

Susanna Wesley United Methodist Church
2019 Charge Conference Minutes
December 2, 2019

Gathering and Welcome...Rev. Kay Scarbrough, District Superintendent, called the meeting to order.

Those in attendance:

Andrew Conard	Anne Conard	John Conard
Joanne Rodecap	Nancy Moser	Terry Moser
Steve Reichle	Kathy Pingleton	Shari Combs
Jaymie Genovese	Carrie Riordan	Hollie Tapley
Stacy Montgomery	Brian Florea	Tricia Florea
Betty Purcell	Andria Liles	Tom Benortham
Julie McCullough	Virginia Grey	Amy Crouch
Dave Steed	Nicholas Marsh	Alda Evans
Mary Anna Kellerman	Laurie Niehaus	Beth Fultz
Wendy Surface		

Wendy Surface was approved as recording secretary.

Sang opening hymn "We Are the Church". Rev. Scarbrough led us in opening prayer.

Rev. Scarbrough shared purpose of the District Strategic Team, chaired by Susanna Wesley's Pastor Andrew Conard. This team has been challenged with the following questions:

1. How do we increase Wesleyan witness in our area?
2. How do we strengthen the vitality of that witness in our area?

A short skit was enacted to share how churches can really make a difference in their communities. Church makes up Network which makes up District which makes up Conference. Each person in the body of Christ of local churches can make a difference in their church and community.

Rev. Melinda Harwood and Teresa Tuchscherer, members of the District Strategic Team, facilitated discussion about the Topeka District Ministry Action Plan (MAP).

Topeka District Ministry Action Plan (provided as a handout)

Increase connection in district.

- Hold at least one district-wide event per year (in addition to UMW).
- Form networks (training, resourcing).
- Continue discerning and promoting district identity.

Improve worship experiences.

- Offer special opportunity for worship teams.
 - Marcia McFee workshop
 - Workshop for live streaming
 - Creative Worship workshop (November 15-16, Topeka Conference Office)

Strengthen children & youth ministry.

- Identify two or three strong youth programs in district & invite each to plan event for entire district.
- Find two-three networks to offer mission experience for all youth in the network.
- Promote sharing of curriculum/resources within/between networks.
- Expand school partnerships to include spiritual formation opportunities by identifying key churches and providing resources.

Start at least 3 new lay-led fatih communities.

- Offer Fresh Expressions training.
- Work with networks to determine best options.

Explore potential areas for justice ministry.

- District has four casinos, and thus gambling addiction is a concern.
- Poverty/hunger among children is high in northeast Kansas.

Melinda and Teresa provided those in attendance with three sticker dots. Posters were displayed around sanctuary, each with one of the five headings of the MAP plus one for Other Suggestions. Attendees were invited to place their three dots on the posters they felt were a priority for Susanna Wesley to be focused on. The primary focus of the MAP is to determine how we can connect people and make a difference in our church and community. Melinda and Teresa gathered the posters and will compile feedback from responses.

The sanctuary was then divided into three groups for attendees to discuss and record answers to the following two questions:

1. What three things does Susanna Wesley do well?
2. What three things does Susanna Wesley desire to learn?

Answer sheets from the three groups were collected and the responses will be compiled.

Rev. Scarbrough shared a Laity Summit: Developing Great Leaders will be held on Saturday, March 21, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM, at Kearney First UMC in Kearney, Nebraska. She also shared the district continues to be focused on their mission agencies: Aldersgate Village, Fellowship & Faith, Nueva Vida, and Washburn Campus Ministry. Annual Conference 2020 will be held in two sessions. May 27-30 will be held in Topeka at the Stormont Vail Events Center, and October 1-3 will be in Grand Island, Nebraska, location to be determined.

Rev. Scarbrough led us through the provided 2019 Church Conference packet. A motion was made to approve the 2018 Charge Conference Minutes, the 2020 budget, the Pastoral Compensation Package, Housing Allowance Resolution, Nominations & Leadership Development Report, and all other reports in packet. Motion was moved, seconded and approved.

Sang closing hymn, "We Are One in the Spirit".

Rev. Scarbrough closed meeting with blessing and sending forth.

Respectfully submitted by Wendy Surface, Recording Secretary