

Quarterly Conference

April 25, 2017



First United Methodist Church
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First United Methodist Church of Lompoc

Quarterly Conference

April 25, 2017

Call to Order & Opening Prayer –

Adoption of Agenda

Approval of Minutes January 24, 2017

Written Reports Received

Board of Trustees – *George D.*

Education & Spiritual Growth – *Linda B. (No Report)*

Finance Committee – *LaVelda C. & Wally R. (Call office for Attachment)*

First United Methodist Foundation of Lompoc – *Rollin B. (No Report)*

Lay Leader – *John H. (No Report)*

Lay Ministry– *Anne A.*

Membership & Evangelism – *(No Report)*

Mission Outreach – *Royce S.*

Organ Committee – *Lynn C. (No Report)*

Staff/Parish Relations Committee – *Gary B., Sr.*

United Methodist Men – *Rex L.*

United Methodist Women – *Donna W.*

Worship – *Sandra L.*

Pastor Kathleen's Report

Questions from the Membership

Next Meetings:

Quarterly Conference

Closing Prayer

Adjournment

Minutes
By Tracy F.
January 24, 2017

Call to Order & Opening Prayer—Called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Janet S. Prayer led by Janet S.

Adoption of Agenda—Motion made by John H., seconded by Pat N. All in favor.

Approval of Minutes December 5, 2016—Motion made by Wally R., seconded by Donna W. All approved.

Board of Trustees—Nothing to add. Richard S. noted that George D. should be listed as Chair, not Co-Chair.

Finance Committee—All three items were voted on and approved.

First United Methodist Foundation of Lompoc—Nothing to add.

Lay Leader—John H. proposed to put a picture of Jesus by Penny L. back on the wall in the Fireside Room. All agreed. Lynn C. volunteered to hang the picture.

Lay Ministry Committee—Nothing to add.

Membership and Evangelism—No Report

Mission Outreach—Nothing to add.

Organ Committee—Nothing to add.

Staff/Parish Relations Committee—There will be a workshop in San Luis Obispo on February 25th. This will be the North District Leadership Training.

United Methodist Men—Sweetheart Banquet will be February 14 at 6:00.

United Methodist Women—Received a 5 Star rating as a committee.

Worship—Nothing to add.

Education and Spiritual Growth—No report at this time. There may be a change in Vacation Bible School. Instead of having it Monday through Friday, they may hold it on consecutive Sundays.

Pastor Kathleen's Report—Pastor Kathleen made two proposals.

- 1) Members of the Quarterly Conference commit to reading the four books from the Readiness 360+ Conference.
- 2) We commit to praying for our church daily, using the “Lompoc First UMC 805 Prayer”.

All were in favor.

Next Meetings—The next Quarterly Conference will be on April 25, 2017.

Closing Prayer—Pastor Kathleen led with the “Lompoc First UMC 805 Prayer”.

Adjournment—Janet S. adjourned Meeting at 7:55 p.m.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The first quarter of 2017 has again been a busy time for the Board. We experienced another round of water leaks in the boiler heating system. Two repairs were done in the main Sanctuary and one repair was completed in the Sacristy. We have one more problem area that will need to be repaired in the Sanctuary and have high hopes and good confidence that this will be the last one for the season.

We also experienced some problems with our main sewer drain line. Age and tree roots damaged a stretch of pipe along the sidewalk on the north side of the admin building. An approximate 15' length of the old clay pipe was replaced with 4" PVC. While investigating the issues, we discovered a buried shut-off valve that controls two hose bibs located at the base of the parking lot lights. The valve was cleared and is now protected by an irrigation control box.

As listed in the January report, Trustees has been moving forward on several of the goals we set for this year. A kitchen clean-up day was held on April 1st. We would like to give a HUGE thank you to Connie, Linda B., Lynda LaCombe, and Donna W. for all their scrubbing and hard work. In the coming weeks, there will be additional work days to clean & organize the paint storage shed, moving the flagstone to a more secure area, and organizing the Friendship House storage area.

We have also completed replacement of 50% of the Chancel lights with LED bulbs. The remaining bulbs will be replaced as soon as we can schedule that daring young man (Lynda LaCombe's son Jeremy), to climb the ladder.

Along with the efforts to upgrade our interior lights to lower cost LED fixtures, several of the outside overhead lights have also been replaced with LED. The new LED fixtures are not only much brighter, but operate at a fraction of the cost. Wanting to take advantage of this LED technology and save on our electric bill, Trustees put together an extensive submission package to the FUMC Foundation that included 12 individual projects. All of the projects were designed to either provide for increased safety of our church members or improve the security of the church property. They range from increasing the parking lot and sidewalk lighting to adding much needed security lighting for our storage buildings. Of course, nothing comes cheap these days but we are hopeful that there will be enough money available to fund some of the higher priority projects.

