

Asbury Methodist Church  
Leadership Council January 29, 2024

The meeting was called to order by President Javi Ornales at 8:00 pm. Reverend Forrest Deviney led us in prayer.

Those attending the meeting were board members Javi Orneales, Forrest Deviney, Valerie Caldwell, Jim Mailhes, Suzy Lyne, Bill Morris, Leti Orneales, Chris Roser, Isis Gain. Non board members present were Tammy Tuttle and Carol Loeb.

The minutes from the last meeting were approved.

Javi called for church celebrations. There was general agreement that worship is doing well and seeing many new visitors. Everyone likes the one service model.

Isis read our church's current vision. Javi reiterated that we need to have vision and goals that move us. He feels we are in maintenance mode. He has asked each ministry area to submit their goals for 2024. Chris Roser submitted to the board a paper which thoroughly outlines the activities of the prayer ministry teams for each month of the year. She outlined the many ways the church can uphold all our ministries in prayer. She had the first meeting of a daytime prayer meeting last week. Several people have responded, and more are interested.

Valerie Caldwell gave a detailed report for an Assimilation Team. She outlined the opportunities for the team, how to organize and steps to get it going. The board was very enthusiastic about the proposal. Forrest moved and Jim Mailhes seconded, that the board give its blessing for her to proceed with the proposal. The board voted to affirm unanimously.

Leti Orneales gave the women's Connection report. The turnout for the women's luncheon was very successful. They have envisioned doing more outreach, developing small group studies, having a spring and fall Spiritual event and establishing a mentoring program.

There is interest in getting a men's ministry reestablished. Several men met for coffee recently on Saturday morning to pray and discuss opportunities. They are aiming to do this once a month.

Bill Morris reported about our finances. We ended the year 2023 very well. The board looked at the apportionment giving between the UMC and the GMC. The GMC is asking approximately \$30,000 a year less than what we had to pay to the UMC. The GMC wants more money to stay in the local church. Bill motioned that we pay our GMC apportionments monthly. Forrest seconded and it passed unanimously.

Jim Mailhes reported on the trustees. Larry Jolly and Joe Hedger are joining the trustee ministry. Don Moebry is setting up a training meeting regarding the inside lights. Jim and Gene fixed the riding mower, so it is now working well.

Forrest reported for the staff. They are looking for a mission's director. The board discussed several different mission activities. The church needs someone to oversee the missions so that they are coordinated and not in conflict with one another.

One of our best outreach ministries is the Pumpkin Patch. There is a need for a new director this year as the ones from last year will not be in the country. The board is asking people to pray about joining this ministry.

Javi is our current Lay Leader and board chair. He strongly believes in sharing leadership, so he is stepping down from Lay Leader. The nominations committee will address this at their next meeting.

There not being any more business to attend, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by acting secretary Carol Loeb