men's Group:** Emmett updated everyone that the men's group is alive and well, meeting face to face on Wednesdays at the Texican. David Linkletter leads the bible study. All men welcome.

**Mission Update:** Ron Hawkins updated regarding

1. Meg Scanardo continues to work with the Missions team (Evan Jordan and girlfriend, Jenna took over from Sandee) re Akins HS: Four students experiencing homelessness and eight more in need. Provided 12 laptops and senior gifts. Received the \$7,000 grant again with \$3,500 already disbursed and \$3,500 on its way.
2. Food pantry is doing well
3. Provided three Beats headphones to VBS

**Adjourn:** Pastor David closed the meeting at 8:25pm with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

*Loretta Loyd*



# MISSION MUMC: Conversations on a Courageous Future

## Meeting highlights:

The following people attended the June 6<sup>th</sup> meeting:

- |                    |                    |                     |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. David McNitzky  | 11. Ed Engleking   | 21. Linda Voges     |
| 2. Rick Bowman     | 12. Dave Bourell   | 22. Allen Rogers    |
| 3. Johnnie Floyd   | 13. Mary Looney    | 23. Pam McNitzky    |
| 4. Rochelle Lacy   | 14. Diane Ewing    | 24. Leslie Piggott  |
| 5. Mark Hixon      | 15. Ron Mize       | 25. Phil Jones      |
| 6. Mary Lou Wood   | 16. Mary Rio       | 26. Loretta Loyd    |
| 7. Sue Thomason    | 17. Loretta Rogers | 27. Chansin Esparza |
| 8. Emmett Thomason | 18. Suzy Sanger    | 28. Kim Carroll     |
| 9. Deanna Custer   | 19. Dennis Sanger  | 29. Tonia Norman    |
| 10. Beth Watkins   | 20. Daryl Voges    |                     |

David McNitzky walked through the most notable points from the Future Church Summit, and shared MUMC's DNA, derived from 53 responses received from within our church community.

We were then asked to write down 2 out of the 6 DNA values that call out to us as individuals. These answers were tallied by Ron Mize and Tonia Norman and the 2 leading responses were:

1. Acceptance/Welcome
2. Service to Those in Need/Community

We then divided up into groups:

**Group 1** – Acceptance/Welcome-Chansin, Deanna, Ed, Beth, Pam, Ron, Mark, Kim, Loretta Rogers, Allen, Tonia, Sue

**Group 2** – Service to Those in Need/Community, Group 2-Dave, Leslie, Phil, Daryl, Linda, Mary Lou, Rick, Rochelle

**Group 3** - Service to Those in Need/Community, Group 3-Dennis, Suzy, Emmett, Johnnie, Loretta Loyd, Mary Rio, Diane, Mary Looney

David explained “Two Feet Walking”

1. Foot #1 Discipleship – how can we be more like Jesus?
2. Foot #2 Community – how can we be in mission with the community?  
Community not in our church, but in the scope of our church (online, in the neighborhoods, etc.)

The groups were asked to come up with 1) an idea or experiment to grow discipleship within the church, and 2) an idea or experiment to reach out to our community outside of the church. The Acceptance/Welcome group were allowed to come up with 2 ideas to match the total of the 2 Service in Need groups.

## **THE RESULTS:**

### **Within the Church**

#### Acceptance/Welcome

1. Build community with nearby churches by inviting them to MUMC in order for us both to be exposed to other races, ethnicities and socioeconomic status
2. Educate through the use of scripture on how to be accepting and welcoming (through Bible study, online or in a sermon series)

#### Service to Those in Need/Community

1. Develop a Volunteer Services Ministry (help with seniors, rides, yard work, tutoring, etc.)
2. Have another new communication method other than website, email and Facebook- maybe move to snail mail

### **Outside the Church**

#### Acceptance/Welcome

1. Improve visibility and physical accessibility to MUMC (such as the driveway and main entrance to the property; have a funny video on the website about how to enter our property, new signs, etc.)
2. Provide outreach to people in the new housing and apartment developments around the area with pop up booths that have information about our church services, Sunday School and other studies, as well as having activities for children

#### Service to Those in Need/Community

1. Serve a hot meal to people in the community who are receiving help from the Volunteer Services Ministry
2. (A) Have a person designated as Community Outreach Coordinator.  
(B) Become a Trauma Informed Church – this will allow us to reach out to those with trauma and are averse to church

Finance Report  
June 21, 2021  
Submitted by Dave Bourell, Finance Team Chair

Operating Budget. The operating budget is in great shape, thanks to healthy giving and the addition of \$52,000 from the CARES Act. Total income for May was \$78,078.97 which is about what we received at this point in the year for the last 5 years. Expenses for the month were \$61,306.46, yielding a positive difference of \$16,772.51 for May. Year to date (YTD) through May, income has outpaced expenses by \$81,020.51. This is exceptional, considering the average net income less expenses for YTD through May for the 5 preceding years is \$431.81. Our YTD expenses for 2021 has run an average of \$24,000 LESS than the last 5 year average.

We are for the most part underspending all budget items. Worship expense is an exception and is already overspent for the year (\$3269 spent for budgeted \$1900), but this is reasonable given the dramatic changes to our services with COVID. Notable is that we have not had any large air conditioner expenses this year.

Operating budget funds are kept in a checking account. With the enhanced income this year on top of about \$23k left from the Alexander estate gift, the checking account had grown to a balance of just over \$130k. Last month, the Finance Team authorized moving \$50k into a TMF savings account, so we could earn a little interest. The funds are easily moved with about a week's notice.

Building Loan. The outstanding loan was \$313,350.80 on May 31. The average giving to the building loan payoff for this calendar year is \$6,540.54 which is essentially the same as last year at this point (\$6,780.05). At this rate, the loan will be at approximately \$215,000 at the end of August 2022 when the current 3-year pledge campaign ends. At some point, the church council will need to decide how to go forward after August 2022.

Saving Account. The church has a savings account. There are 42 subaccounts totaling \$163k. Examples include the craft group funds, Habitat for Humanity, youth Christmas tree funds, Sunday school funds, etc. Many subaccounts are very active; others are not. The Finance Team plans to establish contacts with responsible staff and officers, particularly for subaccounts that may have been "forgotten", with a desire for these funds to be expended.