

## Minutes of Pierce Chapel UMC Administrative Council

March 13, 2017

The Pierce Chapel UMC Administrative Council met on Monday, March 13, 2017 at 7:00 pm. Jennifer Mason, chairperson, opened the meeting by lighting a candle and saying a prayer. She read the Ground Rules and then everyone joined in reading the HEART principles. Four confirmands and their mentors were in attendance and Jennifer explained to them the purpose for the Ground Rules, HEART principles, passing of the prayer cross and the overall purpose for the meeting. The four pairs took turns introducing each other.

Minutes from the January 9, 2017 Administrative Council meeting were reviewed and approved without any questions.

Robby Jones, Finance Committee Chairperson gave the financial report for February. Expenses and collections are better than budget and slightly greater than 2016. The church's financial operations have been audited by an outside firm and their report should be completed soon. No problems are expected. The 2017 Operating Budget was presented and approved. The budget totals \$826K, a \$55K (7.2%) increase over 2016. This is the largest annual increase the church has approved. The increases are due primarily to new staff members to be hired later in the year.

Howard White made a presentation on NAMI, National Alliance on Mental Illness. NAMI is a free, peer-led support group for adults living with mental illness. One in four people are affected by mental illness. PCUMC will host a pilot NAMI Connection Recovery Group Meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month starting April 6<sup>th</sup>.

Nathan Carr, Youth Ministries, reported the confirmation trip to North Carolina was a big success. He anticipates having 100 youth in attendance for Summer Souled Out. 75 youth will be PCUMC youth and an additional 25 youth will be invited guest with no current church affiliation. PCUMC will provide partial scholarships for the 25 guests if needed. Next Nathan described the new Youth Ministries Assistant position he hopes to fill in early summer. It will be a year round part-time position working primarily with the Tweenagers. He also expects to hire two part-time summer interns. Then Nathan and Lynn Meadows-White explained to the confirmands how the Administrative Council and the church budget affect all of these youth activities.

Karen Hartin, United Methodist Women, reported the presentation on The Bible and Human Sexuality was well attended and appreciated.

Sara Bankhead, Stewardship Chairperson, explained the role of stewardship to the confirmands.

Rosanna Harbuck, Children's Ministry Coordinator, reported the VBS theme will be Maker Fund Fest. The decorating team has formed with the same leadership from 2016. PCUMC will host two summer camps, one each for 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> graders and 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> graders. Tweenager participation continues to grow and the new position Nathan described should add to the growth. Having stability in the leadership is very important.

Bob Ingram, Scouting Ministry, reported PCUMC currently sponsors approximately 70 cubs and 30 scouts. Ten to twelve cubs will be eligible to move up to scouts this year. There are four scouts currently working on their eagle rank. Bob reported that one scouts family attended the scout worship service Sunday and were impressed enough to start attending PCUMC regularly.

Lynn Meadows-White and Howard White made a presentation on how their roles and responsibilities will be changing as a result of the church's growth. Lynn will be focused on church staff responsibilities and Howard will be focused on administrative committees. Both will become less "hands on" in their leadership style and more focused on developing teams and systems. Four of their staff have subordinates who report to them and they too will be developing similar leadership skills. Lynn's job title will change to Executive Pastor and Howard's title will remain Senior Pastor. The Executive Pastor title is common for Methodist churches with memberships exceeding 400.

Howard White made a presentation on Safe Sanctuaries Participation Covenant. This is a document to be required from all volunteers who participate in ministries and activities for the church children, youth and vulnerable adults. The document created considerable debate from the Administrative Council. The council decided to have a Called Meeting in April to have additional input and discussion. The issue will hopefully be resolved before August when new volunteer sign-up begins.

Howard White requested that John Williams replace John Clark as a member of the Trustees Committee. John is resigning for health reasons. The change was approved.

Howard White requested three Easter Sunday services be held his year with the same schedule as with prior years. The request was approved.

The meeting was concluded at approximately 9:00 pm with a group prayer.

Ed Arnold filling in for Valerie Paulk, Secretary