

APPROVED Leadership Board (LB) Minutes – July 11, 2024

Attendees: Dan Dickinson, Peggy Owusu-Ansah, Dr. Charles Dankwah, Joana Arthur, Pastor Melissa, Bruce Bartolain, Dana Kauffman, Patricia O'Donnell, Kathy Henry (Zoom), and Gale Deutsch (Zoom)

Opening Prayer/Spiritual Formation: Dr. Charles Dankwah provided a spiritual devotion based on Ephesians 4:2. Charles suggested that when we follow the teachings in Ephesians 4:2, we will automatically live into the vision of the church.

Discussion on Vision Statement: The LB discussed the import of the statement “all people are loved” in our Franconia UMC *Vision Statement* and discussed the importance and the need to incorporate our conclusions into our policies.

The LB agreed to modify the vision statement when used as a prayer as follows, “*God, guide Franconia Methodist Church to become a community of Christ’s love, where **your** grace abounds, and all people know that they are loved, respected for their diversity, grow in faith, and reflect Jesus by actively sharing their God-given gifts. AMEN.*”

We intend to again share and expand upon our *Vision Statement* with church congregants in a series of sermons starting on September 15, 2024.

Approval of Information Reports: Three documents were approved as a packet. The End of Month Treasurer Reports for May and June, and the June 2024 LB Minutes. In presenting the Treasurer Reports, Dan noted that our operating expenses exceeded our collections in both May 2024 and June 2024, bringing our cumulative operating loss from January 2024 to June 2024 to \$19,969.72. The Board discussed the significant contributing expenses of the unexpected parsonage repair expenses.

Pastor’s Report: Pastor Melissa noted a successful Vacation Bible School, a dip in summer worship attendance, and proposed modifications to our Franconia UMC social media accounts.

Action Items:

- **Apportionment Payments:** The LB authorized the treasurer to suspend payment of apportionments through August if funds continued to be low.
- **Finance Policy Modifications:** The LB approved a Finance Policy modification to address church actions when a congregant who uses recurring E-giving passes away.
- **2025 Church Goals:** To move us toward our vision, the LB approved the following goals for 2025:
 - Create connections for community and the church
 - Increase 3-B Groups
 - Engage community off church campus
 - Engage with other churches in collaborative efforts

Communications: Bruce noted that the new Office Manager was learning her position and now was posting our minutes and agenda items on the website.

Executive Session: There was no executive session.

Closing: Bruce closed out the July meeting with a prayer.