

Church Council Meeting
Gulf Cove United Methodist Church
Experience. Embrace. Engage.
February 26, 2018 – 7:00pm

Attendees: Pastor Mike Weaver, Alfred Current, John Furtado, JoAnn Hopkins, Jeanne Shrout, Sarah Taylor, Dana Hanson, and Chuck Russell as our newly-elected Church Council Chairman

The meeting was opened with the lighting of the candle representing Jesus Christ, followed by a prayer by Pastor Mike.

Corrections to Previous Minutes: The recording secretary was not notified of any necessary corrections to the minutes of the 1/22/2018 meeting.

EXPERIENCE. EMBRACE. ENGAGE.

Experience: Pastor Mike advised that plans are in place for Easter holy week – an interactive communion will be offered on Maundy Thursday (March 29) at 5pm; a Tenebrae service will be offered on Good Friday (March 30) at 2pm; and the Easter sunrise service (on April 1) will be held at 6:30am (in addition to the 8, 9:30, and 11 services). It was decided that no continental breakfast will be offered between services on Easter Sunday.

The A/V booth has been tweaking the sound during Sunday services. Unfortunately, when the microphones are moved from one location to another, the best setting in the new location is often not the best setting in the old location.

Embrace: Pastor Mike indicated our prayers have been heard. We needed guitarists and we now have several. We prayed for healing and He has answered many of those prayers. We have had three new small groups start over the last few months. (Remember Matthew 18:20, King James Version: ²⁰For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.)

Sarah, our Youth Director, said that she generally has six to ten youth on any given Sunday night. They usually meet on both Wednesday and Sunday evenings. A clean-the-beach day is planned for 3/18, and a car wash & bake sale will be held on 4/14. She advised that they will be conducting a fill-the-bottle fundraiser, asking that dimes (or nickels or quarters) be put into the bottles on Sunday mornings. Five youth will be attending camp during the last full week in June. (*Congregation, save your dimes!*)

Engage: Alfred advised that just this evening, Boy Scout Troop 776 added a new member. Along with now having 16 members, their family support is extremely strong. A meeting will be held Wednesday evening with the Scout Council's District Chairperson about starting a Cub Scout pack here at GCUMC. Because of what is happening with Troop 776 and the quality of its programs, people are impressed, and the group can now hold its own against any other troop. At their Pancake Breakfast, they think they made around \$2,000 for their upcoming events and trips.

One result of the Boy Scout troop being at GCUMC is especially valued by Pastor Mike. He has heard some of the boys referring to him as "their pastor" or GCUMC as "their church," even though their only connection with GCUMC is the Boy Scout troop.

Alfred reported that the Pig Pickin' went well. He thinks about 850 plates were served, and only about 15 bags of pulled pork remained (out of the original ≈675 pounds). We were able to share the excess 5½ gallons of cole slaw with the Baptist Revival which was held the following week at the Charlotte County Fairgrounds.

Last month, Emmaus needed prayer regarding getting enough individuals to attend the upcoming Men's and Women's Walks. Jo Ann advised that now the Men's Walk is full, and the Women have a waiting list.

With regard to Team Cuba, Jeanne advised that we have three individuals currently in Cuba (Phill Kolbe, and Ray & Barbie Dunfee). They will return on Wednesday 2/28. We sent 45 pounds of OTC medications with them, with three suitcases packed tightly at 50 pounds each. Because our relationship with Frank Pais is so new, they were to receive two suitcases, and one suitcase was to go to Nicaro. Chuck suggested that any future campaign for OTC medications include a visual regarding the goal and actual receipts (such as a thermometer display). Pastor Mike inquired as to the Pedialyte proposal; Jeanne said she has not heard, that any response would go direct to Ray. Ray was planning to take a case of Pedialyte with him and split it among three churches.

YELLOWS AND REDS

Worship: None reported.

Outreach: None reported.

Team Cuba: None reported.

Finance: John advised that for the month of February, our spendable income is down about \$6,000 when compared to the February budget requirements. However, because of one *annual* donation made in January (i.e., making one annual donation instead of monthly or weekly donations), we are \$3,000 over our year-to-date-budget. This will, of course, affect receipt of spendable income in later months.

Trustees: Jo Ann advised that the new security system will be installed on March 1 and 2. On Friday, the office closes at noon. Mike Lackney will be notified when installation is completed, and he will lock up the church.

