

Epworth United Methodist Church
Administrative Council Agenda
January 23, 2020

Devotional
Eric Turner

We discussed sharing the reports with the church.

- It was discussed about certain sensitive information being shared.
- The motion was passed to share the reports, SPRC and Finance will give summaries.

Reports:

- Finance
 - ended with a surplus
 - Stewardship Pledge
 - Amount went up, however pledges went down a little
 - The motion to pass the budget was passed.
 - Had guest speaker Phil Jamison talk to church members about end of life giving and financial planning.
- SPRC
 - Buff stood in.
 - Support those that have stepped in.
- Trustees
 - Randy was elected the new chair; Mike Lillard co-chair
 - A “risk assessment” was taken on our church, there were three proposals they gave one of which the fact that we need to have more security at Room in the Inn because of liability issues. Richard has approached the company to find resolutions, one of which is to have a webinar. Cathy presented that Room in the Inn does not require any more insurance coverage. We will be informing the company will not be making any changes this year as well only have 4 more Room in the Inns.
 - Could Room in the Inn provide insurance like our other guest?
 - It was proposed to find a new insurance company.
- Pastors
 - Pastor Angela Harris
 - Creekside will be opening on Sunday. We hope to be in wonderful partnership with them.
 - Correction was made at the end of page 1 to say “2020 kicked off” on her report.
 - Pastor Mark Coursey
 - Would like to include Exit Greeters for 2020.
 - Excited for the kick off of Dinner for 8
 - A correction was made to the spelling of his name.
- Worship
 - Meeting on Monday, Jan 27 at 6:00 at the worship site to discuss Lent, Ash Wednesday services, etc. to prepare for the new season.
 - Theme for Lent is restoration.
- Missions/Outreach – written report attached
 - If anyone is interested in the Montana trip please let her know.
 - Getting ready for Mission Sunday!
- UMYF/Tweens/Children – written report attached

- o Raised \$1400 from cookie sale which will be used for the Chicago mission trip.
- o Taking 18 youth to Warmth in Winter.
- o Lots of new leaders for Sunday nights. They will soon be studying mental health and reaching out.
- o In February the children will be studying the New Testament.
- o They packed over 100 boxes for the Shoebox ministry.
- o The children's council will be meeting soon to work on VBS, Easter, and the new children's worship time.
- Scouts
 - o Donnie reassured that the Scouts have their own insurance provider that will not be affected if we change providers moving forward.
 - o Cub Scout Pack 290 collected goods for Epworth's Room in the Inn ministry.
 - o February 9 is Scout Sunday, where scouts will help lead both 8:00 and 10:30 services.
- Reachers – written report attached
 - o Possible reschedule to Feb 15 for next meeting
- United Methodist Men – written report attached
 - o nothing to add
- United Methodist Women – not active in 2020
 - o will be donating funds to Miriam's Promise
- Music Program
 - o Ricardo King
 - Not present but has lots looking forward to
 - The ASU group will be here Feb 9th, share the word!
 - We are sending out flyers to a few places, but if you are interested in helping get the word out connect with Judy Coursey and Debbie White.
 - o Bea Ball, Orchestra
 - o Cindy Kurzrock, Bells
 - Not present but has lots looking forward to
- Communications -- written report attached
 - o Communications has become more transparent.
- Building Committee
- Old Business
- New Business
 - o The district is leading a laity training at Columbia First UMC on Sunday, Feb 9 from 3-5:30. Kathy is going if you would like to join, she plans to leave in time to get back for the choir.
 - o Proposal for more organized meeting times.
 - Finance is the third Thursday
 - Trustees is the third Monday
 - Ad Board is the fourth Thursday
 - Outreach doesn't have a set time
 - Jeanie and Kathy will coordinate better.
 - Worship doesn't have a set time
 - SPRC doesn't have a set time
- **Next Scheduled Meeting: March 26, 2020?**
- Closing Prayer

Pastor's Report – January 23, 2020

At Beau's school there is a very large tree stump out front of the school that was cut down this year. He loves to look at what the inside of the tree looked like – to see a ring for each year that it lived to see that some were wider in growth, some were wobbly, but it grew out from its center faithfully year by year. He enjoys running his little fingers over the ridges of the rings and counting them one by one.

Another year has passed on the calendar, and a new liturgical year begun this last Advent season. We celebrated Advent and Christmas under the banner of the theme of love through music, worship, fellowship and generosity.

