

# McKendree UMC Board of Stewards

## Meeting Minutes

January 22, 2012

### Opening Prayer and Announcements

The meeting was opened in prayer.

Following introductions, the chairperson explained that BoS will meet every-other month and the Executive Council will meet on the alternate months. Executive Council consists of the 3 Board of Stewards officers, the pastors, chairpersons of Trustees, SPRC, and Finance, and Lay Leader.

The minutes of the November 2011 meeting were reviewed. Motion was made to accept the minutes as reported. The motion was seconded and moved.

### Finance

The chairperson of the finance committee explained the finance reports that were submitted. The ending shortage was better than expected. The amount needed per week for 2012 is \$22,300. All of the work areas did such a good job of trimming their budgets that our projected numbers show a \$20,000 cushion for the year. Our giving is already behind for the first three weeks of 2012. Finance is not concerned with this due to the fact that we have had 2 holiday weekends in that time, however they will watch this closely and revisit, if necessary. Finance and Trustees will keep a close eye on needs and make sure we aren't going into restricted accounts.

Finance has appointed a committee secretary who will report and submit the minutes of their meetings. They have also appointed a member that will act as a communication liaison between finance committee and BoS and the congregation. They ask for our feedback to make sure that the lines of communication are left open.

Finance will try to release budget needs early in the stewardship campaign so that the congregation will know what we are shooting for. The church operates on a straight line budget so there is no issue if the giving is higher at the beginning of the year verses later.

It was suggested that the board think of possible ways to help better communicate all of the church's business to the general congregation. Each of us needs to pray about possibly forming a committee of 4 or 5 board members that would be responsible for communicating news in different formats so that we can reach the greatest number of people (i.e. face book, twitter, bulletin, announcements, newsletter).

Discussion went on about how best to advertise meetings to get make sure that everyone knows that the meetings are open to everyone and all are invited. The pastor suggested that the executive committee discuss all the possibilities and decide how to best convey the invitation.

### Stewardship

The chairperson of Stewardship reported that a letter was included with the annual statement of giving thanking everyone for giving over the past year and that in the Methodist church we are all stewards of God's gifts. There was further explanation that stewardship shouldn't be limited to fundraising campaign so they will be more visible throughout the year. The stewardship committee is planning monthly or quarterly newsletter reports. They are also hoping to entice others to attend meetings and to be members of committees or teams.

The chair further reported that we received fewer in pledges than in 2011. We had fewer giving units and total pledges however we were what we had pledged is about even with what was collected in 2011. The average pledge was more but the number of giving units was lower. In 2011, the total receipts were greater than anticipated but the pledging was down \$40,000 less than we needed.

The report was summed up her report by saying that this was not the end of the pledge campaign, but the beginning of a new year.

## **Staff Parish Relations Committee**

Report was made regarding the two staff positions that are still open. They have four interviews set up this week for the position of bookkeeper and will be looking at what is best for McKendree as to how to replace our associate pastor with a non-appointed assistant pastor. While the current Associate is going to be nearly impossible to replace, he is ordained and appointed by the bishop/conference as an Associate Pastor. That position requires a higher salary scale as well as housing and other compensation. An Assistant Pastor will be a non-ordained hired position with a lower salary scale and no other compensation thereby being a more affordable alternative to our budget needs. McKendree is one of many churches that have dropped the second appointed position due to the economy.

## **Lay Leader Moment**

The lay director reported that McKendree was well represented at the District Training Event and that we had the largest contingency of all of the churches there. She expressed that she was thankful that McKendree has level headed people willing to serve in leadership positions. Those attending the event stated that they were impressed with the SPRC workshop and at the Vital Congregation workshop. The lay director added that she and the pastor would be working closely on setting goals for McKendree to achieve in order to be a "Vital Congregation".

Remarks were made on the refugee camp workshop that was attended and that McKendree was one of only a couple of churches that had actually served there. The associate pastor mentioned that in addition to him leaving in June, his wife would also be leaving so McKendree would need to begin looking for someone to help coordinate with the Clarkston Refugee Camp. The pastor stated that McKendree is a groundbreaking role model in Clarkston.

The lay director reported on the Mission Impact Celebration that officially began today. She expressed how important it is that everyone makes every effort to attend as many events as possible. There are 170 people signed up for the packing event and so far 24 signed up for the 30 Hour Famine and the Beans and Rice Dinner. She also wanted to announce that you don't have to participate in the 30 hour famine to attend the dinner.

## **Pastor's Report**

The Associate Pastor, announced that the Ministry Fair was not as well attended as those in the past but the people that did attend are very committed to getting involved in the ministries of the church. One couple joined the church last week and one person is joining next week. All three have filled out commitment cards and are willing and ready to serve.

## **Closing**

The BoS chairperson thanked everyone for coming and promised that the BoS will improve on the communication.

The meeting was closed in prayer.

There were 23 members of the board in attendance.

Respectfully submitted 24<sup>th</sup> of January 2012,  
Secretary – Board of Stewards

**Next BoS meeting:** March 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:15 pm