



## HAYGOOD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH LEADERSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 20, 2023, 6:30 p.m., Faith Classroom

Attendees: Mike Fogle (Leadership Board Chair), Mike LaRock (Lay Leader), Pastor Beth Givens (Senior Pastor), Bill Slingerland, Sharon Jenkins, Joe Ford, Jennifer Young, Ceska Tripoli, Austin Grau, Phyllis Porter, Agnes Smith, Denise Becker, Rachel Stone, and Kennis Sigmon, and Christie Carlson.

Absent – None

### Welcome/Opening Prayer

Mike Fogle (MF) began the regular Haygood United Methodist Church (HUMC) Leadership Board (LB) meeting at 6:34 p.m.

### Spiritual Formation and Prayer

Jennifer Young (JY) gave the Spiritual Formation. She said a friend recently told her about a book by John Mark Comer titled *The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry*. The book talks about living life like Jesus. The author says that when we hurry in our lives, we fail to love others because we cannot recognize them when we are so focused on our own hurry. She read from a devotional called “Jesus is your everything.” She read from 1 Corinthians 1:30. She said to imagine, like John, you are with Jesus all the time and you think and act like Jesus. You are now in Jesus every day and every day your life demonstrates continual growth toward God’s character. Gradually, your life reveals his righteousness. Finally, Jesus completes his full redemption. What a wonderful Savior. JY closed with prayer.

### Leadership Equipping

Pastor Beth (PB) opened Leadership Equipping.

She reminded the group that they were supposed to read from sections 4 and 5. She asked what they thought about the idea of clear visions and expectations being more effective at creating disciples.

Denise Becker (DB) stated that clear visions and expectations are always better. Mike LaRock (ML) mentioned the chart in the book. He said that was about making everyone that was already here happy and not about going outside the walls. Sharon Jenkins (SJ) commented that what stood out to her was that membership says, “it’s about me” while discipleships says, “it’s about God and others.”

Bill Slingerland (BS) said that in the church setting you can use the term disciple frequently, but he wonders what that means to the average person. Most people may not be sure how to define that. PB added that is what we have to define/design. Phyllis Porter (PP) asked how do we articulate this and how do we proceed?

PB asked the LB to get into groups and name where they are on the journey of discipleship. What have they done in the last year that has moved them on this journey?

The LB shared their own personal stories of discipleship and continual leaning and growth with the group.

PB rhetorically asked “how do we guide people to do this now?” She reminded the LB that that she has been meeting with her colleagues about a discipleship pathway, and they have envisioned a three-year process focused on belonging, becoming, and blessing. She said that attendees could jump in at any year. PB provided an overview of the plan to see if it resonated with the LB. She stated that the planning team was interested in digital resources because the reality is that people are not learning the same way they previously did.

PB mentioned the YouVersion app for Bible reading together as a church. She also mentioned the link in the Beacon about the Book of Genesis. She is working on a digital playlist. DB said she likes the title “Haygood’s Playlist.”

PB will continue to work on the program the possibility to launch in January.

PP asked about this relating to the Connections Team. Sharon Jenkin (SJ) commented that the Connections Team started as learning more about Methodism and faith and then membership. SJ continued while she had the floor saying that she is excited to share the ministry audit with the LB. There are fifty-three ministries altogether. She is still waiting for seven responses. There are many opportunities and people need to start talking because they are doing the same things. We need to take it a step further and teach them how to be disciples. It will tie into the discipleship planning. There is a lot happening at the church. PP added that there is a tendency to “circle up’ and that we have a lot of circles.

Agnes Smith (AS) asked about what happens when someone completes the three-year program. PB says that it goes to the next level of development. It will be designed for various levels.

### Vital Signs

Vital Signs information was provided in the LB packet including attendance, revenue and expenses, and food pantry visits and expenses.

PB gave an update on worship attendance and added a larger key to the bottom. She said there is still a consistent livestream presence.

Lower revenue in March was made up in April and May.

There is no update in the food pantry since an update is provided quarterly.

PB updated the LB on memberships and visitors.

Jason is going to work with the LB on Connect Cards. We need to determine how to capture information when people visit.

### Consent Package

The LB should have reviewed the consent packet in Google Drive. AS asked about the showers in the PHAT summary. ML responded that the showers could be for generating additional income, hosting sporting events, or when adults were standing by during youth events and needed showers in the morning.

