

Administrative Board
 March 21, 2024
 6:00 PM
 Meeting opened at 6:05 PM

Attendees:

At Church	Online	Online
Regeta Slaughter	Jamille Hall	Gwen Hudson
Toni Branch	Veletta Bell	Byron Gully
Saundra Lightfoot	Andrea Hargrave	Michele Carr
Juan McKinney	Ernest Payne	Madison Dowlen
Rev. Pam Pirtle	Doris McGill	Nyshana Sumner- Dowlen
Rev. P. Devon Brown	Mr. & Mrs. Donald Lust	Mary Eugene
		Mark Dean

Chairperson Regeta Slaughter opened the meeting by explaining that we were at the church and Online via Zoom for this Administrative Board meeting.

Opening Prayer was given by Mark Dean. The agenda was given:

Approval of Minutes from Feb 7 and Feb. 22

- Motion was made by Jamille Hall to accept the minuets from both meeting;
 Second by Gwen Hudson.
 Approved by Toni Branch, Doris McGill, Veletta Bell, Andrea Hargrave, Ernest Payne
 Byron Gully, Nyshana Sumner- Dowlen, Regeta Slaughter
- Minutes were approved as stated.

Lay Leader Positon – Madison Dowlen

Finance Report – Michele Carr

As of February 29th our cash position are as follows:

- \$45,000 is in Pullman Bank
- \$16,000 is in Providence Bank

The Parsonage Fund (Capital Account) is how we paid for the HVAC system.

Discussion

Question – Donald Lusk --- When \ How did we adopt this One Board Model?

Answer – We have had this One Board Model for the last two years.

Asset Management Repairs Updated – Byron Gully

- Credit Union repaired Blinds -- Pastor’s Office changed lights
- Fixed Faucet in Women Washroom ---- WIFI Repaired
- New Scout Unit on Saturday for the Cub Scouts
 Greenstone UM and St Mark UM (10:30 – 12:30)

- East Parking Lot Pot Hole – Initiating a request to the Board to be Fixed

Discussions

Question – Are we splitting the cost with the Building behind us for the repair?

Answer – We tried that last time they never responded.

Question – How often have we had to fix the pot hole?

Answer – It has been six years; I want to use the same company that repair it before.

Board -- We need more than one quote. Please report back. Thanks

Update on the Digital Sign – Jamille Hall

We haven't gotten the Digital Sign yet due to Finance and it has been put on hold. The company is offering us a discount of 10% if we purchase it by June.

Board -- Thanks for the Update.

Freedom School Report -- Rev. Pirtle

Currently we have ...

- 29 Students
- 3 Interns
- 1 Director

The school will be closed for Spring Break {25th -29th}. There will be a Fundraiser with Mama Moore's Popcorn starting on April 14th; but we are going to put it off until after Easter.

Discussions

Question – Have we received any Funds from the State?

Answer – No, not as of yet.

Chairperson Slaughter

Here are several other items we need to discuss on this evening..

- The Justice Ministry is seeking to be Tax Exempt.. Chapter 501C with IRS; they have been having Expungement Clinic free of charge. Next one is on April 6, the last one they had 15 people.
- Gateway Chamber Concert – we have 83 tickets @\$50 dollars, which include transportation.
- Sandra Lightfoot reported on the Gospel Choir is having a 55th Gospel Concert Honoring Director Karen Lee.

Discussions

Question – Donald Lusk wants to know if we are going to have VBS this year.

Answer – No, we are not.

Question – Donald Lusk wants to know why we don’t have the Coin Folders any more for the Kids to turn in during Easter; from the Sunday School department.

Answer – Will pass it on to the Children department.

Question – Donald Lusk wants to know does St Mark Manor make Reports.

Answer -- Yes, they are given out during the Annual Charge Conference report that’s given out by Marchbanks.

Now I’m going to turn the meeting over to Rev. Brown...

Pastor’s Report

Good evening everyone there are several items up for discussion...

- The Prairie South District (formerly Chicago Southern District) is in the process of consolidating congregations. St Mark is being asked to adopt East Side UMC. It’s called Merger Adaption of Churches ... St. Mark – East Side. The reasons for the merger is the smaller churches can no longer make it on their own. There will be a meeting with the District Superintendent for more directions.
- The Freedom School is developing their own By-laws so they can become more independent. Training for the new board will take place by Summer’s 2024.
- Discussion regarding should the Pastor have Voting Rights. We’re still refining the policies by the Administrative Board.

Question – Donald Lusk – Are there financial pieces to this Merger.

Answer – I haven’t had that discussion with the Superintendent yet. I’ll have to report back with that information

Upcoming Events: March, April, May, June

St. Mark Upcoming “Big Rocks” 4-month Preview

Month	Sponsoring Organization	Event
March	Worship Team – Arts & Worship Worship Team – Arts & Worship Youth, Sunday School, UMM Worship – Pastors, Worship & Arts	Mar 24 th – Palm Sunday Mar 29 th -- Good Friday Mar 30 th – Easter Egg Hunt – TBD Mar 31 st – Easter Sunday – Sunrise 7am,Breakfast, 10am Service, Sunday School
April	Justice Ministry Freedom School Fundraiser Gateways Music Festival	April 6 – Expungement Clinic April 14-20 – Mama Moore’s Popcorn Apr16th -- Gateways Chamber Concert featuring Martin McCain &Artina McCain[Mr. Kendrick’s grandson] free Apr 19 th -- Gateways Concert – Orchestra Hall[ticketed]
May	Worship – Pastors, Worship & Arts	May 12 th Mother’s Day
June	Higher Education Ministry United Women in Faith Worship – Pastors, Worship & Arts Gospel Choir United Methodist Men	June 9 th -- Celebration of Learning June 15 th -- Father’s Day Luncheon – TBD June 16 th – Father’s Day June 23 rd -- Honoring Late Director Karen S. Lee June 30 th – Men’s Day

Closing Prayer -- Rev Brown

Meeting adjourned at 7:24 pm

Submitted by Toni K. Branch