

**Administrative Council Meeting  
Douglas Community UMC  
January 17, 2019**

The meeting was opened by Council Chair Laurie Clough with a reflection on the text from Ecclesiastes, “. . . to everything there is a season” and Moving Forward.

In attendance: Rev. Karen Dammann, Laurie Clough, Linda Hamilton, John Gerrish, Beth McEwen, and Sandi Coon.

The amended budget for 2019 was submitted by the Finance Committee for Council approval. There was some discussion and clarification about several line items; it was noted, that due to our changing circumstances, some line items may change and the budget would then need to be amended. Linda Hamilton made the motion to approve the 2019 Budget as presented; John Gerrish seconded the motion; Budget was approved as presented.

Trustees Chair Linda Hamilton briefly reported on the preliminary work to prepare the parsonage for rental. There will be a garage sale on Saturday, January 26. In the meantime, the Trustees will be working on making some improvements to the house, as well as disposing of the furnishings. The Trustees would like to have the property ready to rent no later than March 1, or earlier, if possible. We are looking to have a congregational work day after the furnishings have been dealt with. Linda will keep the group apprised of what help she needs.

The leadership is recommending that we begin to conduct a survey during the month of February about possible times for a change in worship. This will give the congregation a chance to get to know our new pastor and a chance for her to get to know us. Beth mentioned getting data about bus schedules for members who use the bus as their transportation to church. The Survey will reflect options as well as giving a space for suggestions, and will be presented in various ways (hard copies, digitally, etc.) It is important that the surveys are not anonymous so that we can try to eliminate obstacles that a change in worship time might create for various individuals. Laurie Clough will be creating a survey document and sharing it with leadership for comments and suggestions.

There was a brief discussion about first quarter goals. Goals presented are as follows:

1. The Trustees will be focusing on getting the parsonage rented.
2. Missions/Outreach will be contacting Douglas businesses to ask if they are willing to have food collection bins for our Food Pantry in their space that would be picked up weekly or every other week, depending on the weather.
3. For the Administrative Council as a whole, Laurie would like to continue to work on our mission of Building Community, which was introduced last year. She will

be buying a poster that outlines the initiatives, and would like to post it on the door of the church.

Beth McEwen reported on the Eagle River United Methodist Camp Board, which is having a retreat for planning and visioning on Saturday, January 26 at 10 am at our church. She also gave the dates chosen for camp for 2019, which are as follows:

1. Camp Get Ready – May 18-19
2. Camp Champ – June 16, training, camp June 17-20
3. Discovery Camp – June 21-22 training, camp June 23-28

We are working through the conference to secure a VIM team for Discovery Camp as well as the Barbecue.

Pastor Jason Cornish had suggested using the groupMe app as an organizational tool for committees, but the installations were not done to support its use. Laurie will be consulting with her son, the software engineer, and looking at whether groupMe is good choice or if another one is a better fit. She will try to have something ready by the March meeting.

We welcomed Karen Dammann, our new pastor, and she shared some information about herself. She has proposed through SPRC a schedule of work which would have her in Douglas on Thursdays. We will all be working together to see how we can use her time effectively to support our work here in Douglas.

The next Administrative Council meeting will be March 21, 2019 at 6:30 pm in the Fireside Room.

The meeting was closed with an opportunity to put into a box the things that hold you down, or that you have a hard time of letting go. Laurie will keep this box and we can look at them in a year and see if we have succeeding in freeing ourselves from these burdens. We then sang verse one of "The Spirit Song".

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.