

Grand Ave UMC Administrative Council Meeting

October 9, 2025 – 8:00 pm

Member	Present	Member	Present
Vince Pepin, 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	√
Kay Hamann, Financial Recording Sec	√	Sue Merrill, Member at Large	√

Dan started the meeting at 8:00 pm and Jeff shared Bishop Schwerin's Reflections of a Circuit Rider on immigration as the Opening Prayer.

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

Monthly Finance Report - Jan:

- Income:
 - September was another a good month with income well above budget.
 - We received one \$5,000 donation which will not recur. Were it not for that donation, our net gain would have been a loss.
 - We also received a \$5,000 contribution to the endowment fund. It is not counted as "income" in the chart above since it is balanced off by an identical liability.
 - The renters remain significantly behind.
- Expense:
 - Expenses for September were \$1,700 below budget.
 - We paid \$825 for the new hose bib on the north side of the church
 - The bill for repair of the boiler is still pending
 - We were helped by the mild weather. The bill for gas and electricity was \$415 less than budget.

Review First Draft of 2026 Church Budget – Dan

- Dan walked us through the adjustments made for 2026 and reasons why.
- Kay felt we should have an offering plate (not just the black box) for Christmas and Easter.
- Sue gave an update on the Craft Booth. They have agreed to no commission on the candy we sell, but we will pay 25% on everything else. We should adjust the budget to \$5,500 for this.
- Jan pointed out Capital Repairs needs to change to \$2,400 as we voted to double that expense.
- Expense estimates are up by \$5k for 2026.

Proposal To Install Narcan First Aid Cabinets – Jan

- Jan shared a proposal to install Narcan cabinets next to the AEDs. The cost for 2 cabinets plus supplies is \$464.
- Jan can write article for the newsletter asking for donations toward this effort.
- Jeff motioned to go ahead with this proposal and Kay seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Update on 2026 Nominations for Committees - Dan

- SPRC is down to Sandy & Bob right now. Trustees have a few people rotating off.
- Discussion was had about creating brief descriptions of the positions and duties to use to solicit volunteers in future. Can use in newsletters and bulletins.

Reminder of October 26th for Pledge Sunday – Pledge letters and cards will be mailed tomorrow Oct 10 if at all possible.

Completion of Charge Conference Tasks

- Stacy had shared a list of the reports we need to submit 10 days before the conference (Oct 31)
- Bob asked for a copy of last year's trustee report so can work with Dan to complete (Stacy will email it).

Trustees Report – Bob:

- Trustees are meeting this Sunday.
- Need to figure out snowplowing.
- J&H fixed the boiler bladder, capped the failed radiator in the narthex, fixed pump & airlock to get warmth back to the bathrooms, and fixed the separate heating zone to the kitchen so that ADRC can use and we can avoid heating Fellowship Hall when empty.
- Urinal in FAC needs a new valve. Dan put out of order sign on it, but we will need to fix at some point.

SPRC Report - Sandy:

- Vince will be gone Nov 16, 23, & 30. Christin from Lighthouse is doing the sermon on the 16th. Vince thinks he will do a video sermon for the other 2 dates.
- Vince is stretched thin right now, so glad we have Dave.
- We have cards for everyone to sign for Pastor Appreciation and will give them on Oct. 26th.
- Sue shared she would like Mason to get an increase depending on how budget comes out after Pledge Sunday.

Ministry Programs - Church and Society Committee – Jeff:

- They wore t-shirts to church on Oct 5, may wear them again at future date.
- Faith & Fact cards will be included in this Sunday's bulletin and will do 2 more, one each month on a number of topics.
- Ran into issues booking the immigration speaker they wanted to bring in, so that is on hold for now.
- Group is putting more emphasis on UMC Special Sundays – started with World Communion and showing a few videos. Will do Student Sunday next – Nov 30th.

Ministry Programs - Lighthouse Youth Ministry – Dan:

- Life Night had 5 new faces
- Did Food Pantry Service project.
- Sept 28 did Corn Maze & Pumpkin carving – partnered with Vineyard Church & had 17 students.
- Oct events are Oct Life Night, bonfire & games, Halloween Food Drive.
- In June they are going to Nashville for their annual mission trip.
- Christin is sharing a message at church Nov 16.
- Giving Tuesday is Dec 2nd at Parkside and each congregation will be asked for auction donations.

Pastor's Report – None. Vince could not make the meeting.

Staff Report – Stacy

- Set up our Elder (Michael Morning) for Charge Conference and got DS approval.
- Working on the charge conf forms & will be drafting the agenda, putting up potluck sign up, etc.
- Created free Google Ads to promote craft booth per Dan.
- Set up carpet cleaning to remove rust stain in narthex now that radiator is resolved – discussed having them spot clean a few items while here.
- Contacted J&H to get bill for heating work.
- Dan mentioned he ask Pastor Daniel about the ecumenical Thanksgiving. Stacy did reach out to Kelly Lemens on this too – she cannot coordinate but was also reaching out to Pastor Daniel to see what he wanted to do.

Other Business:

- Jeff shared that the Conference approved communion with the Episcopal church. Asked if there was a reason St. Simon the Fisherman has not been included in our ecumenical worship. No one was sure why.

Next Meeting is November 13th at 7:00 pm via Zoom. We will likely need a short special meeting after Pledge Sunday Oct 26 and before Charge Conference Nov 9 to approve the budget brought to conference.

Dan led the Closing Prayer.

Motion to adjourn made by Jan, seconded by Jeff; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:41 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Stacy Peters