### Generative and Strategic Work

## Leadership Board Retreat Reminder

MF reminded the LB that the Retreat is August 11<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 – 9ish, and on the 12<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Please eat before you come on Friday evening. There will be boxed lunches on the 12<sup>th</sup>. The event is being held for free at Virginia Wesleyan. We will not have the regular meeting on August 15<sup>th</sup>. Please hold the July Leadership Board date for now.

### Discussion – Backpacks Diamond Spring Elementary (Document in Consent Package Folder)

MF opened discussion on discontinuing support of the Diamond Springs Elementary Backpacks. This does not include Luxford Elementary. The Food Bank has decided that the backpacks will now all be filled in Norfolk. We would then be responsible for picking them up every two weeks and delivering them. What happens now is that we pack them here and we take them there. They are also asking that

we send volunteers to pack the backpacks. The annual cost is \$5400. The new requirements will be tedious for one person, and it is going to be difficult to find volunteers.

Luxford is not connected to the Food Bank. The Church buys the supplies for the Luxford backpacks. The Luxford program will continue.

SJ asked how Diamond Springs will get their food. MF stated that Diamond Springs gets the food, but our involvement will stop. JY asked about the specific time to pack food. PB said that it will be during the week and during the day, but the information can be shared.

Agnes asked about the funding. ML responded saying that we sponsor the cost of the food, but we would no longer be under obligation. This does not mean we cannot sponsor the cost.

PB explained steps logistically to the LB. All we are doing is taking the backpacks in and dropping them off. We are not connecting with our community.

LB agreed to discontinue the Diamond Springs backpack program.

### Discussion – Door Update Knox® Box

Joe Ford (JF) opened discussion on the Knox® Box. He explained that the Knox® Box is a small rectangular box that is mounted on the exterior of the building. The Fire Department has access to Knox® Box which holds keys to our building and then they can make entry in case of an emergency, without breaking the doors. The Fire Marshall suggested that the Knox® Box be mounted to one side of the Sanctuary Door, no more than five feet up. A master key and fob need to be included in the box. The cost of the Knox® Box is around \$530. Bill and Fred should be able to figure out how to install the box by drilling into the brick. The Fire Department will add a geolocation on the church for the Knox® box. The Office is the only room that has a different key. JF noted that he needs to determine if the alarm can be cut off at the enunciator.

LB agreed to the purchase of the Knox® Box.

### Discussion – VoIP

JF opened a discussion on Voice Over Internet Protocol (VoIP) phone system. He advised the LB that the voicemail system is crashing on a regular basis. The only way to reset the voicemail is by turning the power on and off. The current system is estimated to be over 35 years old. JF is meeting with the IT vendor, All About Networks. They can provide a quote for VoIP which provides greater function and flexibility for our needs.

### Discussion - Preschool – Fire Code / Class Capacity

JF provided information on occupancy in the classrooms. Peggy asked JF to look at the occupancy diagram created by the Fire Department. She thought it looked inconsistent. The staff lounge allowed fourteen people while a larger room allowed for eight or nine people. The occupancy was based on usage. People would be coming in and out of the lounge.

Peggy also asked about converting rooms to expand enrollment. Although a few rooms could be converted and enrollment could be expanded, this is not economical. However, occupancy rates were confirmed, and the preschool is under-enrolled. This is being updated at Fall enrollment.

### Discussion – Ministry Audit Update

SJ provided a brief overview of the ministry audit in earlier discussion. She added that talking and connection could get the ministries on the same page and reduce overlap. She will be sending the results to PB in a week or two. Expect to see it at the Retreat.

### Discussion – Church Revitalization Meeting 6/21

ML referenced notes from the PHAT team meeting and sitting with three different organizations.

The group they are meeting with tomorrow is Wesley Community Development Corp who specifically look at the needs of your area. Then they look at your space and revenue streams.

The next call is in August.

We are in the phase of exploring what is out there and ways of bringing in additional income with the space and land that we have.

ML added that moving cemeteries is expensive.

The LB entered closed session at 7:45 p.m.

### Summary and Open Discussion

What Decisions Were Made Tonight?

Knox® Box purchase was approved.

JF notified LB about the voicemail system failure and VoIP alternative.

LB agreed to discontinue the backpack ministry at Diamond Springs.

The PHAT has a meeting with Wesley Community Development Corp on 6/21.

The LB agreed to open discussion with Oak Grove on the possible shared position. PB and SJ provided an update on the Preschool Director position.

### Closing Prayer

PB gave the closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 18, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

Christie Carlson