

**Kingsland United Methodist Church (KUMC) Church Council Meeting**  
**Tuesday January 23, 2018**

The Kingsland United Methodist Church (KUMC) Church Council met on Tuesday January 23, 2018 at 6:00 pm in the Gathering Place. The meeting opened with prayer by Youth Pastor Jeremy Diaz.

**Attendees:**

Devin Schultz, Pastor  
Anne Wojcik, Finance Chairperson  
Meredith Phillips, Youth Council  
Mark Kevan, Stewardship  
Dawn Jenkins, SPRC Chair  
Chris Shumway, Council Chair  
Rhonda Leewright, Children's Ministry  
Jeremy Diaz, Youth Pastor  
Tracy Holliday, Noah's Ark  
Kathy Markes, Council Secretary  
Brad Tippins, Community at large  
David Dubois, Methodist Men  
Alex Blount, Trustees

**Pastor's Update:**

The Circle Maker, 4-week study, is being offered to leadership. Cheryl DeZouche is leading this study which will be held in February and March.

**Coaching Update:**

Pastor Richard Hunter met with the council on Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at 2 pm and with the staff on Monday using essentially the same teaching. Many on council felt encouraged by his discussion and presentation on Sunday.

Discussed the 3 trend – closing and restarting.

This recommendation is not originated out of condemnation of the church, rather sees this recommendation as providing the church the best possible outcome. A coach is not necessary to do what we've already done or been doing, but they are willing to coach us through major changes to put in place systems and practices known to be effective in today's churches. His observation is that there is major dysfunction in the church, and a number of gaps in our effectiveness. His observation was very critical about the condition of our Sanctuary (smell, unrepaired structures, old carpeting, dark, etc.). Our worship services needed some work to be effective, especially critical of our music program in both services. It is difficult to have an excellent music program with an aged choir, no qualified song leaders, and a dual role musician/choir director. Richard provided 4 specific options for the church that expanded on Coach Phil's presentation of best options.

What is the next move? What is the action plan? How to roll out to the congregation?

Council makes the recommendation about the proposed plan. Charge conference is called. Congregation has a vote.

Council discussed Richard options to close (go fallow for a period of time to retool, renew vision, new leadership, repair buildings and prepare for a new launch of ministry, worship, and church name).

Council discussed the positive feedback received from our Advent/Christmas single service. Many council members agreed it felt unified and very enjoyable. The pros of better connection, closer knit group, higher energy worship were observed, and the cons of not being a service in the Sanctuary, traditional people not liking the more relaxed service and the modern song choices at the end of the 11am service, etc. This discussion was tabled.

To reduce our apportionments and get our membership numbers in line with reality, discussion was held regarding a mail-out campaign, as discussed by Coach Phil, to members on the list who have moved or are not attending. This is seen as a long-term goal as it will not affect the apportionment payment immediately.

### Noah's Ark

Tracey Holliday reported Noah's Ark is ROCKING!

### Finance Committee:

Extensive discussion regarding finances.

Average giving per attendee is \$2705 for 2017 based on 169 average attendance.

Decline of 9.8% in 2015-2016

Decline of 13.7% in 2016-2017

Proposed decline for 2018 is 11.7%

\$457,303.01 total actual for 2017.

Council agreed on a \$375,000 proposed budgeted income for 2018. This is subject to change/correction based on Finance Chair's further review.

### ACTION:

Finance chair will present actual spending for 2017 during next council meeting on February 21<sup>st</sup> 6 pm.

The budget will be reviewed and discussed again by council and finance. It appears deep cuts will need to be made.

### NextGen

**Rhonda is in desperate need of volunteers.** She needs at least 10 on Sunday mornings for the 11 am service. Adults who volunteer have to be Safe Sanctuary certified. Currently the only volunteers she has are the spouses of staff and 1 other person who serves once every 6 weeks.

**Volunteers can speak to Rhonda or Jeremy. Safe sanctuary certification is paid for by the church which includes a background check and a training session either as a group or single.**

Rhonda is currently having to re-assign nursery workers to help with Children's church because of a lack of volunteers. Youth helpers are to be high school age.

### Youth

Chris Shumway discussed how moving and incredible the "Camden United" night was at Youth on January 21<sup>st</sup>.

The anticipated number for attendance was 100, there were 150 in attendance! It was a phenomenal night of worship and music with Jeremy preaching in a Holy Spirit led fashion. Seven students gave their life to Jesus that night. It was amazing.

### Staff Parish:

Lay leadership is meeting Thursday evening. More lay leadership members are needed, approximately 2-4. SPRC's role is to evaluate staffing needs of the church, hiring, firing and making salary recommendations to finance committee. The Council may (at its discretion) ask Staff Parish to reduce its budget for staffing and they will, in turn, be responsible for recommending salary cuts, elimination of positions, or re-organization of the church's staffing needs.

**ACTION:**

Council was asked to consider persons for SPRC and make recommendations to Pastor Devin, Mark Kevan, Anne Wojcik, Lisa Palmer or Karen Cataldi.

**GENERAL:**

The Sunday coffee service was discussed. Mark Kevan and Anne Wojcik will take care of this on Sunday January 28<sup>th</sup> as Pastor Devin does not need to be doing this or worrying about this.

**ACTION:**

Email to Sunday School class leaders requesting a 1-month commitment and placing a calendar similar to the flower calendar, with a 1-month commitment to set up and prepare coffee service on Sunday mornings.

**February and March Council Meetings will be held on Wednesdays due to a time conflict. This was agreed upon by the Council.**

**February Council Meeting will be held on February 21<sup>st</sup> at 6 pm.**

**March Council Meeting will be held on March 21<sup>st</sup> at 6 pm.**

November Council Meeting minutes were read with one correction. Motion to approve, seconded, vote was held. Minutes were approved based on correction.

The Meeting was closed with a Spirit-led heartfelt prayer from Pastor Devin.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm

Presented by  
Kathy Markes  
Church Council Secretary