

Financial Acumen Statement of Work/Charter

Mandarin United Methodist Church has a vibrant *Mission Statement*:

Connecting people to Jesus' love by:

- *Inviting people to know Christ and to make Him known*
- *Caring for people to show Christ's love*
- *Discipling people to grow in Christ*
- *Sending people to go with Christ in service to others*

A Mission Statement ought to move an organization or body toward achievement of its vision. The *MUMC Vision Statement* sets a high standard for this body of Christ:

"To be a community of fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ"

If Mandarin United Methodist Church was to flawlessly conduct the elements of its *Mission Statement*, there are no limits to what "...*fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ*" might accomplish. To the extent that Mandarin United Methodist Church is resource stretched however, it leaves undone so many opportunities for "...*Connecting people to Jesus' love*," the essence of our mission. To the extent that MUMC might become a better resourced body of Christ, it enhances the opportunity it has to do the *Connecting* that is central to the Mandarin United Methodist Church mission.

MUMC has three designated committees/teams with functional responsibilities tied to the financial resources of the church – the *Finance and Endowment Committees* and the *Stewardship Team*. Each of these groups has separate and distinct responsibilities in shoring up the financial strength and stability of the church. Because their responsibilities are distinct, there are generally few reasons that would traditionally draw these groups together in any coordinated effort on behalf of the church.

Perhaps there are some opportunities where coordinated efforts and messaging could positively impact the success of the three committees/teams in a fashion that is greater than any success attained by the independent efforts of the groups. Among the possibilities for coordinated efforts:

- Linking budget items to *Connecting* mission elements in a transparent and visible manner, and demonstrating their support from stewardship-developed and endowment funding
- Linking estate planning to the mission oriented *Connecting* that is to be our eternal legacy
- Linking stewardship efforts to the responsibilities we have to steward the faith development – the *Connecting* – of those who will follow us, both within MUMC and in the community beyond
- An endowment that provides for the faith development of the youth of MUMC is one that will be supported by those youth...in time
- And communication strategies that leverage the integrated nature of these groups' work in furthering the *Connecting* mission of MUMC.

MUMC would like to determine the opportunities existing for coordinated and integrated initiatives/strategies involving the *Finance and Endowment Committees* and the *Stewardship Team*. The goal of these initiatives/strategies would be to shore up the financial strength and stability of the church, and thus help MUMC become more complete in its *Connecting* mission. The results of this effort would be reported to the MUMC Church Council in the form of recommendations. It is expected that the effort would be concluded within 90 days of its initiation.

The following approach will be used to achieve the goal of the Charter/Statement of Work (SOW). An MUMC Financial Acumen Task Force, responsible to the Church Council, will be established to execute the Charter/SOW. The task force will be made up of representatives from the Finance, Endowment, and Stewardship Committees, supplemented by other representatives with skills and experience needed for the task execution. Pastoral support will be provided to the team. The Business Manager and other staff will support the team as needed. The team members and team chair will be recruited by the Nominations Committee. A maximum of 7 chartered members, including the chair, will serve on the team. Additional resources may support the team as needed. The Task Force Members and Charter/SOW will be reported to the Church Council prior to initiation of the task with the status reported to the council on a recurring basis.

The following schedule is envisioned for the task force.

November 15, 2015 – Initial notification of plan to Church Council

January 31, 2016 – Presentation of Charter/SOW and Taskforce Members and Chair to Church Council

April 24, 2016 - Presentation of Task Force Recommendations to Church Council

Members: Len Knudsen, Chair, Doris Champ, Elaine Weldon