

# Church Conference 2026

*Epworth United Methodist Church  
19285 Holland Glade Road  
Rehoboth Beach, Delaware 19971  
[www.epworth.faith](http://www.epworth.faith)*



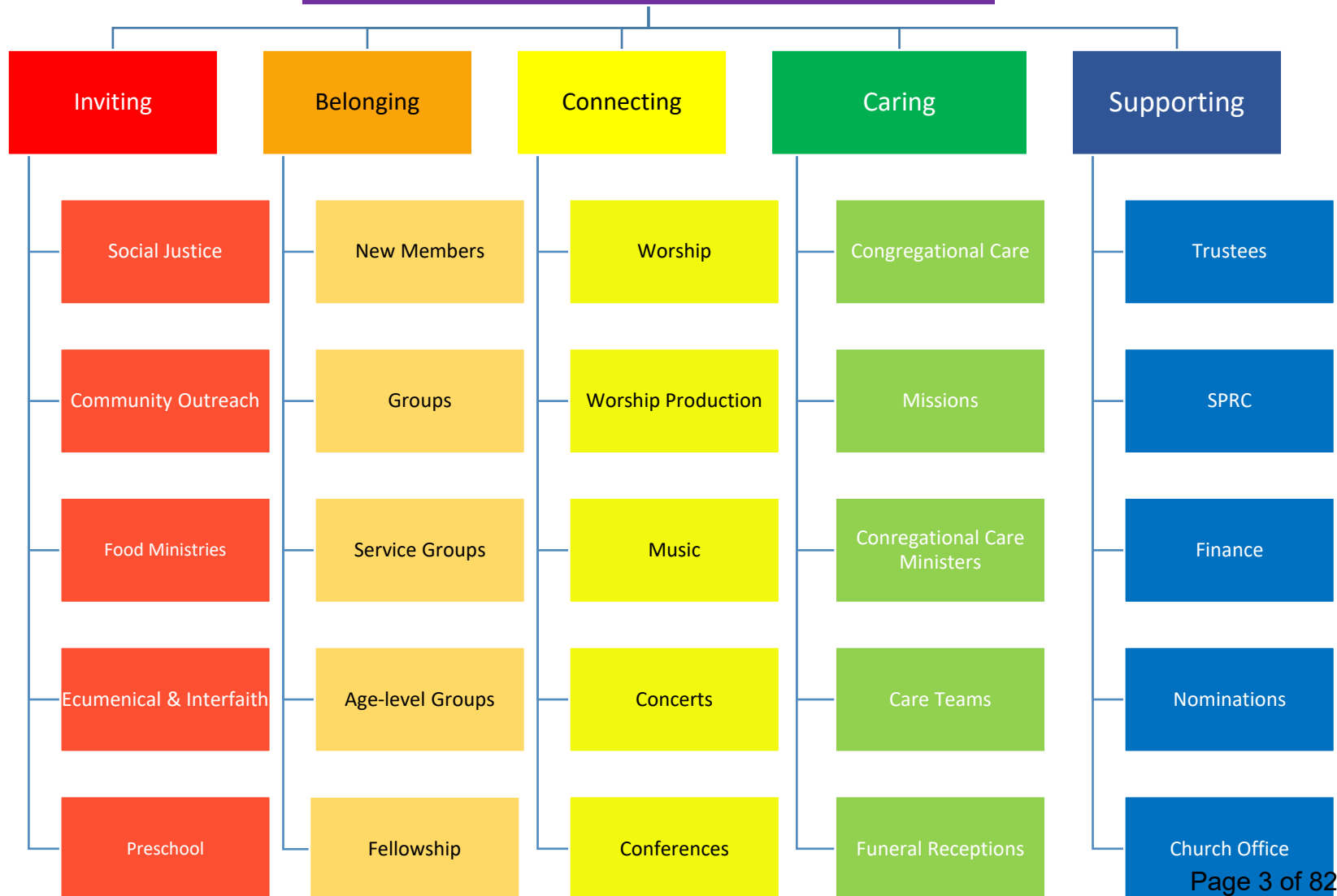
Tuesday, June 30, 2026 ~ 6:30 p.m.  
The Rev. Tom Pasmore, Delaware District Superintendent  
The Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith, Lead Pastor  
The Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith, Pastor of Media & Communication

