

Leadership Team  
Minutes 10/3/23

Attendance:

Pastor Dennis Carter  
Kline Kelly  
Penny Swift-Kelly  
Janice Black  
Mason May  
Kregg Clarke  
Alice Robson  
Anita Hoffhines (Teams)  
Jason Maisog  
Roberta Waymaster

Team leader Kline Kelly called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

During the check in portion, members were asked to keep Linda Davis, Lesa Houston, Judy Gebhardt and the youth group in their prayers.

Kline opened the meeting with prayer.

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed. Alice Robson moved to approve the minutes. Mason May seconded and the motion passed.

The church calendar was reviewed by the team. The youth group will attend a Mercy Me concert on Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>. Pastor Dennis Carter will be gone Oct 18 – 23. The potluck dinner listed on Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> is incorrect. There will be one potluck in October on the 29<sup>th</sup>. The choir will practice on Wednesday Oct 4<sup>th</sup> – not Oct 5<sup>th</sup>. The Men's Encounter will meet on Oct 5<sup>th</sup> – not Oct 6<sup>th</sup>. Upcoming events include the annual Soup Supper on Nov 7<sup>th</sup> and the provisional annual conference will be held Nov 2 – 4. The leadership team meeting will be one week later on Nov 14<sup>th</sup> due to the annual soup supper.

The team discussed the church vision. Some areas within the church that need to be lifted up and supported include the Sunday school classes, Kids of the Kingdom and the youth. All of these ministries need more teachers and volunteers as the groups grow. It was suggested to have a volunteer recognition during services some time.

Anita Hoffhines updated the team on the replacement/removal of the church signs. The digital sign proof was sent to her. She returned it with corrections. The design for the vinyl van signs was sent to the company. Roger McCaulley has submitted a revised design for the office sign. Murray Marston will see about using the fire department bucket truck to remove the cross and flame on the church. He will also update the signs on the roads into Ellsworth.

Pastor Carter has been asked to do an interview with the Ellsworth Independent-Reporter newspaper about the church disaffiliation from the United Methodist Church. Some team members thought it would be good to do it. Others expressed concern as to how the story would portray the decision. It was decided to have Pastor Carter contact a representative of the Global Methodist Church to do the interview instead.

Leadership Team  
Minutes 10/3/23

Pastor Carter announced that the Ellsworth Methodist Church is now part of the Heartland Provisional Annual Conference of the Global Methodist Church. The conference covers Colorado, Kansas Missouri, Nebraska and Oklahoma. There are 15 districts in the conference. The Ellsworth church is in the NW Kansas District with 12 other churches. The district presiding elder is Craig Atkinson. The churches within the Heartland Provisional Annual Conference are:

Sharon Springs Methodist Church	Lucas Methodist Church
Kanarado Methodist Church	Luray Methodist Church
Brewster Methodist Church	Offerle Community Church
Quinter Methodist Church	Long Island Methodist Church
Otterbein Methodist Church	Stockton Methodist Church
Ellsworth Methodist Church	Pleasant Plains Methodist Church
Kanopolis Methodist Church	

The Heartland Provisional Annual Conference will be held Nov 2 -4 at the Pathway Church Westlink Campus, 2001 N. Maize Rd, Wichita, KS. Workshops will be offered on Friday Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>. The ordination service will be Saturday Nov 4<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 to 11:30 am. Pastor Carter will be ordained as an ordained elder during the service. The evening worship services and the ordination service are open to all who would like to attend. Information regarding the conference is available online at [www.heartlandgmc.org](http://www.heartlandgmc.org).

The team asked Pastor Carter if the church will have a charge conference with the presiding elder. He will contact Mr. Atkinson to gather more information.

Mr. Atkinson did meet with Pastor Carter in Ellsworth last week. They discussed a list of questions Pastor Carter had prepared. The district theme will be "Make every home a light house." This will be similar to the Neighboring movement of the UMC. Pastor Carter will be attending another meeting with Mr. Atkinson and will be have more information for the church at that time.

