

**Castleton United Methodist Church  
Leadership Team Meeting Minutes  
February 19, 2019**

Team members present were: Daniel Glass, Ron Miller, James Hinshaw, Mark Unland, Deb McCloud, John Dinwiddie, and Mary Carson. Pastor Jen was present as well. Larry Burch, Paul Halvorsen, and Chris Heylmann are all excused.

Prior to the opening of the meeting, the leadership team talked about joys and concerns in our lives and the lives of the church. Castleton Care kicks off this Sunday (February 24, 2019), New Organist -Nina Lee, 22 Applications for the Communication Director position. Jim Byerly's sister, Brian Wees, and other surgeries in our church family.

The meeting opened with prayer at 6:30 PM

**6:10 PM - 6:15 PM - Email Vote Confirmation:**

- Minutes - Votes: James Motion and Ron Second 7 for | 0 against | 1 Abstained
- Budget - Votes: Mark Motion and James Second | 8 for | 0 against

**6:15 PM - 7:20 PM - The Way Forward:**

Pastor Jen started this discussion with what she was hearing from the delegates. The only plans that would get voted upon was the One Church Plan and Traditional Plan. The polls were not conclusive on which plan would win. Pastor Jen asked the leadership team to review the two plans and then she opened a discussion on the difference between the two plans.

Some questions asked about the One Church Plan by the leadership team:

Q: What happens to Pastors who are LGBTQ?

A: They are safe

Q: What Happens at Indiana Conference?

A: Ordaining, Welcoming, and appointing.

Q: If our church could decide to welcome a LGBTQ Pastor and our bishop didn't could we still have one

A: We would likely have to go out of state to get one

Pastor Jen enlightened the Leadership team about the United Methodist Economics. 95% of the ministry in Africa is supported by the church in America.

Q: Who owns the church property?

A: The General Conference does.

We asked Pastor Jen what responsibility do we have if we decide to leave? Her response was if CUMC decides to leave with grace it is the following: We can leave and the conference would give us the land. We would have to pay a portion of the Pastor's WesPath to leave.

**7:20 PM - 8:08 PM - Castleton Specifically Moving Forward:**

\_\_\_\_\_Pastor Jen talked about the start of the Wesleyan Church mentioning: “The Soul of the church started at the communion table. Everyone gets the grace of christ and we will go to anyone that we need to go to.” She asked us the questions, “Who are we going to eat with?” and “Who are we going to invite to dinner?”

One of the major issues is that no one in the churches has had the conversation about homosexuality. The last time we really talked about the churches values was with Pastor Frank.

We talked about what we would do after the decision was made by General Conference. Pastor Jen reminded the leadership team that, “We do not know how these final decisions will fully impact Castleton United Methodist Church. We as a leadership team are having an event that will help work through the process.”

### **Miscellaneous Discussion:**

United Methodist Women - Harvest table in the fall request has to come through the fundraising policy and we will then be able to approve this. Deb and Mark will discuss offline and the leadership team will have more discussion via email once an agreement comes.

***Dates for the Leadership Team: February 20th - Book study and prayer service for pre-general conference. February 27th - After conference prayer service and what is next. March 19, 2019 - Leadership team meeting at 6:00 PM in Ministry Center.***

The meeting was closed in prayer at 8:10 P.M.