

## **Apex UMC**

### **Church Council**

**June 6 25, 2022, 7:00 p.m. – Hybrid (virtual/in person) meeting**

**Council Attendees:** Jack Rosko, Julia Beam, Carl Thompson, Zonna Harriet, Andie Freeman, Barbara Griggs, Bill Walker, Janet D'Ignazio, Jason Purdy, Laura Hicks, Susan Southern, Cristi Bond, Todd Arant, John Garrison, Larry Jordan, , Laura Johnson, Laura Katherine Stern, Meredith Purdy, Ellen Griffin

**Council Regrets:** Allen Hicks, Sheila Ahler, Mary Beth Parker, Beth Rosko, Lori Fahs, John Davis, Raven Moore Friday

**Church Attendee:** Roger Moore (representing Finance Committee)

### **Agenda:**

- Welcome and Opening Prayer - Jack
- Review draft of FY2022-2023 budget – Janet
  - Budget requests are sent to Finance Committee and they compile and analyze to determine if Revenue can support Expenses requests
  - Pledges are based on calendar year Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2023
  - Budget will be revisited with possible realignment as of Jan 1, 2023
  - Would like to track and summarize expenses paid for by Restricted Funds to assist with budget preparation/analysis in the future
  - Increased transparency of Pastor's Discretionary spending to Missions Committee regarding larger spend items
  - Discussion regarding interest in adopting balanced budgets; Support for Finance Committee to issue guidance regarding program budgeting for program expenses and achieve a balanced budget
  - Council is comfortable for Finance to use cash reserves to minimize budget gap
- Fiesta Covenant – Jack
  - Missions recommends increasing support to Fiesta to 4% of Revenues from 3.5% previously; Increase is due to loss of 519 support and to cover operating expenses that grants don't cover
  - Finance agrees with the 4% recommendation
- Mental Health – Laura Johnson
  - Mayor brought together faith leaders for discussion on mental health
  - Build network – Wake Med Behavioral Health Network – with goal of building/supporting a mental health hospital in Wake County
  - Mayor asking for support as community leaders through letters of support
  - Support approved by Council; See letter below sent to Mayor Gilbert
- Pastor's Update – Laura Katherine
  - Property appraisal not recommended by bank; Much activity going on with bioretention ponds, etc

- o Annual Conference next week; Jurisdictional Conference this fall
- Closing Prayer - Jason
- Next Meeting: June 27, 2022

*Dear Mayor Gilbert and Members of the Apex Town Council,*

*As faith leaders in our community, we see first-hand the impact of mental health issues on our congregations, especially young people. We fervently want families to have the resources they need to deal with these challenges.*

*We encourage the Town Council of Apex to support WakeMed Health & Hospitals system's request for its Network for Advancing Behavioral Health, which will ensure that patients in Apex and across Wake County have access to caring, high-quality mental-health providers.*

*WakeMed and Apex United Methodist Church are both mission-driven organizations dedicated to improving the health and well-being of our community. We believe WakeMed is the right partner to help our community heal now, in the aftermath of COVID. The preventative services that WakeMed's Network will provide will reduce the burden on the Town of Apex's police and emergency services. This investment will have long-term economic benefits for the Town, and for the quality of life of our church members and all Apex residents.*

*We also support WakeMed's proposed plans to establish an in-patient behavioral health hospital in Wake County.*

*As you discuss the Town's budget on June 14, we pray that you will give serious and thoughtful consideration to making a financial investment in these mental health services.*

*We ask this on behalf of your residents and members of our church. We know the suffering that mental-health issues are causing. Help us as we help our members navigate their faith, health, finances, and family challenges.*

*Respectfully,  
Members of the Church Council  
Apex United Methodist Church*