

11/17/16 Minutes -- Strategic Leadership Council

St. John United Church of Christ

Meeting duration: 5:30 pm – 9:30 pm

Attending: Louise Hall (chair), Theo Baldwin, Lonnie Fields, Steve Howes, Dale Sexton, Melissa Stephens, Pastor Keith Haithcock

Guests: *Investment/Endowment Committee Members* - Pat Giglia, Tim Smith

Prayer and Preparation

Dale provided a meditation and prayer. All read the St. John Vision and Mission and the SLC Goals statement (from Charter documents).

Strategic Leadership Council Goals... *In the spirit of the above Vision and Mission statements and in order to transform St. John United Church of Christ into a vital, fully alive mission outpost - receptive to the Word of God, moved to action by the Holy Spirit and living the commission of our savior Jesus Christ - the Strategic Leadership Council (SLC) establishes...*

Consensus Items approved: 10/27/16 SLC Minutes, 11/17/16 SLC Agenda

Discussions with Investment/Endowment Committee

Tim Smith and Pat Giglia discussed SLC's desired investment strategy.

- Agreement that both the Treasurer's Report and Financial Secretary's Report will be emailed to all three Investment/Endowment Committee Members in advance of the upcoming SLC meeting.
- Tim Smith and Pat Giglia discussed SLC's desired investment strategy and possible approaches.
- Tim discussed SLC's desires for invested funds (focus is solely on Ludwig bequest, balance is approx. \$98K) and the potential scenarios for deriving income from interest.
- In addition to investing the remaining balance of the invested funds, there is also a suggestion to build contributions to the invested fund through tithing of current income, conducting an annual appeal, conducting a capital campaign/endowment campaign, or other fundraising. The committee shared potential scenarios and funding growth.
- ACTION: SLC will prepare a response to Investment/Endowment Committee in response to their presentation and discussion.
- MOTION: Steve moves to transfer a sufficient portion of the BB&T checking account balance to bring the BB&T investment fund (Ludwig bequest) balance to \$101,000, and to empower the Endowment Committee to work with this investment fund balance in a three-year strategy. Melissa second. Motion passes unanimously. ACTION: Louise will inform the Investment/Endowment Committee.
- A future SLC agenda item will be use of the remaining balance in the BB&T checking account.

Pastor's Report

- Nativity preparations are proceeding on schedule.
- A wedding will be held at the church this coming weekend.
- Pastor Is In table at NKU is set up for five months, through March 2017.
- Pastor Keith discussed a proposal to hold a love offering to provide a financial gift to the church staff. MOTION: Lonnie moved to support this proposal. Steve second. Motion passed.
- The October SLC motion regarding funding for the Ohio Conference was raised at the SONKA meeting.

Emergency Procedures Updates

- Louise reports that her contact through Pat Giglia is making progress with building diagrams to be provided to fire, police, and other emergency personnel.
- Lonnie reports that he has contacted phone installation vendors.
- Dale reports that all but one exit light battery has been replaced.
- A future agenda item will be changes in external door policies, in light of safety needs.

Stewardship Committee Report

- 1st quarter balance sheet will be ready for the Nov 27 Financial Snapshot stewardship event.

Treasurer's Report

- Financial Secretary's Report not available for approval at this meeting.
- Dale discussed the October 2016 Treasurer's Report. Details at the end of these minutes.
- MOTION: Lonnie moved to accept the October 2016 Treasurer's Report. Melissa second. Motion passed.
- Dale discussed the Activity Report detailing current month's expenses by MMAP budget line.

Technology Proposal

- Discussion on Mitch Leigh's technology proposal (TV displays mounted in sanctuary) from Mitch Leigh. ACTION: Louise will inform Mitch that we cannot make a decision at this time, due to other priorities and remaining budget work.

Snow Removal Contract

- Pastor Keith discussed the parameters of the original agreement for snow removal, including which specific areas are to be treated/cleared as necessary when snow impedes safe passage.
- Over the past two years, there have been issues with clearing the agreed-to areas with our current vendor, Wessel Lawncare and Landscaping, LLC.
- MOTION: Melissa moved to accept the Wessel contract, with specific directions stated to them for areas to clear, and that church staff monitor for issues. Dale second. Motion passed.

- ACTION: Lonnie will contact Wessel to confirm our intent to work with them again this year, and will be the contact for church staff to report issues.
- SLC will re-evaluate the snow removal vendor for the next winter season, based on performance and our satisfaction.

