

**Gulf Cove United Methodist Church**  
*Helping Everyone Meet, Know, and Serve Jesus*  
**Charge Conference**  
**October 16, 2016 – 3-5pm**

**Presiding Elder:** Pastor Dennis Lewis

**Attendees:**

Pastor Mike Weaver	Bev Ernest	Carol McGuire	Dawn Tesauro
Doreen Alvarez	John Furtado	John McGuire	Donna Wallace
Vic Costello	Dee Grafe	Jeanne Shrout	Dana Hanson
Elaine Dorotics	Harold Grafe	Linda Starck	
John Dorotics	Phill Kolbe	Rick Starck	

This year's Charge Conference was held at Edgewater UMC in Port Charlotte. The conference started with an hour of worship, sharing, and singing, and a sermon by District Superintendent Rini Hernandez.

Gulf Cove UMC's break-out meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Dennis Lewis. As the first order of business, Dana Hanson was unanimously approved as Recording Secretary for 2017. Major points made during the rest of the conference include the following:

Fresh Expressions: We are in the genesis of connecting with outside establishments; i.e., meeting and reaching out in locations other than the church. We are also becoming more involved with the Myakka River Elementary School.

Membership: Derek Walchle does not attend regularly, but was here about six weeks ago; his name will be removed from the first-year-list. The other names will remain on the first-year-list and second-year-list. It was unanimously approved that those individuals whose names appear on the second-year-list will be removed from GCUMC membership rolls.

Pension & Apportionments: It was confirmed that provisions are in next year's budget for the increase in pension contribution from 12% to 15%.

Pastor's Salary Package: The 2016 salary of our previous pastor was \$77,808. The 2016 salary of our current pastor is \$75,000. At our new pastor's request, his salary for 2017 is being reduced to \$70,000. The difference of \$5,000 plus any raise that had been proposed for the pastor is being placed in an account titled Ministry Expansion. The pastor's accountable reimbursement and continuing education for 2017 will remain the same as 2016, at \$2,500 and \$500, respectively.

Connectional Giving: It is anticipated that the full amount of our 2016 apportionments (\$41,902) will be paid. Our new apportionment figure for 2017 is \$42,524. We expect to pay 100% of that amount also. The church finances as presented were unanimously approved by those present. Pastor Lewis congratulated us on paying 100% of our apportionments in the past.

Church Leadership: There is currently no candidate for ordination. The name of Victor Costello is added to the list of Lay Servants. Rick Starck's name is added to the Board of Trustees as a member of the Class of 2019, and is removed from the committee on Nominations. As modified, the church leadership for 2017 was unanimously approved. A special "Thank You" is conveyed to Carol Ankeney for taking on the role of Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the remainder of 2016.

Pastor Lewis closed the meeting in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dana Hanson  
Recording Secretary