

A message from “Your” Church Board:

Happy New Year! 2019 is here and we are excited for all the opportunities God has set before us.

2018 closed out and the state of this church is strong, we are changing lives and making disciples and we are well positioned to do even more this year. This Board has studied several books together and has prayed and planned throughout last year and has enabled the standing committees and the members of this church go out and build in this community.

To review , we started out with an incredible gift last year from the Frank and Emily Mitchell estate. With this gift we paid off the apartment loan and now the income from that outreach ministry will go directly to missions in perpetuity. We also fully funded the Trustees’ Capital Reserves to ensure that we have the necessary reserves in place to maintain our facilities. Finally, we pledged a significant amount of the Mitchell gift to the church wide sanctuary enhancement project and with the generous pledges of the congregation that project now has come in on time and underbudget with pledges exceeding the total project cost.

Trustees has done an incredible job of managing that project and many other projects maintaining and improving our church campus. Thanks to the leadership of the Finance Committee the church has improved dramatically the returns on its reserves, endowments, and investments, allowing for the continued stability of the church and enabling us the ability to grow. The Missions council footprint is everywhere, after all, when asked most people explain that they are here because we are a “Missional Church”. We continue to grow our allocations to missions.

The Staff Parish Relations Committee worked on the overall staffing structure for FUMC and with consultations with our District Superintendent completed structuring the leadership for the church around seven Key Areas of Ministry: Worship, Discipleship, Missions, Congregational Care, Leadership Development, Communications, and Administration. They implemented a new Family Ministry Organization and have begun working on a communications plan including hiring a communications director staff member.

A new Vision Statement, “Changing Lives, Making Disciples”, was rolled out in conjunction with the beginning of an extremely successful Stewardship Campaign. During the stewardship campaign “Vision Dinners” were attended by many in the congregation. Video production has begun to get our stories out to all of our members and the community. Live streaming of our services has connected us as a congregation as never before.

This Board revised its structure to include additional representatives from the congregation, i.e. Congregational Care and Family Life, to make sure that the make-up of the Board adequately represents the seven Key Areas of Ministry.

A planning retreat is next on the agenda for this board and as we meet be assured that we will continue to strive to be transparent and open with a renewed emphasis on communications. The Holy Spirit is alive in this Board, in this Church, and in our community! We invite each of you to contact any of the volunteers on this board with your thoughts, ideas, and/or concerns.

So many many other things are happening here, too many to list and if not mentioned here are just as important. The Church Board does not micro-manage, it enables... it “buys” the car, “gases” up the car,

and then “gives” the keys to the congregation to go out and make things happen. There is much to do and much to improve but together this New Year will be great.

Peace to you all in the New Year,

Bart Salvaggio

Church Board Chair

“Changing Lives, Making Disciples”

Church Board

Mark Ralls	Senior Pastor
Christy Sharp	Assoc. Pastor
Greg Deeter	Church Administrator
Tom Russell	Finance Chair
Bob Doughty	Trustees Chair
Andrew Clemmer	Staff Parish Relations Chair
Jim Stike	Leadership Development Chair
Sam Tolbert	Missions Council Chair
Dee West	Lay Leader
Terre Eberly	Spiritual Formation (Adult Discipleship)
Ann McClintic	Family Life
Aileena Rush	Youth Advisor
Kathryn Thomas	Youth Advisor
Bart Salvaggio	Chair
John Winter	Vice Chair
Stephen MacDowell	Secretary