



### Admin Board Meeting

9/25/2023

### North Campus Choir Room

Ron Hoover opened at 7:00 with a brief introduction on the many wonderful and exciting activities at Due West that Rob is currently involved with. Some of those activities include Disciple Bible Study, Men's Group, Missions, Habitat House, and Backpack Lunches, and many years as a Sunday School Teacher. Ron followed with a devotional titled: **Opportunities to Voice our Faith**

Shared a story about having lunch with an Olympic athlete, Jim Ryun, who was from his hometown, but they had never met. This athlete was the first high school student to break the 4-minute mile. As a junior he ran the mile in 3:59.0. As a senior, he set the US record. Two years later he broke the world record twice. In the 1968 Summer Olympics he won the silver medal in the 1500 meter. In the 1972 Olympics, he fell on the track and did not qualify. Believing he was fouled; the US team filed a protest. One man made the decision. He said that while the video showed that Jim had been fouled, they could not let him run again. It would set a dangerous precedent for the Olympics. He returned home angry, feeling that he had been cheated. He and his wife accepted Christ 2 months before the Olympics. During his time of study, he heard the Lord say, Jim you have a decision to make. You can wallow in self-pity for the rest of your life or forgive the man and move on. This is what he did. There was no lightning, no thunder, no earthquake, but in his heart, he knew that he had forgiven the man. At the luncheon on August 8, 1987, he shared his story of how accepting Christ provided the tools needed to voice his faith as opposed to sharing his accomplishments as an athlete.

Ross Olhausen followed with opening prayer at 7:15

Approval for August 28<sup>th</sup> meeting was done electronically.

### Ministry Area Reports

#### Trustees – Robert Mooney / Not Present: Shared by Ron Hoover

- Working on disaffiliation checklist i.e.: removal of cross and flame steeple. We are working with ADE builders, original builders to have the flame cut off and leave the cross. We have started "walking the property" making notes of other UMC references that need to be removed. If you see something, please take a picture, and send it along with the location to [Trustees@duewest.org](mailto:Trustees@duewest.org)
- Prepping furnaces for winter
- Repairing wooden/cross tie stairs leading from the large field down to the pavilion in preparation for Light the Night

### Finance – Darren Frost

- 2023-2024 (Aug): \$ 123,424 in giving and \$175,241 in expenses.
- 2023-2024 (YTD): \$ 294,320 in giving and \$321,121 in expenses.
- Searching for new accounting firm
- Praying to maintain the status quo with mortgage rate as we work toward transition.

### Alicia Iles – Children’s Ministries / Not present but shared her report

- All dwKids were promoted up a level in August and we had a big celebration.
- We partnered with weekday preschool and had donuts and gift bags for families when they came for preschool Sunday.
- dwCrew started back in August and we are having a great time.
- On Homecoming Sunday, we served the children a pancake breakfast and played games to celebrate.

#### **Upcoming:**

- 3rd grade Bibles will be distributed on October 8 during the 11:00 service.
- The Family Advent celebration will immediately follow the Hanging of the Greens service on December 3 and will coincide with the lighting of the lights.
- dwCrew Christmas party will be December 10 at Big Air

### Pre-School – Shelly Kubek

- Preschool Sunday was a huge success. We had over 50 families come to 11am service. We celebrate Karen Coffeen dedication to our school with Karen Coffeen award. Nancy Alferia was our first recipient.
- We have 195 students this year. We are on fall break this week.
- The playground had to have a new drainage added. It was \$2500.00 and the preschool board approved it
- Holiday Market is Nov 4th 9am - 2pm in FLC.
- We will start tours for next year in October, but registration will not be until January 2024
- We start the School of Excellent recertification process. It must be completed by February 2024
- Special project prayer book for Pre-K families

### Youth Ministries- Lora Parker-Gayler

- Good start to the year
- Start talking up the Pumpkin Patch
- Huge fundraiser for Youth Ministries. Funds support many activities that will not affect the church budget.
- Encourage friends and family to sign up and work at this annual event!
- Welcome Delaney – New youth staff member!!

