

Cornerstone Global Methodist Church of Marysville, Ohio
Leadership Team Meeting Minutes
November 24, 2025
6:30-8:00pm in Court Yard

Member Attendance: Don Bailey, Dave Speicher, Phillip Connolly, Sharon Kelley, Phil Morrison, Christine Mastin, Mary Anne Wenner, Justin Osborn, and Steve Neal.

Non-Voting Members: Pastor Nathan Custer and Lisa Nichols

Guest: Tom Hanover

Absent: Bonnie Kubala (illness), Barry Milbert (work), and Elliott Rogers (vacation)

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by Chair, Don Bailey

LOVING AND LEARNING

- **Devotional**— Dave Speicher
 - Thankfulness Is Generosity
 - 2 Corinthians 9:11-12
- **Glory Sightings**
- **Prayer Concerns**
- **Opened in Prayer** by Don Bailey

LEADING

- **Approval of Minutes**
Approval of October 27, 2025, meeting minutes

- **Action Items (Motions)**—

Steve Neal moved to accept October 27, 2025, LT meeting minutes, Justin Osborn seconded and the motion passed with nine yes votes, zero no votes and zero abstentions.

- **Communication Plan**—
 - Post Minutes on website.

Pastor's Report –

- **Reports** -
 - Tom Hanover Introduction
 - Conference Superintendent Greenway has asked Tom Hanover, a Retired / Senior status GMC Elder to act as our Presiding Elder, since Pastor Nathan Custer cannot preside over himself.
 - Serve Timeline and funding update.
 - 2.7+M start to the campaign was highly complimented by our funding consultant who said this was “very strong.” (from Pastor Report sent in Agenda Packet)
 - Greg Williams worked very hard to get good numbers for the LT Meeting
 - SERVE Pledges to date (Nov 24, 2025) 2.56 x our annual budget = 3.84 million
 - 184 total number of pledges
 - 67 people who pledged anew for SERVE campaign who did not pledge to the 2025 Stewardship Campaign

- Kenya partnership
 - Things are going much better in the relationship behind the scenes, so the Missions Team agreed to some initial funding partnerships – for an evangelistic crusade endeavor, and for supporting their own outreach efforts to women and refugees in significant need.
- Future Ministry of Cornerstone
 - SERVE and Kenya mentioned above.
 - Communio partnership in 2026 to help us minister to marriages and families.
 - New worship service(s) – I'm in initial conversations with some folks to start either a Sunday evening or Saturday evening worship service experiment – or both.
 - Circuit GMC partnerships – as churches are going through pastoral changes, our church has already blessed two churches with interim pastoral leadership and have sent six of our people to preach at churches who needed support. More formal partnership will likely come.
 - Improvements and scalability – we'll continue to improve everything from worship technology to the website, to directional signs for parking / entering, to our training of laity for ministry of all sorts -- to enable us to accommodate growth to 1000 worshippers of all ages each week on-site.
 - We know that construction / renovation will be disruptive, so we're trying to instill a mindset of flexibility among our staff and lay leaders for this next season!
- Action Items (Motions)
- Communication Plan and To-Do List:

Leadership Team

- Reports -
 - Headcount Attendance Reports
 - 2 Reports presented: 2025 YTD Headcount Report and 2024 Headcount Report (both with online viewing data)
 - Average through 45 weeks: 2024 Head Count only 410 – 2025 Head Count 436
 - Average through 45 weeks: 2024 HC & online 502 - 2025 HC & online 529.
 - Guest / First Time visitors: average of 7 per month

January - 7	May - 11	September -1
February - 6	June - 10	October – 3
March - 8	July - 5	November – 0 so far
April - 3	August - 9	December
 - Risk Assessments
 - Lisa Nichols requested that the forms handed out to Pastor Nathan and Sub Team Chairs be completed and turned in for the December meeting for compilation.
 - Office is preparing LT Orientation Books and updating information for the December LT Meeting
- Action Items (Motions) –
- Communication Plan –

Finance Sub Team –Dave Speicher

- Reports -
 - October Financial Reports presented.

- 2025 Balance sheet and special gift reconciliation reviewed.
- 2025 Budget vs Actuals
- 2025 YOY Income to Budget report
- Projected giving if final 9 weeks match 2025 = \$1,455,345 and the 2025 budget for giving is \$1,446,058
- Current expenses are very close to the budget through October which would mean there would be limited carryover.
 - At this time – with stewardship pledge numbers, it appears that we could support an operating budget of \$1.5 million which is \$43,000 less than the 2025 operating budget.
 - As of October 31, 2025, operating funds are pretty sparse, but all other funds are pretty healthy.
- Action items (Motions) –
- Communication Plan and To-Do List:

