

Summary of the April 14, 2026 Governance Board Meeting

Lu opened this month's meeting with a prayer and a reflection on joy, noting that God wants us to experience joy and that we must actively seek and recognize it amongst life's difficulties. The members then shared personal celebrations and prayer requests prior to Chris's teaching. Chris reminded everyone that there are spiritual forces working against us and emphasized the need to recognize that reality extends beyond what we can see. He suggested that prayer should be our starting point and the force that continues to sustain us.

Pastor Matt updated the board on the numerous upcoming events the church has planned. On May 3, the Church of the Living God will join the congregation for the 11:00 a.m. service, followed by a single service on May 17. The Feeding Team is partnering with the church to install a bright yellow, 24/7 food pantry on the church campus that will operate on the honor system. This latest addition to the church's community support will be located outside, next to the bell tower. Additionally, Castleton will once again assist with Gleaners' food distribution on campus from June through August. With so many wonderful activities underway, Matt knows the church is in good hands with Pastors Cindy and Chris while he is away on his renewal grant.

The Missions Team is continuing in their important work. Mary Ann Schubert will update the congregation on Family Promise during the mission moment. Family Promise's fundraiser, Night Without a Bed, started April 4 and will run until May 2. A group from Castleton formed a team to walk in support of Outreach Inc. This organization supports youth that are experiencing homelessness.

This month's Trustees report detailed many ongoing building projects. To improve efficiency, Mark installed a Nest thermostat in the basement, a move expected to save the church nearly \$1,000 in energy costs. Progress also continues on the LED lighting upgrade, funded by \$11,262 in donations and \$17,000 in board-approved reserves. While several sanctuary lights are already installed, full ordering is paused until issues with uniform dimming and brightness are resolved. Meanwhile, AES is scheduled to install exterior door sweeps next week, and a team led by Garry is developing a plan to eliminate demand charges. Despite ongoing repairs by Irish, the Armstrong chiller remains problematic; upcoming efforts include line flushing, cleaning, and oil analysis at the Carrier lab. Repairs are underway for MC Door 12 after the magnetic lock trim detached from the frame and steps are being taken to deal with a rodent problem.

Total revenue, including designated accounts, was \$85,087 for the month of March. Expenses for March were \$87,099, which is \$7,222 more than had been projected. Most of this comes from Trustees expenses, namely utilities, insurance premiums and repair & maintenance, which were \$8,677 more than we budgeted for March and \$22,112 more YTD. The pledged giving is currently on track but the unpledged is still behind. This leaves an operating deficit of \$2,012 for the month.

During the Staff Parish Relations Committee report, Pastor Matt shared that three candidates are currently being considered for the Family Ministry Coordinator role. The first round of interviews

will take place soon. Susan is organizing a luncheon to show appreciation to the CUMNS staff on May 4th. Volunteers are needed for setup and to help monitor classrooms during naptime to provide coverage so that the teachers can attend the luncheon. The committee continues to celebrate each teacher's birthday throughout the year.

Looking ahead, The Fish Fry team is actively recruiting volunteers to fill the 620 slots available. Tiffany is encouraged that close to 200 people have signed up so far. The church yard sale will take place July 17 and 18 in the Family Life Center. Lu will be working with Amy and the United women in Faith to run the sale. Susy is very excited about this year's vacation bible school. She is looking for volunteers in all areas of this cooking themed event!

Lu closed the meeting with a lovely prayer. The next meeting will take place Tuesday, May 12th at 6pm.