Cub Scout Troop

- Discussion on the proposal from two District staff of Boy Scouts of America to establish a Cub Scout troop for Bellevue/Dayton with St. John church as its chartering organization. Troop meetings would be held at the church. There is currently no Cub Scout troop for Bellevue/Dayton, and minimal effort would be required from the church. The District expressed interest in working with us due to our open and inclusive policies and our efforts to be fully accessible.
- MOTION: Melissa moved to move ahead with discussing this proposal with the troop organizers. Steve second. Motion passed unanimously.
- ACTION: Pastor Keith will schedule a meeting with the District staff, on December 7.

Building Maintenance Updates

- Fire extinguisher inspection was completed.
- Boiler inspection was completed, with some action items before the next inspection in 2 years.
- Pending work is to update the lighting in the chancel stained glass.
- Multiple spotlight bulbs in the sanctuary are slated for replacement.
- Louise distributed an option for 'industrial' style lighting for the elevator vestibule on the lower level.

UCC Ministries' Flexible Benefit Plan

- To participate in the UCC Ministries' Flexible Benefit Plan (health care reimbursement account), SLC is required to pass a formal resolution.
- MOTION: Dale moved that we agree to the Adopting Resolution for the Flexible Benefit Plan for UCC Ministries, worded as follows:
 - ***Resolved that, the Flexible Benefit Plan for UCC Ministries that operates in and is administered through The Pension Boards-United Church of Christ. Inc. be, and the same is hereby adopted for, the employees of St. John UCC; and Resolved further, that such Plan shall include provision for participating clergy and lay employees to elect a health care reimbursement account, a dependent care account or both according to Plan provisions that are substantially of the manner described in the attached materials; and Resolved further, that this Plan shall be made available to our clergy and lay employees as soon as administratively feasible.***
 - Steve second. Motion passed.

Annual Meeting

- Annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday, May 21, 2017 following worship.

OMG (Outreach Missions Group) Engagement

- Discussion on the OMG and its mission, budget and broader church strategy, in preparation for their participation in the January SLC meeting.
- ACTION: Lonnie and Louise will meet with OMG to discuss in advance of the January meeting.

Black Dividers in Fellowship Hall

- Discussion on need for these dividers and their purpose for events in fellowship hall.
- ACTION: Lonnie and Louise will discuss this with OMG to get their input.

Halloween Policy

- Discussion on development of a policy regarding the observation of Halloween at St. John UCC.
- ACTION: Melissa will prepare a draft general policy for the December SLC meeting.

Adjournment: Melissa moved to adjourn, Steve second. Motion passed.

Minutes recorded by: Theo Baldwin, SLC Secretary

Next SLC meeting scheduled for **Thursday, December 15 at 5:00 pm**. Meditation: Lonnie. All are welcome to attend.



Treasurer's Report October 2016

For SLC Meeting of St. John Church United Church of Christ

Submitted by: *Dale Sexton 11/17/2016*

	<u>September</u>	<u>October</u>
<u>5/3 Main Checking</u> (X7605)		
10/15 Beginning Balance	29,430.06	24,240.28
Checks	(11,189.19)	(6,051.43)
Withdrawals / Debits	(10,302.50)	(10,578.48)
Deposit / Credits	17,301.91	14,496.00
11/15 Ending Balance	25,240.28	23,106.37 (not an reconciliation balance)

<u>5/3 Memorial Fund</u> (X8394)		
10/1 Beginning Balance	6,926.63	6,496.76
Withdrawals / Debits	(570.00)	(0.00)
Deposits / Credits	140.11	10.11
10/31 Ending Balance	6,496.74	6,506.85

United Church Funds Invested Funds Market Value

10/1 Balance at Beginning of Period		56,729.83 +/-
Change in Value during Period		(885.26)
10/31 Balance end of Period		55,844.57 +/-
Called in balance 55,560.04 as of 11/17/16		

BB&T Checking (X1147) (OLD in/out for loan)

9/30 Previous Balance	12,270.80	12,266.80
Checks	0.00	0.00
Withdrawals, Debits & Service Charges	(4.00)	(4.00)
10/31 New Balance	12,266.80	12,262.80

BB&T Investments (X7024)

Market Value

Ending Value	97,368.02	97,621.48 +/-
Called in balance as of 11/17/16		

Current Running Balance from Quicken (including checks written but not posted in main account)

5/3 Main Checking	22,049.57	(as of 11/17/2016)
5/3 Memorial Fund	6,548.43	(as of 11/17/2016)
UCC Invested Funds	55,560.04 +/-	(as of 11/17/2016)
BB&T Checking (OLD in/out loan)	<u>12,226.80</u>	(as of 11/17/2016)
	96,384.84	

BB&T Investments	<u>97,621.48</u> +/-	(as of 11/17/2016)
	194,006.32	