

Minutes of the Administrative Council  
of  
Christ United Methodist Church  
May 21, 2019

Chairman Paige Boyd called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Steve Middlebrooks opened with prayer.

There were two topics on the agenda:

Lay Leadership Update (Lead by Steve and Karen Middlebrooks, Lay Leaders)

Our Bright Future Ahead (Lead by Paige Boyd, Janice Boyko, and Rev. Scott Marshall-Kimball)

Lay Leadership Update:

Steve and Karen Middlebrooks reported on our future as a church. As Lay Leaders, they have attended nearly 60 meetings to learn the prevalent thoughts of our church. Everyone must be engaged in the optimistic future of Christ United Methodist Church.

**Goal:** How to involve more lay people because everyone is uniquely gifted.

**Goal:** Help everyone to feel successful. Training to help people learn how to be involved.

As a church, we need to learn how to become more visible in our community.

Everyone needs to be encouraged to share any ideas they might have with the Middlebrooks and/or members of the Administrative Council. We need to do a better job of acknowledging shared ideas so that people will feel valued.

Our Bright Future Ahead:

A small Growth Team met on May 1 and May 14 to focus on growing the church. This team consisted of Rev. Adam Kelchner, Rev. Scott Marshall-Kimball, Paige Boyd, Janice Boyko, Steve Middlebrooks, Eric Fellows, Jen Fuqua, and Lloyd Soeters.

An initial 3 phase growth plan has been developed.

**Identity Statement:** Our church has grown and evolved in the 20+ years since the current statement came out. Visitors have challenges with the current statement since relationships may not have formed yet. The goal is for all to feel connected to the identity statement, members, visitors, and the community.

Here is the proposed new identity statement: **Connecting Through Faith, Transformed Through Grace**

**Phase 1: May-June:**

June 23: Greeter Training

Partnering with Trustees on Narthex/Foyer enhancements

Publish weekly metrics to growth team and staff

Understand our visitor conversion ratio

Create a "Vital Member" metric

Julie Gilchrist to be chair of the Connecting Committee

Committee identifies small group leaders

Small group leader training in June

**Phase 2: July-August:**

Gathering congregation input

Several changes being tested during summer schedule

Music and space adjustments

Develop our new CUMC Identity Statement

Inreach calls restarting. Kara Gilliam will lead a small group to make these calls.

Understanding current state and designing the future state process for visitors to plug in

Document other operational processes

**Phase 3: September-October:**

Initially target young families

12 short videos uploaded on CUMC website and usable for social media

Boost CUMC ratings on local sites young families use to search

Spiritual growth focus (Mark, Dale, Steve, and Paige including additional interested people)

Leadership development and succession planning

Communicate outreach 'pruning' and communicate broadly

Find new ways to do what we do outside our walls

Further relationships with schools, local non-profits, police/fire

Table discussions were held near the end of the meeting to glean ideas. Here are some of the ideas collected: Ministry Fair, garden, monthly picnics on field during June, July, and August, short Bible studies, sports events, movie nights, event based church, invite people to church and Sunday School, more small groups, variety of worship experiences, intergenerational matches, use of monitor for information, host event for Avenida 55+ apartments when they open, complete transparency, ministry moments in church services, more information on Sunday School classes available

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Irene M. Archambault

Secretary