

CFUMC Leadership Board

Dec. 11, 2025

Meeting convened at 6:30 p.m.

Our Mission: Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our Vision: Ordinary people learning to love like Jesus.

Our Core Values: Connect, Equip, Commit.

Attendance

- Present: Joy Barrett, Rick Fitzgerald, Dawn Goellner, Heather Hay, Mary Hoey, Todd Hubbard, Jeff Melvin, Nolan Peterson, Mike Vanderspool.
- Absent: Kasie Cousino, Ray Stankiewicz.
- Guest: David Shaw.

Opening prayer and spiritual formation

- Todd Hubbard led a discussion about questions and Christian faith. There are many who have questions about various aspects of traditional Christian teaching, which lead to more questions. Even people of deep faith question aspects of Christianity, Todd shared. We also were reminded that United Methodist teachings (The Wesley Quadrilateral) emphasize a four-pronged approach to our faith that includes the use of reason along with a scriptural foundation, tradition and personal experience. This Wesleyan approach promotes a broad, inclusive method integrating multiple sources for understanding complex topics.

Leadership development

- Senior Pastor Joy Barrett asked the Leadership Board to consider the book “Launching Leaders: taking leadership development to new heights” as the basis for leadership development presentations in the coming year. The leadership team members will review the book and circle back to the question at the January meeting.

Review of new people

- Senior Pastor Joy Barrett shared a review of recent new people who have attended worship and also shared average attendance figures for 2025 (as of Dec. 7) compared with 2024. The averages so far show increases over 2024:
 - Sanctuary in person, both services: 198.4 compared with 193.9 in 2024.
 - Parables in person: 25.5 compared with 25.2 in 2024.
 - Virtual: 120.3 compared with 99.1 in 2024.

Goals review and accountability

- Joy reported that all goals set for 2025 have been accomplished. Those include creating a new hospitality leadership team; fully implementing the simplified accountable structure of church governance; and hiring the church’s director of lifelong faith formation as the launch of that churchwide effort.

Packet and consent calendar items

- The consolidated financial report from October and minutes from the November meeting were approved as presented.

Strategic and generative items

- **Nov. 23 town hall:** Nolan Peterson reported that the presentation by Susan Adam-Rita about lifelong faith formation was well received by the roughly 30 people who attended the town hall. This was the third and final town hall for 2025. Susan will be invited to the Leadership Board meeting in January to share the feedback she received and how it may be included in her plans for the coming year.
- **Nov. 15 annual church conference:** Joy reported that all business presented during the annual church conference was approved, including the election of three new Leadership Board members. Elected were Andrea Alford, Curt Collins and David Shaw. They will replace Dawn Goellner, Mary Hoey and Ray Stankewicz in January and the board thanked the outgoing members for their dedication and their service during the initial year of the new simplified accountable structure of church leadership.
- **Church budget for 2026:** Mike Vanderspool presented two budget proposals on behalf of the finance team for consideration:
 - The Finance Team proposed that the Leadership Board approve a 2026 operating budget with budgeted expenses of \$781,955 and budgeted income of \$773,000. This was approved unanimously.
 - The Finance Team also proposed that the Leadership Board approve a 2026 Parables budget with budgeted expenses of \$14,375 and budgeted income of \$7,000. This also was approved unanimously with the note that Parables has reserve funds to cover the gap between projected income and expenses.

Communication

- Rick Fitzgerald will draft a news item focusing on the approval of the budget and the election of new members on the Leadership Board.
- Minutes will be posted on the church website once approved.

Closing Prayer

- Jeff Melvin shared the closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Recorded by Rick Fitzgerald