

Grand Ave UMC Administrative Council Meeting

October 8, 2026 – 7:00 pm

Member	Present	Member	Present
Jerry Cho, Pastor	✓	Jan Young, Treasurer	✓
Mark Grams, Ad Council Chair	✓	Sandy Grams, SPRC Chair	✓
Stacy Peters, Ad Council Secretary	✓	Bob Graff, Trustee Chair	✓
Dan Benning, Finance Chair & Lay Leader	✓	Jeff Killey, Church & Society	✓
Vacant, Financial Recording Sec		Sue Merrill, Member at Large	✓

Pastor Jerry started the meeting at 7:03 pm with an opening prayer.

Approval of the September Minutes – Dan motioned to approve the minutes, and Jeff seconded; motion carried.

Monthly Finance Report - Jan:

- September income was well above budget due, mostly, to checks that arrived in August but weren't deposited until September. Plate (general) income was 25% over budget for the same reason.
- Expenses were 12% below budget and as a result, we ended up with \$150 more income than expense for the month.
- The renters made no payment in September. They continue to owe \$150 for August and now owe \$1800 each for September and October.

2027 Church Budget - Dan

- Dan walked through the draft budget.
- Income is only an estimate until Pledge Sunday on Sunday, October 18.

Charge Conference, November 8th (2026 Church Conference Forms) – Reminder of the conference on Nov 8th and forms are due Oct. 30th and needed for our Conference packet.

SPRC Report – Sandy

- Did Pastor Appreciation on Oct 4.
- Stacy is out of town Oct 15-20 and will send an email to the congregation with her adjusted office hours for those 2 weeks.

Trustees Report - Bob:

- Bob signed the 2 snowplowing & shoveling contracts and will get Stacy a copy.
- Sheboygan Glass came Fri Oct 2 to verify some things on the backdoor with a few techs
- Dan reported we did not get the FEMA security grant we applied for but we can reapply next year.

Ministry Programs - Church and Society Committee – Jeff:

- Met in Sept to come up with plan. They will be continuing the Faith & Fact cards, would like to host a community program, and will continue showing short videos on special giving Sundays.
- Plan to survey the congregation about who we are and what are our concerns.
- There is a Church & Society companion litany that is meant to be utilized during service.
- They are looking at doing social justice classes to discuss topics of interest.
- They named Cindy Cho as vice chair & Sandy Grams is now the minute taker.

Ministry Programs - Lighthouse Youth Ministry – Dan

- LH had a bonfire Cookout and Kickoff at GAUMC.
- They recently took in a Brewers game with free tickets and are doing the Pumpkin farm coming up.
- Giving Tuesday Fundraiser will be December 1st with a spaghetti dinner and silent auction as usual. GAUMC will be asking for donations to put together a Money Tree and basket for the silent auction.
- They will be doing a Duluth mission trip the 3rd week in June 2027.

Pastor's Report – Pastor Jerry

- Pastor Jerry shared a detailed monthly report via email (see email shared with Admin Council).
- There will be an ecumenical Thanksgiving & social at CTK on Nov 24th at 7pm.
- Pastor would like to bring two educational programs to Grand Avenue UMC: Alzheimer's Family Care (Speaker: Martin Schreiber, former Governor of Wisconsin and author of My Two Elaines) and Stroke Awareness & Prevention. Discussion was had on how best to do this. Church & Society meets next week Tuesday and can discuss further. Jan made a motion to let Church & Society figure out how best to do these and when, Dan seconded the motion. motion carried.

Staff Report – Stacy

- Pledge Sunday letters and cards were mailed out at the beginning of the month.
- We have now received quotes and contracts from our existing snow plowing and shoveling contractors. These have been forward to Bob to sign on behalf of Trustees.
- We recently had our fire inspection & fire extinguisher check – results given to Trustees.
- Reminder Stacy is on vacation Oct 15-20. She will email the congregation next week with a reminder of the adjusted office hours.

Other Business:

- Sue - Advent worship planning discussion. Coordination is need in setting up any special music and having people light the candles and do the readings. Would like to focus on families or small groups doing the candles/readings.
- Jeff - Committee to Examine Volunteerism and Possible Development of Survey: Committee is looking at applying available data, volunteerism, and a possible survey as

previously agreed to by the Ad Council. Rewriting the church's mission statement may be addressed by this group. They discussed shorter volunteer commitments as a way to get more people involved. Jeff shared a list of prospects for the open volunteer roles.

- Mary Kae Geittmann will be joining Admin Council as a member at large. Dan made a motion to add Mary Kae and Jan seconded it, motion carried.

Next meeting is November 12th at 7:00 pm via Zoom.

Pastor Jerry led the closing prayer.

Motion to adjourn made by Sandy, seconded by Jan; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:14 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Stacy Peters