

Senoia United Methodist Church (SUMC)

Leadership Board Meeting February 8, 2026

ATTENDEES:

Pastor: Dr. Julie Schendel

Board Members: Peter Fenner, Wayne Geoffrion, Rod Glover, Mary Lynn Haycraft, Jennifer Meares, Sam Sweat, Kimberly Tinsley, Maurice Ungaro, Ginger Wright

Welcome Guests

Guests & Visiting Church Members: James Haycraft—Treasurer

AGENDA

Opening Prayer/Devotional—Rod Glover “Loyalty” Proverbs 3:3-4

Minutes—Peter Fenner

Opening Business

Review and approval of previous meeting’s minutes—*Ginger Wright*

- Maurice moved that the minutes from the meeting held on January 11, 2026, be approved. Sam seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as presented by all Board Members present. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

Old Business

- I. Electrical Jobs Update—Rod
 - A. Around campus, contacting Derek White, end of February deadline, (consider hiring replacement, if necessary, action item Rod)
- II. Office IT Issues Update—Wayne
 - A. Comcast updating exterior cabling.
 - B. Interior cabling has been improved as much as is practical given current resources. Further improvements deferred for the time being.
- III. Finance Update

A. Year End Budget Review 2025

1. Net Loss discussion, Offerings vs Expenses
2. Discussion based on Wayne's email to Leadership Board members Thursday February 5th containing:
 - Year End Budget Review 2025
 - 2025 SUMC accounts review dated Feb 3, 2026
 - Updated 2026 Budget Revision 1
 - SUMC 2026 Budget Update
 - Proposed Bulletin Monthly Financial Statement
3. "Making 2025 Expenses" discussion—included using funds from Bus sale and McCrary Fund to make expenses. Discussion also covered Funds Not Used.
4. Summary: Accurate Income Cash Flow Reporting is critical to forecasting Cash Flow Performance.

B. Discussion: 2025 budget was based on 2024 yearend giving, which happened about the same time as membership reduction in 2024, explaining the discrepancy between budgeted income and expenses.

1. This may be the year to upgrade software to get our financial house in order.
2. Work needs to be done to research the best software for our church and our budget. One size does not fit all.
3. Wayne is continuing to work diligently to clarify finances.
4. Regarding Trust Funds accounting and software, Wayne explained that such reporting will likely involve separate accounting from church operations.
 - a. Wayne is reviewing the budget with best practices in mind.
 - b. Adding "% of budget" column into the budget format to compare line items with best practices.
 - c. Current Income Budget amount does not cover all expenditures.

C. Trustees/Stewardship: McCrary and Hardy Funds—Wayne

1. Meeting held with Sam Sweat, Leigh Morgan, & Wayne Geoffrion.
2. Clarification given over who runs the McCrary Fund and what it is used for.
3. Currently, McCrary Fund is managed as a fund intended to generate dividends in perpetuity, with the principle to remain untouched. All agreed that should remain as is. Also, it was noted that the Leadership Board can change how it is managed and who is assigned as Trustee. Currently Leigh Morgan.

4. Note: Cemetery Fund: this is a remnant fund from the church's early history, when we maintained the city cemetery. Leigh Morgan was instrumental in having the City of Senoia assume that responsibility. Church in return, however, should maintain the McCrary plot. This was generally agreed to by all present. No motion was made, and no vote was taken.

D. Amended Budget 2026

1. Wayne proposed amending 2026 budget from \$225,389 (as approved in December 2025) to \$233,449, an increase of \$8,060, to support corrected staff salary amounts and increase for GA Natural Gas. Sam seconded. Passed unanimously.
2. Motion to approve one time use of McCrary fund dividends to cover Church Operating Expenses for 2025, made by Sam. Rod seconded. All are in favor, motion passed. Sam to forward notice to Leigh Morgan.

E. Bulletin Monthly Statement Proposal—Wayne proposed simplifying format (see email dated Feb. 5th), met with general approval. (Julie requested that clarification of RED vs Black be incorporated.)

