

## **BFUMC Board meeting minutes: February 9, 2025**

Board members present: Rev. Jim Buckman, Don Trawick, Jim Failmezger, Josh Page, Karl Siegel, Mary Alice Beard, Lenna Applebee, Billy Cochran, Leigh Ouimet, Lindsay Mattingly, Sue Morris

Church members present: Will Rogers, Charlotte Trawick, Sydney Yancey, Brendan Smith, Mike Stebnicki, Jonathan Applebee, Pat Stanley, Gary Lenz

**Spiritual formation:** Don: Proverbs 11:14 “For lack of guidance a nation falls, but victory is won through many advisers.” God, guide us as a church board as we bring many perspectives and opinions and may not always agree. Help us to be a wise counsel and work in unity.

### **Business:**

**Building Update:** presented by Will Rogers, BFUMC facilities manager.

The CLC roof repair is finished.

The air handler is on order and will be another 3-4 weeks.

The electrical repair is partially finished and needs to be complete by 3/20/25 for fire inspection. Remaining items include finishing 2nd panel, adding 2 lighted exit signs, 1 dedicated breaker outlet..

We are getting estimates to paint walls in CLC and Pastor Jim said sanctuary columns need to be painted. We discussed checking sanctuary roof and repairing ceiling at some point (paint/rust around vents).

Waterproofing is complete and pump working well as expected. Pictures of repairs provided by Don. Discussion of appearance of basement (old fellowship hall) and current needs for basement (handbell storage, funeral family gathering place before service, women’s exercise group). Old basement windows will need to be replaced at some point and we could paint the upper wall white to match the waterproofing material.

Brad working on repairing the stairs this coming week and the carpet will be repaired Monday of next week.

Pastor Jim stated we had received 102k in donations for emergency repairs so far. 46k has been paid out and 56k is remaining.

### **Pastor’s update:**

Attendance is good, we are monitoring numbers of guests and working with a company called Church Fuel for online search results and growth.

Insurance: we are shopping for new insurance with a broker, will not receive renewal with our current carrier. Need new carrier by mid-March.

Pastor Jim reminded board members to review our Guiding principles and clarified that Article 3 was approved during charge conference in October 2024.

Inquire 101 class for new members to begin in March.

Hispanic Bible study has started on Wednesday nights and we are seeing some overflow attendance to worship services.

Leases: Need leases for Pentecostal church and Friday Homeschool group using buildings. We will have to have a called charge conference to approve leases. Josh will work on drawing up proposed lease agreements. District does require lease agreements, amount charged is up to discretion of the board. After much discussion, motion made by Mary Alice for Pentecostal church to pay \$2500 per month. Rationale was 2000 for BFUMC monthly reserve fund and

500 covers excess utility cost. This is far below market rate. Majority in favor, Jim F opposed and thought we were moving too fast. \$2500 approved for Pentecostal Church lease amount and can be reviewed at our next meeting. Homeschool has been donating into general fund for ~2 years @ 5-6k per year. Josh will draw up proposed lease for them as well.

Pastor Jim provided ICE statement for staff response to in case they come to our buildings, they must have a specific warrant for entry.

**General discussion:**

Don addressed that we are a "One Board" model and function as Administrative, Staff/Parish relations committee, Finance committee, and Trustees committee.

Don has asked each yearly class of board members to rotate reviewing Staff/Parish, Finance, and Trustees functions each quarter so we are familiar and stay up to date.

Budget items were discussed and unused funds from 2024 were presented by Don. Pastor Jim was asked to review items and get back to the board with update.

**Security update:**

Various gates were discussed: gate at playground to be repaired, Lenna motion, Sue 2nd, all in favor none opposed.

Gate on Hill St. can be modified with welded grate so can't be popped open, trash would have to be put outside on trash day. After discussion, item tabled as Pastor Jim pointed out that area is not secure from other side.

Doors: 10k estimate to convert side doors at front of sanctuary to push gate, auto closers that lock from push bar. Billy motioned to proceed with door conversion, Jim F 2nd, all in favor, none opposed.

Discussion of security system: 2 systems in the 2 buildings do not communicate, need to monitor 2 separate systems.

Pastor Jim passed out security overview for board members to review. Board members encouraged to attend next security meeting. Security team is in advanced planning and need more communication between board and security team. Plan is for security team to come present to board in executive session at March board meeting. Congregation needs to be informed soon as much as possible on security improvements.

Task Forces: all task forces have meetings scheduled and upcoming. Pastor Jim will provide updates from task forces to the board.

Don-closing prayer.

**Regular Board meeting ended.**

**Board went into executive session.**