In 2019 we grew in membership through transfers of membership and baptism, and we finished the year in excellent financial health thanks to the servant leadership and sacrificial giving of our membership. Attendance patterns continued to ebb and flow across the fall with a general reduction in attendance numbers, but with an expected surge around the Christmas holiday.

2019 kicked off with a revival of the Dinner for 8 Fellowship Ministry to strengthen relationships between church members. We hosted the Leadership Team and Staff of the Wesley Foundation at MTSU four days earlier in the month. We have

continued to host our neighbors in need through the Room In the Inn hospitality ministry. And we are preparing to send our youth and young people to the Warmth in Winter Retreat later this month, and on a mission trip to Chicago this summer. Plans are underway to begin preparations for Vacation Bible School this summer. Funding has been approved for a trial program of a Children's Church program at the request of several of our church families and visitors. We look forward to sending a mission team to work alongside our UMC brothers and sisters in the Native American communities in Montana. We eagerly anticipate hosting the Choir from Alabama State University. And we have already taken in six new members into the church family in January alone.

This year it is my hope that we can unite in our growth in spirit as a church family, honoring the rich legacy of the faith family at Epworth and bridging into God's best hopes and plans for the future. As we dream new dreams together, and continue to open up the circle of faith to those neighbors that the Holy Spirit calls into our doors – may we be surprised by grace and wonder, hope, restoration and redemption.

May the ring of faith in our soul from the year 2020 be one that testifies to God's glory, abundance, restoration and resurrection. May the souls ahead of us that remember 2020 and run their fingers over the evidence of the growth before us be able to see a brilliant witness of light, love and faithfulness from the constellation of souls

that God has gathered together in grace in this season, and for God's holy purpose and plan.

Rev. Dr. Angela Harris

Associate Pastor's Report

Mark Couerse

Administrative Council

January 23, 2020

Welcome Team

Usher Teams for 2020 have been formed and the schedules for both the 8:00 and 10:30 worship services are complete! This year's usher coordinator for the 8:00 service is Janie Jefferson and Chris Priddy serves as the coordinator for the 10:30 service.

Greeter Ministry Teams for 2020 have been formed and the schedules for both the 8:00 and 10:30 worship services are complete! This year's greeter ministry coordinator for the 8:00 service is Ellen Woodside and Carolyn Wilson serves as coordinator for the 10:30 service.

Goals for 2020 for the Welcome Team include 1) securing a team of greeters at the Welcome Desk to have additional conversation with visitors. 2) Establish a team of "Exit Greeters" who will ensure all visitors receive a word of thanks and an invitation to come back for a second visit. 3) Develop a new system to obtain contact information from visitors. A new process for collecting contact information will enable us to meet **our 4th goal of stronger "follow-up" with our visitors.**

Invitation Team

The Invitation Ministry Team explores ways to extend invitations to the community in four categories 1) Marketing 2) Personal Invitation, specifically through the Invite One Campaign 3) Community outreach/involvement 4) Hosting a variety of concerts/speakers/activities/need based support groups and/or seminars.

Goals for 2020 for the Invitation Team include 1) officially launching the Invite One Campaign to be implemented for Easter, Vacation Bible School, Children's Fall Festival and Christmas services. 2) Strengthening our Marketing/Communication by working with Judy Coursey, our new staff member. 3) Give serious exploration to how we might get more involved in our community and explore ways we might host meaningful events/concerts at our Worship site.

Connection Team

While this team has not yet been formed, our goal is to assemble a team this year that will identify ways to connect visitors to members and to specific ministries which will ultimately lead to a closer connection to God!

Outreach Report to Church Council

January 2020

Participation of our congregation is vital to the success of Epworth's outreach ministries. Many volunteers are helping with Room in the Inn, FrankTown and GraceWorks.

Gifts were purchased for Community Angels. Goody bags were delivered to the men at 4:13 Strong.

Plans are underway for a mission trip to the Blackfeet United Methodist Parish in Montana next August. Meeting was held January 20 to discuss details.

There will be a mission trip to the House of Hope in Santiago, Chile, in March. Watch the newsletter and bulletins for details.

We are planning our next Mission Sunday for April 26, 2020. We will celebrate our current ministry partners with action-oriented worship services.

Our next meeting will be January 27.

Kathy Heard, Coordinator Outreach Team

**Epworth UMC
Reachers Report
Report to Administrative Council
January 2020**

The December Reachers meeting, which was to include a Brunch and Sing-a-Long with Tim and Susie Underwood was cancelled. It will be rescheduled for February or March 2020.