New Business:

I. **Leadership Board Items**—Julie

- A. Leadership Board Handbook Handout—distributed and reviewed content.
- B. Leadership Photos needed Maurice and Wayne, Maurice
- C. Notes From Webinars—question from Rod: How to make them accessible to LB, place in Google Docs folder discussed, Julie to follow up.

II. **Special Offerings**—Julie

- A. There is concern with rate at which church is asking congregation for contributions to various church programs (Angel Tree, Backpack Buddies, etc.) and NGUMC conference programs. (Donation Exhaustion—small congregation)
 1. This is an area where the church should study the calendar year. Specifically, what/how often is appropriate in a balanced manner over the year.
 2. The church should keep in mind that contributions to NGUMC should be included and tracked so that when asking for services

from the conference (applying for grants, etc.), the church is in a better position.

- B. Julie to compile a list of proposed programs to contribute to as a first step, prior to March meeting.
- C. Coordinate with CIA regarding special contributions to build an operations budget.
- D. Wayne mentioned tracking special contributions apart from regular church offerings as a possibility.
- E. Church is in need of:
 - 1. Updated Software to track Cash Flow
 - 2. Account Purpose clarification (Special Account)

III. **Fellowship Hall Floor**—Sam

- A. Replace existing Fellowship Hall Flooring (carpet tiles) with LVT. Quote from Fayette Floor-Greg, \$9900 (Add-ons, Office, Nursery, & Hallway not included).
 - 1. Two additional quotes needed. Sam to forward quote information (Action Item). Sam requested additional contacts.
 - 2. Maurice noted his experience in Brooks, 1500 sf, 2022, LVT for \$8000.
 - 3. Commercial grade recommended.
 - 4. Julie reminded the Board that the church has an ongoing list of projects, and the Board needs to order the priorities of those tasks.

IV. **Project List**—Sam

- A. Fellowship Hall Flooring first priority
- B. Fellowship Hall Restrooms Renovation second priority
- C. Discussion:
 - 1. Prioritized Capital Improvement Project List
 - 2. Set a calendar/plan
 - 3. Restroom conditions are one of the first things visitors/new members notice

V. **Recent Webinars**: LB member participation

- A. Dr. Phil Schroeder—Dunwoody UMC—Sam
 - 1. Multi-year plan
 - 2. Need to be in “the business of asking for money”
 - 3. Creation of funds for mission work, (i.e. CIA)
 - 4. Share with congregation—Financial Health
 - 5. 5-5-5 Plan
 - 6. Goal 10% tithe, 2.4% reality
- B. Grants for Growth—Importance of Church Story—Peter
 - 1. Alignment of Church Mission with Committee Missions when applying for grants.

2. Having a story that reaches out, can have an impact.

C. Pastor sharing fund raising progress with congregation—Rod

1. Sharing at regular intervals, perhaps Sunday service

VI. Sub-Group to study Stewardship and Finances—Sam proposed

A. Sam Sweat, Julie Schendel, Wayne Geoffrion

B. Consider a trip to Dunwoody UMC

VII. Trustees/Building—Sam

A. Walk around the church building and document conditions

B. Architectural Survey proposed—Peter

1. Binder of Photos with descriptions

Devotional for next month: Jennifer Meares

Minutes for next month: Peter Fenner

Minutes Submitted by: Peter Fenner

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Leadership Board Photos—Maurice and Wayne—submit to Amie by 2/28.
2. Electrical Work—Follow-up for March meeting—Rod
3. Office IT—Follow up for March meeting—Wayne
4. Amend 2026 budget—for March meeting—Wayne
5. Webinar Notes distribution—Julie
6. 2025 McCrary fund dividends use, to Leigh Morgan, for March meeting—Sam
7. Two additional flooring quotes needed. Forward quote information—Sam
8. List of special programs for congregation donations, for March meeting—Julie
9. **All members, complete reading of Pursuing God's Will Together before retreat**
Revised Deadline: 3/28/26.