John added that during the Finance meeting, Rick Starck brought up the topic of expansion. Rick proposed that something significantly bigger than what we need be built. That would give us the ability to replace the portables and give us extra space for our own use, plus leave us with extra space that could be rented out (ideally for storage purposes, so that our reclaiming the space would be easy). His second idea was to use the back acreage as an RV and boat storage facility. Both endeavors would raise money to pay off the new building. The church

would probably create an LLC to rent both the building space and the RV/boat land. Chuck pointed out that the RV/boat proposal would be extremely insurance heavy and added that there is a lot of theft from boats that are left in similar open areas. Obviously, a lot of research is still needed, in addition to checking with the work already done by Terry TenBrink's team several years ago. Mike would like all the committees to be represented on any facility expansion team. Installing a cell phone tower in the corner of the back acreage is still a possibility, but it depends on when it is needed by any phone company.

SPR: Mike advised there is nothing new to report.

NEW BUSINESS

Church Council Chairman Nomination: Pastor Mike announced that he was nominating Chuck Russell as our next Church Council Chairman. No other names were submitted. Chuck accepted his nomination, and the vote was unanimous in his favor. *Congratulations, & welcome aboard, Chuck! Thank you for accepting this nomination and responsibility!!!!*

New Email System: The church is switching from CenturyLink to Comcast. Just about everyone now has new email addresses. The new list of email addresses is as follows (note that the below email addresses are not case sensitive):

Use this email address....to reach this person
GulfCoveUMC@gmail.com	the church & Dawn Tesauro, Administrative Asst.
Michael.Weaver@flumc.org	Pastor Mike Weaver
GCReceptionist1@gmail.com	Jeanne Shrout, Receptionist
YouthDirector_GulfCoveUMC@yahoo.com	Sarah Taylor, Youth Director
ChildrenDirector.GCUMC@gmail.com	Holly Tozer, Children's Director
GCumcContemporaryMusic@gmail.com	Liza McDaniel, Contemporary Music Director
RoyCues@gmail.com	Roy Engler, Music Director
GCumcAVtech@gmail.com	Zak Alvarez, Audio/Video Tech

The congregation is asked to ensure that their email address books are up to date.

Thrive Conference: Pastor Mike said it was a very good conference, with much of the same information as was presented last year. Presentations were made on Fresh Expressions, church security, and statistics, among others. One topic discussed was a Dinner Church, presented by Heather who also lead that same topic at our Vision Retreat last year. This is an

excellent outreach program for new developments, neighborhoods with a central hall or clubhouse, and low-income neighborhoods. It is a place to gather for those who do not regularly attend church. If it is a low-income facility, we could prepare and bring in the meal. At other locations, kitchen facilities might already be present. This type of outreach ministry would also count toward the WIG for 2017-2018 (the Wildly Important Goal established for this District – a 10% increase in average worship attendance).

OLD BUSINESS

Flow Chart of Church Ministries: As a follow-up to the 2017 Vision Retreat, the flow chart that is being developed by Pastor Mike was reviewed. This chart starts with the three legs:

- Experience (witness). John Furtado agreed to act as the Experience Coordinator.
- Embrace (discipleship/nurture). Jo Ann Hopkins agreed to act as the Embrace Coordinator.
- Engage (outreach/evangelism). Alfred Current & Pastor Mike Weaver agreed to act as the Engage Coordinators.

Each ministry or group (such as Closet of Hope, Sunday School, Englewood Helping Hand, Kairos, Hospitality, Genesis, etc.) is assigned to one of the legs. The leader of each ministry or group is identified. These leaders interact with their respective coordinators, who then bring reports, issues, praises, and concerns to the Church Council meeting. (*Note that this does NOT mean that Church Council meetings are closed. They are open to anyone who wishes to attend. However, anyone who would like to personally address Council is asked to notify Chuck Russell, the Council Chairman, so that they can be included on the agenda.*)

Thank you, John, Jo Ann, Alfred, & Pastor Mike for accepting these positions!!!!

Slack: A question was asked as to whether we are still using Slack. The consensus was that, no, it is not used much; nothing has been posted to it for several months.

ADJOURNING

After discussion, it was decided to hold the next meeting as scheduled during Holy Week. The next Church Council meeting will be held on Monday, March 26, 2018, at 7:00pm. The meeting was adjourned at 7:43pm with communion with a prayer by Chuck.

Respectfully submitted,
Dana Hanson
Recording Secretary