A planning meeting for Reachers will be held in the next couple of weeks to discuss direction and plans for 2020.

Julie Mowery

Archie Gentry

January 2020 — Epworth Scouting Ministries Report

Pack 290

Last month the Pack had a Movie night theme and also collected donations for Epworth's Room in the Inn ministry. Below photo shows some of the collection donated by parents and friends of Pack 290. Great job Pack 290! The Pack is in the middle of Derby season. Scouts are working on their cars and learning about the upcoming races next month.



Troop 16

The Troop had a successful Christmas Tree fundraiser last month. Thanks to Epworth for helping to promote that. The Troop went on a 20 mile hike on the Sewanee Perimeter Trail in January. While it was a little wet it did provide some very scenic areas with mist and all the waterfalls were running. Troop 16 is currently wrapping up their line up for leaders in 2020 and the recharter process.



Yours in Scouting,

Donnie Reed
Epworth Charter Organization Rep

Epworth UMC

United Methodist Men

1/23/2020

- Men's Breakfast on January 11th was attended by 11 men. We also hosted the Wesley Foundation from MTSU for breakfast that morning.
- Also, in January, UMM purchased on behalf of the church, in cooperation with Ricardo, an electronic drum set at a cost of \$384 to replace the borrowed set that the church has been using over the past few months.
- The next Men's Bible Study will be this coming Saturday, January 25th at 7:30 AM in the New Spirits Classroom at the Historic Site. We are currently studying Genesis. We meet for Bible Study every Saturday morning except for the 2nd Saturday of each month.
- The next Men's Breakfast will be Saturday, February 8th at 7:30 AM in Vaden Hall. Men's breakfasts are always held on the 2nd Saturday of every month.

Youth/Children's Report December 2019

Youth Report:

Our cookie sale fundraiser was held on December 15th. We raised \$1,400 to go towards our summer mission work! Thank you to everyone who brought in baked goods, purchased cookies, and made donations. We are so grateful for the support of Epworth UMC.

We are getting ready to attend Warmth in Winter from 1/31-2/2. We are taking 18 youth with us to this TNUMC Conference event. We are excited to get to worship and learn alongside other youth from surrounding churches.

Our small group time on Sunday nights has created a space for youth to connect more with one another and our adult leadership. In February, we are going to start a series on focusing on how to deal with anxiety, depression, and other struggles that our youth are currently facing.

Children's Report:

We recently finished our advent series in children's Sunday School. Each child got to paint a nativity set to take home as we learned about the different characters in the nativity story. We are now talking about Jesus' early ministry. In February we will start learning the books of the New Testament as a series to help kids learn the chronology of Jesus' life.

Our children's ministry packed over 100 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child to be delivered to children in need around the world for Christmas.

We are still planning to launch a children's service during the 10:30 worship hour early this year. We are currently working on different elements of planning such as choosing curriculum, hiring adequate staff, and coordinating usage of the space. Our 2020 budget request for children's ministry activities reflects the expected cost of this programming (curriculum and crafts/supplies).

We recently polled parents on dates for Vacation Bible School, and almost all of the responses we received were for June 14-18. The children's ministry team is going to meet in February to decide on a theme.

Communications Report submitted by Judy Coursey

January 23, 2020 Church Council – Epworth United Methodist Church

2020 1st QUARTER GOALS

S

SPECIFIC



make sure those attending Epworth know our mission “To Know Christ and Make Him Known”

M

MEASURABLE



100 people can communicate our mission

A

ACTIONABLE



add mission and vision to all printed and digital channels

R

RELEVANT



we need to be able to give our community a clear picture of who we are

T

TIMELY



4 months

make easy on-ramps for people to respond to events and serving opportunities, as well as to find out more about Epworth

10% increase in sign ups and attendance

launch new website

add online means for registrations

implement Epworth UMC app

we are a fast paced world and need easy, fast ways to connect

2 weeks
(this is currently with the developer)

1 month

1 month
(this is currently with the developer)

to increase our online presence

100 reached per Facebook post

20 views per instagram posts

1 sermon posted each week on Spotify and Itunes

launch Pastor Angela’s Sunday sermons as podcast on Spotify and Itunes

tell more personal inspiring stories from our congregation

on average our community spends 130 minutes a day on social media

1 week
(this is loaded on the platforms and will be added to website and Facebook this week)

2 months