The Board of Trustees still has two openings that need to be filled as soon as possible. If you know of anyone who may be interested in serving please talk with Pastor Kathleen. Trustees meet on the second Thursday of every month. If you have items of concern, or issues that involve church facilities and/or property, please feel free to contact me anytime.

Respectfully submitted, George D. Co-Chair

FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Each month the Finance Committee provides the congregation an update on the financial status of the church. Starting this quarter we are also providing the Quarterly Conference an updated budget report reflecting yearly budgeted amount plus current month and year-to-date expenses. Please review this quarter's report and let us know if you have any questions, concerns, or comments. We give thanks that through the congregation's generosity we have received sufficient current income to pay current expenses.

Special Offerings for 2017: At our last meeting Finance decided to allocate the Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas special offerings to the Mama Lynn Center, Kindu, East Congo Episcopal Area, Democratic Republics of Congo, Africa. If you would like more information on the needs of this organization please check out calpacnorthdistrict.org. Pastor Kathleen also provided information on this need in her Easter letter.

We continue to monitor income and expenses and bring our concerns to the appropriate committee chair for resolution. A big thank you to the committee chairs for carefully managing their budgets.

Also, thanks to Penny L. for volunteering to be a substitute offering counter.

We will succeed by working together. Also, don't forget you are welcome to attend Financial Committee meetings at 3:00 p.m. on the first Monday of each month.

LaVelda C. and Wally R., Co-Chairs of Finance

LAY MINISTRY COMMITTEE

Second Quarter of 2017: The committee met on the first Wednesdays of February, March, & April. Focus was on the needs of those members now being served by Lay Pastors, and on any changing situations within the church's membership where the Lay Pastor Team might be of assistance. Six Lay Pastors are serving ten church members. Number of members receiving Home-bound Communion from their Lay Pastors this quarter was five.

February Meeting: Reviewed our worksheet containing suggestions for updating our altar flower distribution ministry and decided to 'table' that discussion for the time being. Considered ways we could possibly assist certain church members who don't have a Lay Pastor with a need, if/when one might arise.

March Meeting: Discussed expanding our ministry with the purchase of a new book from Stephen Ministries entitled, Cancer, Now What?, a practical and spiritual guide for members and their families who are diagnosed with/touched by cancer. Approved the ordering of one copy to review at our April meeting. Voted to apply for a money grant from the Endowment Trust Fund and to determine amount to be requested at the next meeting.

April Meeting: Used worksheet to figure amount needed to cover 2017 ministry costs and completed the application letter for submission to the Endowment Trust Fund. Reviewed copy of the Cancer guide, Cancer, Now What? Voted unanimously to order six more copies, provided we receive monies from the Endowment Trust Fund to cover the expense. Another exciting new ministry called, 'CareNotes' (Abbey Press), previously approved by the committee and purchased with the remaining balance of our prior Trust Fund grant, was ordered in March and presented to our group at this meeting. It will be introduced to the congregation at the May 7th church service.

During this quarter, seven 'Journeying through Grief' support books were sent out to members who have lost loved ones in the past year: Five books in February, one in March, and one in April.

Our committee is hopeful that the Endowment Trust Fund will grant our application to cover the on-going costs of those ministries that are functioning successfully, as well as our new ministries being introduced this year. As in the past and as always in moving forward, the Lay Ministry Committee's primary goal remains to serve this congregation at Lompoc FUMC, providing spiritual comfort and support through our Lay Pastors, whenever and wherever there is a need for us and for as long as we are needed.

Anne A., Lay Ministry Chair

MISSION OUTREACH

January	City of Promise	\$1,420.00
February	Mercy Ship	\$1,087.00
March	UMCOR	<u>\$1,060.00</u>
Total		\$3,567.00

Submitted by Royce S., co-chair

STAFF PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Members, Liaison for in (): Gary B., Sr. – Chair (Pastor Kathleen), Mary H. (Connie L. Aguilera), Betty S. (Kathleen Hacker); Jim K. (Enrique Aguilera-Gardener), Donna W. (Sam de St. Jean), Glenna Y. (Lynda LaCombe), Alexa L. (Connie M. Aguilera), Dorian H. (Rachel Mello), Jim O. (Enrique/Henry Aguilera-Custodian).

SPRC held its meeting on Tuesday, March 7th at 4:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room. After Pastor Kathleen's opening prayer, the minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved.