### College Ministries – Michelle Zerkle / Bree Collins – Not present

- Mailing coming soon.

### Adult Education – Marianna Drinkard / Not present but provided report.

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
S.S.:	7,552	4,434	4,230
Sm Grp:	548	2,240	3,094
Total:	8,100	6,470	7,324

- Comparing totals for 2019, 2022, and 2023, [Jan-Sept]: overall numbers are increasing back to pre-Covid levels, but the distribution is vastly different.
- Even though S.S. numbers are about 50% less, small groups have increased 200% since 2019.
- We have at least 4 new small groups that are beginning this fall, so the outreach is increasing, even with short-term small groups being a part of the mixture.....or maybe the short-term groups are what are increasing participation?

### **Women's Ministries – Kerri Casteel**

- Women's fall kick off was a good turnout. We ended up with 21 women, several walk-ins, and several new faces. Taylor did a great job teaching us how to make clay pumpkins!
- Beauty of Fellowship starts back up from summer break Tuesday night. We are meeting at my house for a fire, devotion, information on what our next 8 months will look like and share mission projects and close with caramel apples and fellowship.
- Women of Joy Conference is October 13-15, and we have 10 women attending. This year's theme is Sacred Rest.
- Single Moms Ministry starts up in October. We have about 5 women who are planning on attending at this point. We will serve them dinner, have a devotion, talk about resources for them and fellowship. We provide journals.
- Cookies with Santa on December 2nd. We have roughly 14 families and 32 kids, but this number could change. We are in need of adult volunteers to help out. We are also in need of Sunday School classes and small groups to donate gifts for the children.
- Women's Christmas brunch speaker and caterer have been secured. We are planning on about 80 women again this year.
- Women's March Stay-Retreat planning is underway.

### **Bill Coffeen – Legacy / Not present but provided report**

- An Estate and Tax Planning Workshop will be held on October 28 from 2-4pm in room C242. The focus is on all the ways members can give generously to the church and avoid paying income or capital gains taxes.
- The Legacy Ministry committee will be executing new endowment investment agreements (after November 18) with the Georgia Methodist Foundation to transfer funds from DWUMC to Due West Methodist church. Appropriate changes to our operating agreements and our web page will be completed by November 30.

### **Methodist Men – Larry Sago**

- BBQ Fundraiser
- Firearms and Fellowships - 3rd Thursdays
- Habitat Build Update / Dedication is this Sunday.
- Backpack Lunches (Clarksdale & Frey ES)
- Murphy Harpst Fundraiser Dinner - Oct 21st
- Turkey Fundraiser - Nov 20th
- Light the Night – December
- This year's Christmas lights will be less secular with focus on the meaning of Christmas.
  - Enhanced nativity
  - High School Choir

## **Music Ministries – Christine Salazar**

### **Recap**

- Freedom Sunday
- Handbell Workshop – 5-6 churches participated.
- Homecoming – Huge Success
- Morning of Worship – All about the fellowship with Christ
- CFA: “Spelling Bee” & “Seussical”

### **Looking Ahead**

- Messiah Singalong/WCCC
- CFA’s “Finding Nemo” 3<sup>rd</sup> week in November – tickets go on sale mid-November.

## **Mission/Evangelism – Judy Davis / Mark Hellman**

- Fall coat drive continues: toddler through adult; gloves, scarves, and coats. Ends October 8th.
- Murphy-Harpst coordinator needed for Christmas gift drive. Contact Millie Skinner. Easy peasy.
- Operation Christmas Child begins October 8th-November 12th.
- Angel Trees: Murphy Harpst and CC school to be determined,
- Food pantry list updated.
- Costa Rica team is on the ground working hard.
- Missions Committee forming. Sent survey to small groups on who might be interested in participating.