Team Reports:

Pastor's Report: Pastor Carter will be participating in the Brothers in Blue program. He will continue to cover the book of Ephesians in his sermon series. The Generosity Challenge stewardship campaign will begin Oct 29<sup>th</sup>. The ministerial alliance will serve a thanksgiving meal on Thanksgiving day and will be asking for food donations again.

Church Secretary: No report.

Communications & Technology: Anita reported that the team is working on problems with the sound on Facebook Live. They are trying to isolate the problem, but believe it is an issue with the pastor's microphone.

Anita also asked if the church had receive the property deeds from the Great Plains Conference yet. The church has not at this time.

Congregational Care Team: Two new members will join the team – E.D. and Joni Law. E.D. will also be the chaplain at the Good Samaritan facility. The team continues to visit Prairie West monthly for devotions.

Negotiations: The team has been meeting and working on filling the team rosters for 2024. They plan to complete the rosters by the end of October.

Leadership Team  
Minutes 10/3/23

**Education:** Alice said they still need some teachers for Sunday school and Kids of the Kingdom. The team has discussed ways to recognize the volunteers. The team and others groups use the Remind app to contact people regarding Kids of the Kingdom, choir and the fellowships. The app needed to be updated due to the new office computer, but uses the eagelcom.net Email address. This address is no longer functional. Jason Maisog said he could probably help restore the app and will talk with Lesa.

**Ellsworth Methodist Women:** The executive committee met. They set a budget for 2024 and were excited to be able to increase the budget by \$1000. They were able to include a line item for a nursery worker.

**Finance and Stewardship:** Roberta Waymaster has distributed the 2024 budget request forms to the team leaders. The stewardship campaign will run from Oct 29<sup>th</sup> to Nov 19<sup>th</sup>. A celebration dinner will follow services on Nov 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Missions/Evangelism:** The team is looking at Christmas ornaments. The team also had sent cards of appreciation to volunteers in the past and could possibly start again.

**SPPR:** The team met. The team gave Pastor Carter and Betty a pastor's appreciation card and gift.

**Trustees:** The team is working on getting quotes for insurance. They approved 2 requests to use the church basement. A small repair job was completed at the parsonage to prevent birds from nesting in the dryer exhaust vent. The team received a repair request for the church elevator. The door needs repairs.

**Ellsworth Methodist Men:** They will finish up their RightNow Media study on the book of Romans. Mason reminded Jason that the men are willing to help the youth with trip expenses if necessary.

**Worship:** The team will welcome Amy Fosdick as a new member. There has been a good turnout for the choir rehearsals. The team changed the doxology and would welcome any feedback from the teams and congregation. Janice Black said she had heard on positive response. The musicians would like to use more contemporary music in worship, but face some licensing issues when services are broadcast on Facebook and YouTube. They are looking into what can be done.

**Youth:** Jason reported they will be taking 12 youth and 4 adults to the Mercy Me concert in Wichita. The kids are asked to put in some money to help pay for the trips. When purchasing the tickets, the price was listed as \$49, but the added fees doubled the price of each ticket. This makes it difficult to afford trips like this. The youth appreciate the support of the church and other organizations that help with the costs. The youth will be participating in the Fields of Faith event. The youth members moved their furniture and items into the choir room in the church basement. This may not be the permanent meeting space, but works well at this time. There were 19 youth at the last meeting. Having more space will allow the leaders to break out into smaller groups during meetings. Jason is working on profile cards to help develop a partnership program with the congregation.

Leadership Team  
Minutes 10/3/23

In other business, Pastor Carter said he had been approached about the church buying the vacant Mosaic building next to the church. The team is interested in exploring this option. He told the person to talk to the realtors and let him know the details. He will report back on this topic at the next leadership meeting.

The next meeting of the leadership team will be Nov 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. The meeting was postponed one week due to the soup supper.

Pastor Carter closed the meeting with prayer. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.