Our current information was updated and Glenna Y. reported that "Thank you Notes" were sent to our three outgoing members of the committee. A list of staff birthday dates was passed out.

Jim K., Gary B., and Pastor Kathleen shared the information we received at the District Leadership Training Workshops in San Luis Obispo. A series of questions were raised and discussed about our Guidelines Booklet.

Pastor Kathleen gave us an update on the progress on her 2017 goals. Important upcoming dates were shared. Liaison reports were given. Information on evaluation forms for Pastor Kathleen will be presented at our next meeting (Tuesday, May 2nd.) Betty S. closed the meeting with our 805 prayer.

Gary B., Sr.,
Chairperson

UNITED METHODIST MEN

January 2017:

- Installations of officers went well and starting out the new year. Received donations from three households for the March Parking Lot Sale. More donations to follow. Remove old refrigerator from storage, disposed of it. Started Sweetheart's dinner planning, worked out details, confirmed date and time. Selected our Sweetheart, Connie Aguilera, for her work throughout the year.

February 2017:

- Received donations toward the Valentine's Day dinner. Purchased corsage for the Sweetheart, provided decorations for the dinner festivities and purchased the dinner for the honoree. Received donations from three households for the March Parking Lot Sale with more donations to follow.

March 2017:

- Prepared for the March Parking Lot Sale. More donations were accepted. Held the Parking Lot Sale and had a great turnout. Proceeds will be in the UMM budget for distribution throughout needy organizations

Rex L., Secretary

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Lompoc's United Methodist Women has had a busy 2017 first quarter with the highlight being our once-again successful Chili/Bake Sale. Over \$500 was raised that will be used to help women, children, and youth, both in our community and around the world.

Our membership is holding at 50 women. We have added three members, but unfortunately lost three through either moving away or death. New membership directories have been completed and are being distributed, and we thank our Church secretary, Sam, for helping to make this possible. As President, I pray that we could reach more of the women in our Church, and we will be undergoing an evaluation of how we could accomplish this.

In closing, we thank Pastor Kathleen and "friends" who will be leading us in our 2nd women's spiritual retreat to be held April 28-29. The focus will be on the book of Ruth and on women of strength.

Lompoc United Methodist Women are **WOMEN ON A MISSION.**

Prayerfully submitted,
Donna W., President

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The Worship Committee has not met since the last Quarterly Conference. However, that does not mean that we have not been present in the life of our church! On the contrary, we have just been through the Season of Lent and are now into Easter, two of the busiest times in the calendar year. Since the last QC, the Worship Committee has helped to plan and oversee the following:

1. Shrove Tuesday – The Youth Group and their adult leaders provided a wonderful Pancake Supper. Much fun was had by all who attended.
2. Ash Wednesday – Imposition of Ashes as we began the Season of Lent
3. Palm Sunday – Palms decorated the Sanctuary as we recalled Jesus' triumphal entrance into Jerusalem
4. Maundy Thursday – communion service to commemorate the Last Supper
5. Good Friday – Solemn service remembering the crucifixion of Jesus
Easter Sunday – joyous service with trumpets, trombones, lilies and a gorgeous flower cross, celebrating Christ's resurrection from the dead

In addition to leading all these services, Pastor Kathleen was also available for individual communion at 6:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. all during Holy Week. Kathleen Hacker, Rachel Mello and the Chancel Choir were all on hand for these services to ensure that our music program is still "First" in the Lompoc Valley. It was a very busy season but a very meaningful one as well.

The next meeting of the Worship Committee will be on May 8 at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra L., Chair

PASTOR'S REPORT

“Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: ‘I have seen the Lord!’”
— John 20:18a

As we move through the “Great 50 Days of Easter”, may we mirror Mary Magdalene’s excitement about the Risen Christ and tell others the news about resurrection and what God is doing in our lives. May we know all the blessings of Easter and live as people of the Resurrection.

In times of Worship together — We started off 2017 with “Living FEARLESSly”, exploring what God means the many times in Scripture when we read, “Do not be afraid.” On February 5, we celebrated “Souper Bowl” Sunday, by collecting cans of soup and by singing “Drop Kick Me, Jesus, Through the Goal Posts of Life”, led by my friend, Mark Uthus. Lent began with an Ash Wednesday evening service and the start of our Lenten theme — “Broken (& Restored in Christ).” We considered broken hearts, bread, vessel, trust, promises, justice, majesty, curtain and seal. As we move into spring and summer now, we will be focusing on the “I AM” sayings of Jesus, how they reveal who Jesus is and why he came. In March, we celebrated Girl Scout Sunday and were blessed to have some of the Girl Scouts from the two troops that meet at our church every Friday (and they got the chance to sell Girl Scout cookies!) During Lent, the Sacrament of Holy Communion was served at the altar rail. For Holy Week, Communion was offered, along with a time for prayer, in the morning and mid-day. Special services for Palm/Passion Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday were very meaningful, with special music and prayer station experiences. Many people commented on the hand-washing experience on Maundy Thursday and again hammering nails into a wooden cross for Good Friday. The Good Friday Prayer Vigil had 31 people praying — at home, work or in the Sanctuary — as we recalled the last three hours that Jesus endured on the cross.

