

Council on Ministries
MINUTES
February 5, 2018

Present: Marie DeLockery, Chair	Pat Gary	Michael Parks
Monica Casey	Susan French	Leonard Schingle
Preston Carpenter	Jeannie Jones	Michael Stires
Jane Coward	Cindy Lamb	Rev. Deborah Suddarth
Sam Cox	Jennifer Lawhon	Patti Sweet
John Duncan	Susan Lawhon	Blaine Tooley
Melanie Duncan	Marilyn Meeks	Judy Wallace
		Rev. Dane Wood

Chair Marie DeLockery opened the meeting at 6:35p.m. with prayer.

Several handouts were distributed, and Marie used one of these, "Tending the Soul of the Congregation: Spiritual Exercises for Church Leaders," to draw us into a discussion of aspects of "Transforming Presence," which is the title of Session I. We discussed in groups of two where we had seen God at work this week and also shared insights from the section entitled "Readings for Reflection" with each other. We will be discussing the sessions in this handout as we meet this year and were asked to read "Session II: Transforming Practice" before our next meeting. We were also asked by Rev. Suddarth to read Chapters 2 and 3 in "Living as United Methodist Christians" before our next meeting.

The minutes were approved as written. Marilyn agreed to be the secretary for 2018.

Marie told us that the purpose of the COM has changed. For many years the COM merely heard reports from the different work areas as to what they were doing. Now the purpose of the COM is to train leaders for the church. We are to be intentional about our work and how we carry it out. She distributed a survey measuring how we felt about the COM goals for 2017 and whether or not they were accomplished.

Deborah explained two complementary handouts describing the Ministry Action Plan for our church. Both are based on the Engage/Connect/Equip/Send model. One has numerical goals for each section of the plan, so we can measure accomplishment in the areas. The other lists the Definition, Engine (Description), Fruit and Current Ministries under each of the four sections.

We then divided into four groups, with each of us in the group into which our Task Team/Committee falls. We were asked to use the 2017 goals as a basis for setting goals for 2018. The groups reported as follows:

- Engage – 2017 Goal addressed: Minister & mentor young families
 - (1) Provide outward ministries to children and youth. This will be achieved by offering "real life" parenting groups.
 - (2) Combining pre-school and church families

Connect – 2017 Goal addressed: Create a volunteer culture in our church

- (1) Use the newcomers class and new members directory when looking for task team/committee members.
- (2) Set expectations that CUMC members serve.
- (3) Make the volunteer experience enjoyable.
- (4) Have current volunteers give testimonies in worship.

Equip – 2017 Goal addressed: Support and grow discipleship programs

- (1) Establish a Christ-like meeting environment by beginning each meeting with a devotional.
- (2) Make meetings a positive experience rather than a dreaded requirement. (See #1 above)
- (3) Encourage volunteer groups such as Emmaus to use a +1 approach to increase membership.
- (4) Survey selected ministries to get feedback as to their effectiveness and ideas for improvement.

Send - 2017 Goal addressed: Create a volunteer culture in our church

- (1) Communicate – effective communication is key
- (2) Work toward a goal of 7.5% (265 people) being involved in some way in service.
- (3) Work toward a goal of 1% (35 people) first-time task team/committee members in 2018.

Marie asked for a volunteer to serve as vice-chair in the unlikely event she would be unable to attend a meeting this year. No one volunteered, but anyone interested was asked to send her an email.

Meetings for the rest of the year are tentatively scheduled as follows:

April 10

August 21

October 16

Rev. Suddarth closed the meeting with prayer at 8:35p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Meeks