

**Good Shepherd United Methodist Church  
Leadership Board Meeting Minutes  
November 15, 2022**

**In Attendance**

Darla Ludwig Bolton, Anne Britt, Jenny Fairchild, John Fuller, Dawn Heldmann, Kim Ivey, Lisa McGehee, Sonny Rea, Bryson Smith, Bob Stephens

**Guests in Attendance:** Laura Maher and family, Angie Williams, Jon Katov, Jill Perrin

**Spiritual Formation**

Jenny Fairchild opened the meeting with a devotional reading.

**Opening Remarks**

Anne Britt welcomed everyone to the meeting. She thanked Jenny for her service to the Board, and let everyone know that Jenny and her family will be moving to Blacksburg in December. Anne then reviewed the GSUMC mission and vision statements.

**Certified Lay Minister Candidate**

Laura Maher is pursuing her certification as a lay minister, which requires several courses and four modules through the Virginia Conference. She will complete the program in about 18 months. She has a mentor at Bon Air UMC, but needs the Leadership Board to sign off that they are aware of her pursuit and that they approve. Laura will also be commissioned as a new staff member this coming Sunday.

**New People**

Lisa McGehee reported that we have two women who have recently begun attending services.

**Financial Update – Budget**

Anne reported that we are a little under-budget at this time, but this is normal for us this time of year. The full reports were distributed.

**Guiding Principles**

**MOTION:** Anne made a motion to approve the Good Shepherd UMC Guiding Principles document. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Leadership Development – Introducing Open Table**

Bryson introduced Angie Williams and Jon Katov from Open Table. Jon, the founder and CEO, shared his story and why he created Open Table. “Learning to live for another who you don’t even know.” Angie then shared her story and how she came to work for Open Table.

Open Table currently operates in 33 states. Angie explained the model, which is in use at River Road UMC. Table teams (4-12 people) are recruited then trained over six weeks, plus ongoing training. Once trained, the table teams are assigned one “friend” to help through informal, social networks and support. Tables meet weekly for an hour plus share friendship and outside activities for one year.

**Next Meeting:** January 17.

**Closing Prayer**

Jenny closed the meeting with a beautiful reading from a book called "Women Prayers."