



Church Council

Meeting Date: June 12, 2016
Meeting Time: 6:00 pm
Meeting Place: FLS 837

Council Schedule: 2016 January 31 • April 24 • June 12 • September 11 • November 6

Mandarin United Methodist Vision

To be fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

Mandarin United Methodist Mission

To connect 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.**

Attendance:

Jim Clark	Jean Ehrlich	Jeff St. Clair	
Brantley Davis	Ed Holmes	Will Wold	
Sandra Clark	Janson Kinsley	Mike Groos	
Dan Davis	Suellen Kinsley	Susie Curts	
Michael Maxwell	Charlie Newsome	Chad Deetz	
Amanda Norris	Val Newsome	Jeff Hayes	
Joe Purvis	Steve Putnam	Robin Overton	
Susie Purvis	Bill Renfro		
Lori Putnam	Bruce Seidner		
Seth Seidner	Gene Strouse		
Bill Barkoskie	Sheila Strouse		
Rich Clark	Rick Smith		
Diane Curry	Jennifer Wydler		
Dave Ehrlich	Debbie McLeod		

Total 35

Minutes:

1. Assemble in God's Name

- Chairman Jim Clark called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- A moment of silence was observed in memory of the victims of the 6/12/16 Orlando mass shooting.
- Clark delivered an opening prayer.
- Chad Deetz led the council in worship through song.

2. Proclaim God's Word

- Seth Seidner presented a devotional message called 'Guidance and Preparation', based on Proverbs 3:5-6.

3. Celebrate Our Past

- The council approved the minutes from the April 24 2016 Church Council meeting.
- Jeff Hayes delivered the Financial Report:
 - Year to Date General Fund financials
 1. Revenues are under budget
 2. Expenses are under budget
 3. A small net surplus exists through the end of May
 - Fulfilling the Promise fund
 1. A principal payment was made on 4/20/16 of \$77,193
 2. The next principal payment is planned for 7/20/16. The amount will be determined based on funds available above and beyond the \$100,000 reserve amount
 - The 2017 budget cycle is being moved up by approximately 2 months to facilitate the overall planning for the Fall Stewardship activities
- Lori Putnam delivered the Stewardship Report:
 - The mortgage balances are now under \$4 million
 - Celebration events are planned to acknowledge this milestone
 - The Stewardship Committee is looking at new perspectives on how to communicate the financial updates to church members
 - Chris Pillay, incoming Stewardship Chairperson, has joined the Committee and the transition period is off to a great start.

4. Present Offerings

- Pastor Jeff St. Clair updated the council on the County Road 210 Initiative:
 - This initiative is bearing fruit as evidenced by individuals growing in their faith
 - One person recently notified Pastor St. Clair that they are expressing interest in attending MUMC
 - Update on Longleaf@210 initiative:
 1. The 2016 goal is 6 events
 2. Event #4 is scheduled for 7/17 at Heritage Oaks
 3. The most recent event, held at Aberdeen on 5/15, was a success; Aberdeen wants to host more events
 - Fresh Expressions Update:
 1. The 2016 goal is 5 Fresh Expressions
 2. There are currently 3 active
 - Sports and Faith
 - Beer and Hymns
 - Kayaking with Jeff
 - Discipleship Groups:
 1. The 2016 goal is 10-15 discipleship groups
 2. There are current 5 established
 - 2017 funding for the County Road 210 Initiative is expected to come from the MUMC general fund, as well as a potential grant from Annual Conference

- Dan Davis updated the council on the General Conference activities:
 - Key votes were taken on these highlighted petitions
 1. Budget for 2017-2020 passed at \$604 million
 2. Term limits for bishops did not receive the required 2/3 majority vote for passage
 3. Plan UMC Revised was determined by the Judicial Council on 5/9/16 to still contain parts that are unconstitutional, so it was not able to be considered during the General Conference session
 4. A petition to withdraw denominational general agency membership from the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice was passed
 5. An amendment calling for socially responsible investing to divest from illegal settlements on occupied lands did not pass
 6. The digital hymnal proposal passed
 7. A resolution was passed calling on United Methodist agencies to raise awareness about the harm caused by sports teams that use mascots or symbols that disrespect Native Americans
 8. A petition requiring a vote on all legislation (either in committee or plenary sessions) at future General Conferences was passed
 - Human Sexuality petitions were handled as follows:
 1. Rule 44, an alternate process for Christian conferencing that bypasses Robert's Rules of Order, was proposed as the method for conducting discussions regarding Human Sexuality petitions yet was not passed by the delegates.
 2. Delegates appealed to the Council of Bishops for their leadership on the way forward
 3. The Council of Bishops recommended deferral of all Human Sexuality petitions while the following activities occur:
 - Formation of a cross-representational committee to consider all paragraphs of the Book of Discipline that address Human Sexuality
 - Convening of a special General Conference in 2018 or 2019 to take action on Human Sexuality paragraphs
 - The estimated cost of such a special GC is between \$3.5 and \$4 million. The top financial executive of the UMC believes that this amount could be included in the \$604 million quadrennial budget. The cost may be offset by reducing the 2020 General Conference event by a commensurate number of days
- Nominations Committee Recommendation for Chris Buckley to serve as Learning Ladders Chairperson for 2017-2019 was put to a vote by Chairman Clark and passed with no opposition.
- Jim Clark delivered an update on the Tactical Team Strategic Planning/Appreciative Inquiry timetable
 - Ramp up in August/September
 - Sermon series to accompany the various phases
 - Congregational input phase in the Fall of 2016

- Steve Putnam briefed the council on the planning phase for the Debt Elimination Drive
 - Commitment Sunday is November 6th
 - The committee is working backwards from that date to plan key preparatory events
 - Public kick-off is expected in mid-August
 - The campaign will be a single consolidated approach rather than separate tracks for general fund and debt elimination
 - Organization and communication plans are under final pastoral review

- Len Knudsen, on behalf of Elaine Weldon and Doris Champ, presented the findings and recommendations of the Financial Acumen Task Force
 - Digital copies of the handouts are available on the church website.

There was no old business or new business motions brought before the council.

5. Give Thanks to God

- Pastor Will offered the closing prayer.

6. Going Out in God's Name

- Pastor Debbie McLeod delivered the Charge and Benediction

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Dan Davis, Recording Secretary (Acting)*