

# SUMC Committee Highlights Report for the First Quarter of 2025

Friday, January 31, 2025

## Church Council Highlights

**Contact:** Jim Talbert

### **Highlights**

- We completed work on the 2025 budget in November and December. Our goal was to have a balanced budget. Due to less than expected income, the only way to reconcile the budget was to make some cuts and reduce our payment for apportionments. Our apportionments support the wider ministries of the United Methodist Church. Apportionments support the church-wide budget to conferences and local churches. In addition to various charities, missions and administrative issues, they also support clergy pensions and benefits. SUMC has always placed high importance in paying our apportionments. During 2025, we will periodically review our financial situation and try to fully pay our apportionments.
- The Loudoun County Sheriff's Office provided a second safety and security training program on active violence incidents in November. The training provided information about active violence incidents, law enforcement actions and how we should react in such situations. It will support development of a Safety Team next year.
- Regarding the 150<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary, due to the busy Advent season, we decided not to meet again until early in 2025.

**Next Meeting:** Monday, February 24, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 107.

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## Board of Trustees Highlights

**Contact:** Mike Brooks

### **Highlights**

- Several church keys have been returned. To secure the church building we highly recommend using the alarm system beginning October 1, 2024, every night.
- We are reviewing dead bolts to put on doors to best secure rooms.
- We are waiting to hear back from **Whereipark** regarding the potential to rent 25 parking spaces at SUMC between 6 am and 5 pm, Monday thru Friday. This would provide our church with additional income.
- The former renter of the parsonage was released from their contract due to medical issues. New renters moved in November 2024.
- There was a slight increase in rent to ensure we have funding for parsonage repairs when needed.
- Parsonage items were fixed from the move out inspection.
- New tenants signed Nov. 29, 2024 for 2 years thru Nov. 29, 2026.

- Church roof drains were cleaned to prevent leaks.
- We are working to replace the Jacobus Center basement rear door. The current door is falling apart.
- A church walkthrough was conducted by Trustees on October 27, 2024 to identify maintenance items to track and care for.
- Additional Trustees will be added for 2025.
- Patching of some potholes in the parking lot was done. We applied for a grant to repave the parking lot and replace some windows. Grants are expected to be announced in March. If we receive the grant, we will try to get the parking lot done in the spring.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, March 20, 2025

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### **Fellowship Committee Highlights**

**Contact:** Donna Meyer or Marlene Cavaiola (Co-Chairs)

#### **Highlights**

- Setup and served Trunk or Treat Café (mummy dogs, drinks and sides) October 26, 2024.
- Setup and served lunch for after Hanging of the Greens on December 1, 2024.
- Helped with sorting and packing 300 Cheer Bags for Grace December distribution December 2 and 5, 2024.
- Special Coffee Fellowship for Blue Grass Sunday, October 20, 2024.
- Considering fundraising lunches in January or February 2025.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 17, 2025

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### **Finance Committee Highlights**

**Contact:** Linda Budzinski

#### **Highlights**

##### **Final 2024 Budget Report**

- Final 2024 income initially came in at \$43,565.69 above our budgeted break-even point. The primary reasons were:
  - \$20,800 in above-projected donations and rent from KUC
  - \$11,167 in above-projected unrealized investment gains
  - \$5,513 in above-projected Christmas offerings
  - \$5,233 in above-projected realized investment gains
  - \$5,156 in above-projected stock offerings
  - \$3,488 in above-projected summer camp earnings
  - \$1,200 in above-projected Lenten offerings

- approximately \$20,000 in below-projected operating expenses
- Note that our pledge and plate offerings came in about \$37,000 below our projection for the year, but the above items more than made up for this, and yielded a surplus.
- This surplus income allowed us to pay \$37,000 toward our 2024 apportionment fees, bringing our total apportionment fees paid to \$110,453.80, which was 96.4% of our total apportionment fees owed.
- The surplus also allowed us to put \$2,000 into the Visibility Fund, \$1,500 into the Pastor Relocation Fund, and maintain \$3,065.69 as retained earnings. Th retained earnings can be reallocated in the future to meet our needs.