FMT Sub Team –Phillip Connolly

- Reports -
 - Old Business
 - Assisted Listening Device – still testing.
 - There is some static in some situations.
 - If they are able to get resolved, then they will order system for BFLC.
 - Roof repairs
 - Flat (drop off) rubber = \$3,392
 - Small Roof = \$21,300
 - Big Roof = \$50,000
 - Security concerns
 - Unhoused people sleeping in the BFLC vestibule when there is programming.
 - One known individual has a confirmed record.
 - Food items taken from grocery carts have been partially consumed and discarded on the church grounds.
- Action Items (Motions):

Out of committee 3 motions:

 1. *Lock the outer doors of both vestibules (Court Street Entrance and BFLC entrance)*
 2. *Refer remote locks and handicap updates to the SERVE renovations (this is allowed because it was code compliant at the time of installation – grandfathered)*
 3. *Discontinue food collections in grocery carts and add a third food drive to support the local food pantry.*

All three motions passed with nine yes votes, zero no votes and zero abstentions.
- Communication Plan and To-Do List:
 - Staff will craft notification regarding changes and collections.
 - Those strongly supporting the food collections in the carts will be notified by the FMT Sub Team Chair

**** Break from 7:33pm to 7:42 pm ***

HR Sub Team—Steve Neal

- Reports –
 - John Burchett's wife April, diagnosis confirmed by Cleveland Clinic.

- December 9th – Staff Christmas Party
 - Steve & Lisa Neal will provide the food for the luncheon and any help from the LT would be appreciated.
- Recommendations for Lay salaries
 - Steve Neal took the minutes for Executive Session.
 - Upon return from executive session, it was announced that a recommendation of a 4% increase for Lay Staff was approved.
- Action items (Motions) –

Steve Neal moved to go into executive session to discuss recommendations for Lay salaries, Mary Anne Wenner seconded, the motion passed with nine yes votes, zero no votes and zero abstentions.
- Communication Plan and To-Do List:
 - Lisa Nichols to add recommendation of 4% lay salary increase to 2026 Expense Budget.

Missions Sub Team—Mary Anne Wenner Reports –

- Mission moments will continue in 2026.
- Birthday Cake Kits
- No December meeting

- Action items (Motions) –
- Communication Plan and To-Do List

Task Teams

Refresh/Building Committee – Phil Morrison

(Lisa Nichols who had been ill, had a coughing spell, and was excused – Sharon Kelley took over keeping minutes.)

- Reports-
 - Design Development in process.
 - two of the three meetings complete with the last scheduled for December 3, 2025
 - Design Development report will be received in late December.
 - Construction company will need several weeks to re-quote, and the building committee will then decide what to cut, if needed.
 - Phil Morrison thinks we will receive the new quote in late February or March
 - Discussed when to share with the congregation about amount pledged to SERVE.
 - People may be concerned with the shortfall, may want immediate answers about cuts or the need for a bank loan, which we currently do not have the answers.
 - If we decide to pursue a bank loan, we will need to have good, solid information regarding project costs, pledge commitments, current church financial information, and historical information.
 - Phillip Connolly, because of his experience and wealth of knowledge about the process, is willing to lead the group that presents to the bank.
- Action items (Motions) –
- Communication Plan and To-Do List:
 - Nathan Custer will talk to campaign consultant about talking to large donors again.
 - Nathan Custer will create and send a follow up letter to encourage those who have not pledged yet for the SERVE campaign.
 - Nathan Custer will announce on Sunday, November 30th that the campaign pledge amounts will be shared with congregation on Sunday, December 7, 2025.

New Business

- Central Ohio Emmaus (COE) announcement of Inactive – Discerning Season
 - The Emmaus Board and the Upper Room - Area 8 Liaison, shared the announcement of an Inactive-Discerning Season for an unknown period of time.
 - Inactive because of Cornerstone Global Methodist Church's 2026 Renovation plan
 - Discerning Season for possible relocation and future of this ministry:
 - Significant decrease in participation since 2013
 - 2020 – 2021 Covid caused cancellations of several walks
 - Gatherings reduced in 2022 with hope of increasing attendance (it did not)
 - 2023 host church Marysville FUMC disaffiliated from the UMC and affiliated with the Global Methodist Church which caused a schism that fractured COE when devoted community members left the host church.
 - 2023- to present – struggles with Board members, Lay Director recruitment, Team Building, Sponsorship, and volunteer participation.
 - March 2025, the host Church Cornerstone GMC's LT decision to have all ministries housed in the church must hold Cornerstone GMC members on the executive team.
 - In response to this requirement, the Board began conversation to relocate the ministry and the Upper Room liaison – Lisa Herr was contacted and she suggested the Inactive- Discerning Season for an unknown period of time.
 - Unanswered question arose about COE funds and supporting materials – would they go with the COE if they relocated.
 - **Motion to adjourn.**
 - Justin Osborn moved to adjourn the meeting, Steve Neal seconded the motion, the motion passed with nine yes votes, zero no votes and zero abstentions.
 - **Next Meeting:** December 22, 2025 @ 6:30 pm

Monday, December 22, 2025	Elliot Rogers
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