And then we came to the great celebration of Easter. I had the privilege of preaching at the Community Easter Sunrise Service, out at La Purisima Mission, as Mary Magdalene. Then Worship in the beauty of our sanctuary, filled with lilies. I thought our Easter Flower cross was particularly beautiful this year — so many colors and blooms! Another highlight of Worship was the incredible brass ensemble, — special thanks to Forrest and Greg Stoll, Cory Carlson and Stephanie Fernandez Sanchez. It was a joy to have the delicious Easter Brunch after Worship as well as the fun of the Easter Egg Hunt. My thanks to Family Ministries and to the Sunday School for coordinating those special events. My thanks also to the Choir, Kathleen Hacker, Rachel Mello and the Worship Committee and many others for making Easter so wonderful.

In times of Coming Together and Serving and Learning together —

We gathered for fellowship and fun with the Sweetheart Valentine’s Day dinner. Just before Lent, we had our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper Gathering, Also there was a St. Patrick’s Day dinner and a yummy potluck and a movie (“War Room”). Another potluck and a movie (with the movie “Max”) are coming up in May. United Methodist Men sponsored a guest speaker, Mayor Lingl, for a special program. I really appreciated his willingness to answer any question at the end of the program. Each month, “Feed the Hungry” gives me the opportunity to reach out to our community in very practical ways. My thanks to Larry H. for his dedicated coordination of this.

Messy Church: Our Winter Messy Church was on Sunday, January 29, with the theme of winter fun and of God’s love. It was lots of fun. Our Spring Messy Church was March 26, with the theme of “Surprise! Jesus is Alive”, celebrating Easter and resurrection! Larry, our Science Guy, amazed us with suddenly overflowing bottles! Messy Church is reaching out to families and to children and we are seeing more children and families in

Sunday worship. This summer, there will be a Messy Church for each of the summer months — June, July, and August — instead of a more traditional Vacation Bible School. We want to keep the success of this ministry going. We will be using last year's VBS theme, curriculum and supplies as the foundation for summer Messy Church.

Bible Study — I led two Lenten studies on “24 Hours that Changed the World” with a daytime and an evening option. 15-17 people participated and we learned a great deal about the Last Supper, the trials and betrayals of Jesus, and the time on the cross. My thanks especially to Kara and George D. for hosting the evening study in their home (and to all who provided delicious desserts each week.)

Bible Memory Verse — More than ten of our Sunday School children memorized John 3:16 prior to Easter Sunday. After Worship on Sunday, April 23, they were treated to lunch at McDonalds! I am very proud of them! (and my thanks to parents, grandparents, Lynda LaCombe, and Michelle B. for working with them.)

New Members — will be received next Sunday, April 30.

Memorial Service — I performed one memorial and graveside service for Jeanette G., a member of the Lompoc community.

Beyond the Local Church — I participate in the Central Coast United Methodist Clergy Cluster meetings and in the Lompoc Interfaith Alliance.

Upcoming!

Spring Women's Retreat — “**Brave. Bold. Blessed.**” is the retreat title for this coming weekend. We will be exploring the book of Ruth together to see what her experience has to say to us today.

I am excited with what is coming together for this 2nd annual women's retreat.

Annual Conference — will be at the University of Redlands from June 14 to 17. This will be our first Annual Conference gathering with Bishop Grant Hagiya.

Summer Messy Church — the dates are June 25, July 16 and August 6. If you have not had the opportunity to check out or to serve at Messy Church, you are invited to participate sometime this summer! Come find out what fun we are having!

Please keep me and our church in your prayers! Let us live as Easter people!
Blessings! *Pastor Kathleen*

***Gracious God, thank you for the
First United Methodist Church of Lompoc.
Our future is in your hands.
We pray for your Spirit to break through.
Break through our fears.
Break through the obstacles.
Break through those things that keep us from
being the church that you intend us to be.
May we step forward in faith and in hope,
to be a beacon of light and life in our
community. In Jesus' name. Amen.***