#### January 2025 Financials

- Total income is \$41,531. This is 8.41% of our total budget (almost exactly 1/12)
- Total expenses are \$47,706. This is 9.03% of our total budget. Among the reasons for higher-than-normal expenditures are January snow removal and a number of annual subscriptions that renewed in January.
- There was a net operating loss for January of \$6,174.

**Next Meeting:** To be determined

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#### Missions Committee Highlights

**Contact:** Jim Jochems

#### Highlights

- Food Assistance for schools: donated canned foods to Forest Grove and Sterling Middle.
  - Forest Grove –\$281 spent this month
  - Sterling Middle – \$284 spent this month
- Shepherd's Run 2024
  - Thank you, Mike and Tracey, for leading this ministry again this year!
  - 12 sites participated
  - There were numerous donations of cookies, cakes, donuts, pies, and baked goods from the entire church!
  - Great stories from all recipients and participants! Another great year!
- Missions Item: Missions Collection Calendar
  - Canned food will be accepted throughout the year and all food is very appreciated!
- Grants for UMC- TBD
  - We received a grant from the Capital Area Food Bank for \$2,135. We bought a freezer, 3 carts, 3 Chromebooks laptops, and 3 surge protectors.
- Mission Trips: We were contacted by Centreville UMC to participate with them for the Appalachian Service Project (ASP) July 13-19, 2025. Missions will support the youth and church for this mission project

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, March 6, at 6:30 PM

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### **United Women in Faith Highlights**

**Contact:** Faye Vibbert

#### **Highlights**

- Our 2025 offices will remain the same as 2024.
- Bake sale proceeds used to purchase items for 300 Cheer Bags.
- We collected and filled 300 Christmas Cheer bags in December that were given out at the Grace distribution.
- Think of fundraising ideas: lunch/brunch
  - Marlene Cavaiola suggested a February Chili/cornbread cookoff.
- Decide what to do with the left-over items in 107 from the Cheer bag outreach.
  - Motion made by Sharon Bornarth, seconded by Sarah Korte, and unanimously voted to send them to Forest Grove Elementary School as part of the Grace distribution.
- Consider how we can help a group in our area/country.
  - Maryann Craig made a motion for us to focus on Mobile Hope.
  - We will schedule a Mobile Hope representative at one of our meetings.
- Old recipes are needed for our church's 150th Anniversary. Joan Talbert will provide more information.
- 150 Acts of kindness.
  - Maryann Craig said she talked to everyone riding the elevator where she lives and met many. She even found her car cleaned off after the recent snow.
  - We all need to continue to be kind.

**Next Meeting:** Monday, March 3, 2025 at 7:00 PM

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### **Worship & Outreach Committee Highlights**

**Contact:** Debbie Myers

#### **Highlights**

- We discussed the 150 Acts of Kindness Challenge for the congregation to participate in for our 150th Celebration year.
- We discussed the “Do Unto Others/Otters!” Sermon Series.
- The Offering Collection was discussed and offering is now collected in the offering plates found at four stations in the sanctuary.

- We held the following services and events in December:
  - Advent Series: Words For the Beginning (Advent Reminders for New Seasons)
  - The Quilt Squares were sewn for each Sunday of Advent. Each Square brought a special meaning to the emphasis of each week of Advent. We are very grateful for the excellent handiwork of Nancy Craner and Connie Johnson!
  - The “Hanging of the Greens” event was well attended and the congregation worked together to accomplish the major task throughout the church.
  - The Aldersgate Choir Cantata was interactive with the congregation singing along with the Christmas hymns.
  - The Longest Night Service was extremely meaningful.
  - The beautiful Christmas Eve and Candlelight Service
  - The Service on December 29th – A Service of Joy: Sing for Joy, Listen for Joy, and Practice Joy! Thank you, Sharon Rosenfeld and Heather Toth!
  - The Epiphany Service – The Journey of the Magi with Pastor Bert’s message entitled The Road Isn’t Straight.
  - The “Take Down the Green” Day. Thank you to the small group that stuffed and packed all of the bows to be preserved for future use. Also, thank you to the group that worked hard to take down, inventory, pack up, and move all decorations to storage.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, March 13, 2025 at 7:00 PM