## **Media Ministries – Matt Boullain**

- New Intern: Hailey
- Working on rebranding effort with graphics and wording on website
- At the time of me writing this, I had uploaded approximately 25,000 pictures from Homecoming files to SmugMug. With still more to go.....
- Wanting to build up a larger roster of media team volunteers, we currently have 6 people who can consistently help. Makes having a rotation for vacations, fatigue, or other situations very difficult. Please let friends and family know!
- Plans to rework/fix the lighting system, upgrade the cameras, and replace the projectors in Bldg. A

## **Staff Parish Relations – Dusty Cantrell / Not present**

- Nothing to report.

## **Stewardship – Monty Allen**

Tentative date for Consecration Sunday is Nov. 26

- Follows Nov. 18 NG Annual Conf vote on Disaffiliation.
- Sunday after Thanksgiving, traditionally beginning a period of focus on Christ and a “return to church.”
- Depending on progress, may seek gifts for Disaffiliation expenses in addition to regular tithes.
- Exploring a “theme” for Stewardship campaign, perhaps combining our 50-year Methodist tradition of ministering to our community while embarking on a bold new path of service and evangelism

**Director of Discipleship – Sam Gindlesberger**

- Busy Summer!
- Bonfire Meetings and Outreach
- Young Families Pop-up event
- God and Life
- Class Meetings
- Trunk or Treat – October 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - Need candy donations.
  - Good feedback
  - Volunteers filled by local HS students.

**New and Upcoming Groups**

- Disciple 2 Fast Track – Sign up available.
- Better Days; Mental Health Support Group
- Small Group Launchpad!

**Disaffiliation Timeline – Eddie Fletcher**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Description</b>
Special NGC Church Conference Nov 18	Conference must approve Disaffiliation
End of Month November Disaffiliation	Disaffiliation completion subject to .... Make payment on Nov 30.
Dec 1, 2023	Entity Change to Due West Methodist, Inc
Dec 30, 2023	All Tasks Must be Completed!!!
End of Jan 2024	Conference has till the end of Jan to Release Us from the Trust Clause

**Disaffiliation Task Status – Eddie Fletcher**

- Legal Documents Are in Work
- Record Collections Are Well Under Way
- Planning for Physical Changes are In Work
- Ripple Effect of Name Change and Disassociation Being l'd
- Spreadsheets Have Been Developed to Track Completion

**“Everyone, Read the Disaffiliation Contract, Please”!!**

## Disaffiliation Task Centers – Eddie Fletcher

<b>Tasks</b>	<b>Team</b>
Property/Legal	Mark/Robert/Leilia/Amber
Media/Preschool/Sponsorships	Matt/Denise/Shelly/Bill C
Finance/Mortgage/Endowment	Darren/Lew/Amber/Bill C/Monty
Governance	Ron/Ross
Records/Worship	Butch/Matt/Denise/Cindy
Contract	Ross/Eddie
Standards of Conduct	David
SPRC	David/Dusty

### New Business – Ross Olhausen

#### What's Next / Where Do We Land

It was suggested that Due West remain an independent church for the next 6-12 months. Too many unanswered questions about the GMC to consider this option. Need to flush out the financial implications before moving forward. During the 6 to 12-month time period, Due West will continue to investigate future options.

There was a motion to vote on recommending to the congregation to stay independent until all uncertainties can be flushed out. Motion was approved.

**Next Meeting – October 23, 7:00pm**

#### Pastor Report

- David was not available due to illness.

**Closing prayer from Ron Hoover at 8:45**

# Attendance

Eddie Fletcher

Robert Mitchell

Lora Parker-Gaylor

Kerri Casteel

Butch Gaudette

Darren Frost

Larry Sago

Shelly Kubek

Fritz Hutchinson Jr.

Jane Swanson

Ron Hoover

Ross Olhausen

Tammy Teague

Terri Kilpatrick

Dusty Cantrell

Matthew Boullain

Sam Gindlesberger

Monty Allen

Judy Davis

Cathy Purswell

Corky Klann

Leila Klann

Alison Hilbig