



**Church Council Meeting**  
**April 4, 2017**  
**Cascade United Methodist Church**  
**Atlanta, GA**

<p><b>Call to Order</b></p>	<p>Howard Grant called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM</p>
<p><b>Approval of Minutes</b></p> <p><b>Division Reports</b></p>	<p>Howard introduced himself as Church Council Chairman and shared information about his history with Methodism and his excitement about serving.</p> <p>We did not approve the minutes from the February Church Council meeting. It will be done at the next meeting and copies will be placed on the bookcase.</p> <p><b>Nurture Division</b> – <i>MaryAnn Johnson</i>, reporting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Christian Education</i> –Church-wide Lenten Bible Study-ongoing; Plans for other 2nd quarter events now in committee.</li> <li>• <i>Discipleship</i> – New Members’ Orientation on Saturday, April 15; Confirmation on April 16 – Easter Sunday</li> <li>• <i>Health &amp; Wellness Ministry</i>– April-CPR training, dates TBA; Information/Awareness table for Distracted Driving Awareness Month May-Information/Awareness table for Older American Awareness Month; June-Info/Awareness table for summer safety</li> <li>• <i>Resurrection Ministry</i> – Continuation of GriefShare Sessions - Thursdays, Continuation of Sessions for Partners Against Domestic Violence.</li> <li>• <i>Prayer Ministry</i>- Weekly intercessory prayer and monthly leadership prayer meetings (ongoing).</li> <li>• <i>Caregiver Ministry</i>- Quarterly Visits to sick &amp; shut in south Atlanta areas on Saturday, April 8.</li> <li>• <i>Stewardship Ministry</i>- Post-Ministry Expo Follow-up is set for Saturday, April 8, 2017 9:00 am - noon</li> </ul> <p>No action items for this division.</p> <p>There was a request that SPRC be added on the agenda. The motion was made by Tiffany Brown as requested from members and seconded by Darren Boykin.</p> <p><b>Witness</b> – <i>Jeannette Ellison</i>, reporting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>United Methodist Women</i>: 04/10/17 Members will collaborate with Tryphenia Speed, NGAC UMW President and Rev. Elaine Crawford in a UMW Clark-Atlanta Women Spirit Celebration. 04/22/17 Monthly Meeting and Mission Study, Patricia Bell, facilitating.</li> <li>• <i>United Methodist Men</i>: 05/13/17 Monthly Breakfast Meeting; working and finalizing plans for Men’s Focus Week in June.</li> <li>• <i>Torchbearers</i>: 04/08/17 Monthly Meeting: speaker from Kaiser to share Health Tips. 04/27-30/17 Torchbearers’ DC Trip to National Museum of African American History &amp; Culture. 05/27/17 Prayer Breakfast. 05/28/17 Older Adult Sunday Service</li> <li>• <i>Veterans</i>: 04/15/17 Cook and provide security for Children’s Easter Egg Hunt. 05/20/17 Cook in collaboration with Homeless Ministry at Peachtree and Pine Street. 05/20/17 Participate in Cat Fish Rodeo at Sweetwater Creek State Park.</li> <li>• <i>Singles</i>: 04/17 Host a Singles Night Out Salsa Class</li> </ul>

No action items for this division.

**Worship** – *Diane King*, reporting

Upcoming events include:

- Palm Sunday | April 9 | 8 am & 11:15 am Worship Services (Youth Confirmation - 11:15 am)
- Resurrection Sunday | April 16 | 8 AM & 11:15 am
- “Sunday Morning” | YPD and Christian Education Program – 11:15am
- April 14 – Good Friday
- Seven Last Words Worship Service | Noon
- Wedding Expo | April 30 | 9:30 am – 3:00 pm

No action items for this division.

**Lay Leader** – *Cyde Creagh*, reporting

- Lay Leader Planning Retreat – moved to 2Q17
- Every Lay Leader will be a Lay Servant (Michael Guion, Thomas Goines and Camille Garden)
- Increase Communication with Monthly Messenger Article and Quarterly web site content 2Q17
- Will implement the VOICE Ministry Leadership Model-Lay Leaders available to deliver VOICE presentation or workshop as needed
- The Focus on 3 groups this year: Youth and Young People, New members (less than 2 years) and Disaffected members
- Update parking lot banners
- Continue service at Arbor Terrace

No action items for this division.

**Finance** – *Lucius Williams*, reporting

Church Revenues have been in a decline since the beginning of 2017. We only have about 1789 giving units with church population of about 6500. Some tough decisions are in order. Recommendation is to reduce the budget in the following areas: SPPRC Administrative, Trustees, and Finance.

There was motion by Tiffany Brown and seconded by Sharmeen Hawkins that we vote to reduce the budget by \$250,000 to affect the budget shortfall. There was some discussion but the motion passed.

**Board of Trustees** – *Sharmeen Hawkins*, reporting

The following projects that are completed or on track to be completed:

1. HVAC Upgrade – Complete 5/31
2. Technology Update – Complete 5/15
3. Skylight Removal/ Replacement
4. Lighting Panel Replacement
5. Sanctuary Refresh – Pews & Altar Rails
6. Asset Inventory – Saturday 5/20
7. Vendor Contract Review – Ongoing

No action items for this group.

	<p><b>Staff, Pastor-Parish Relations Committee (SPPRC) – Kelvin McDuffie</b>, reporting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SPPRC will acknowledge the staff on April 26 - Administrative Professional’s Day</li> <li>• Kelvin restated the announcement that was made on Sunday, April 2 regarding pastoral appointments. Pastors Gross and King will remain at Cascade. Pastor Lavell Sanders will join them. Pastors Young and Pittman have been appointed to serve at churches in the Atlanta Decatur Oxford District. He also reiterated that pastors are appointed serve one year at a time per paragraph 258 in the <i>Book of Discipline</i>. Pastor Young commented that SPPRC should answer questions about the reassignment due to collaboration with the District Superintendent. After he left the meeting, attendees engaged in a lively discussion about this change and expressed the concerns they have.</li> </ul> <p>No action items for this committee.</p> <p><b>Outreach – Suzanne Burks</b>, reporting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Did not do a full report; however, Suzanne made an appeal for a volunteer to serve as chair of our Evangelism Ministry.</li> </ul> <p>No action items for this division.</p>
<b>Adjourn</b>	<p>Pastor Gross reiterated that Elders in Full Connection take a vow when they are ordained to “Go where they are sent” and appointments are made one year at a time. She led the remaining members in prayer before Howard Grant adjourned the meeting at 9:30 PM.</p>

Submitted by Dr. Tiffany Brown