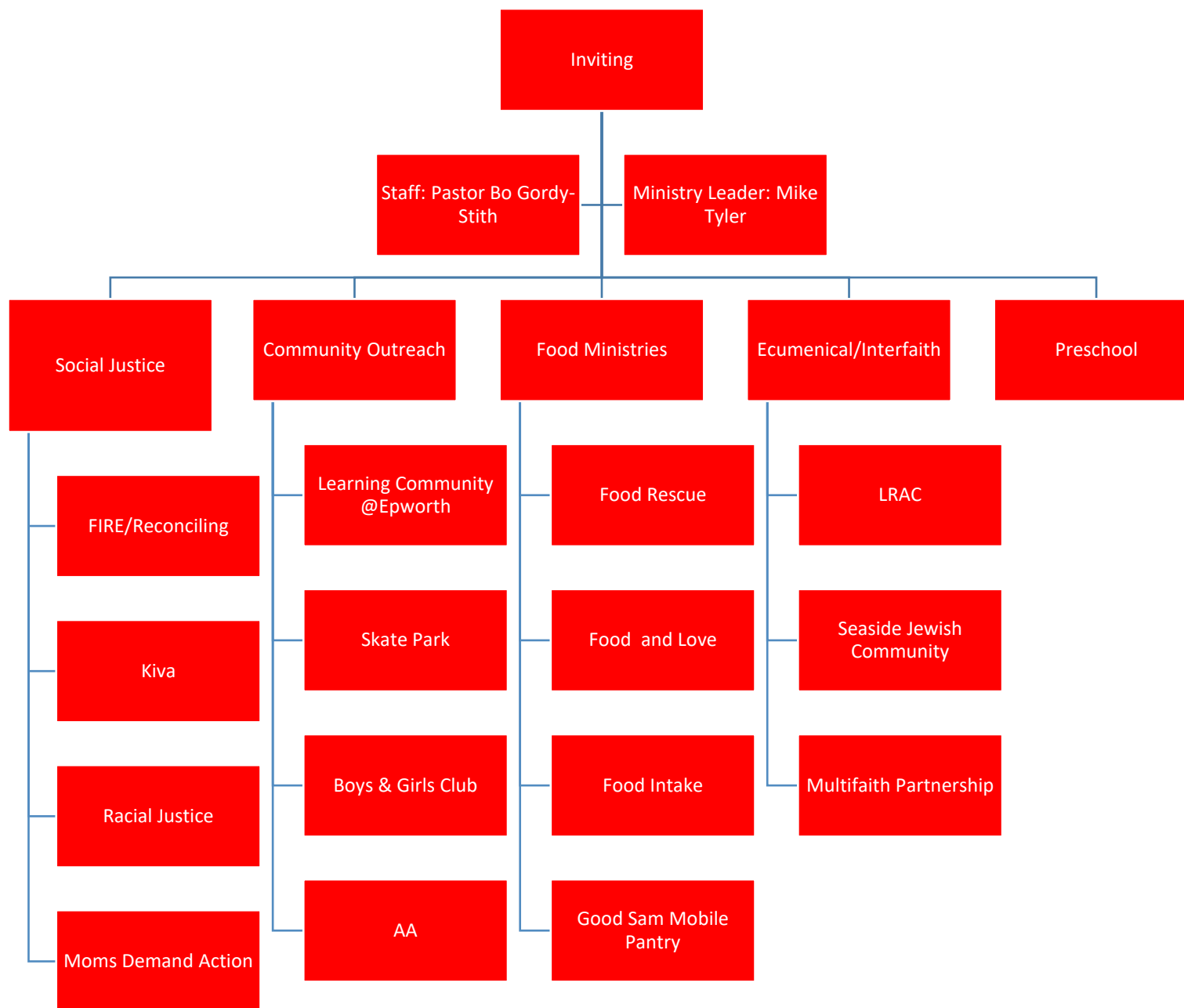
*Vision: Exploring Faith, Embracing Community  
Mission: Inviting, Belonging, Connecting, Caring*

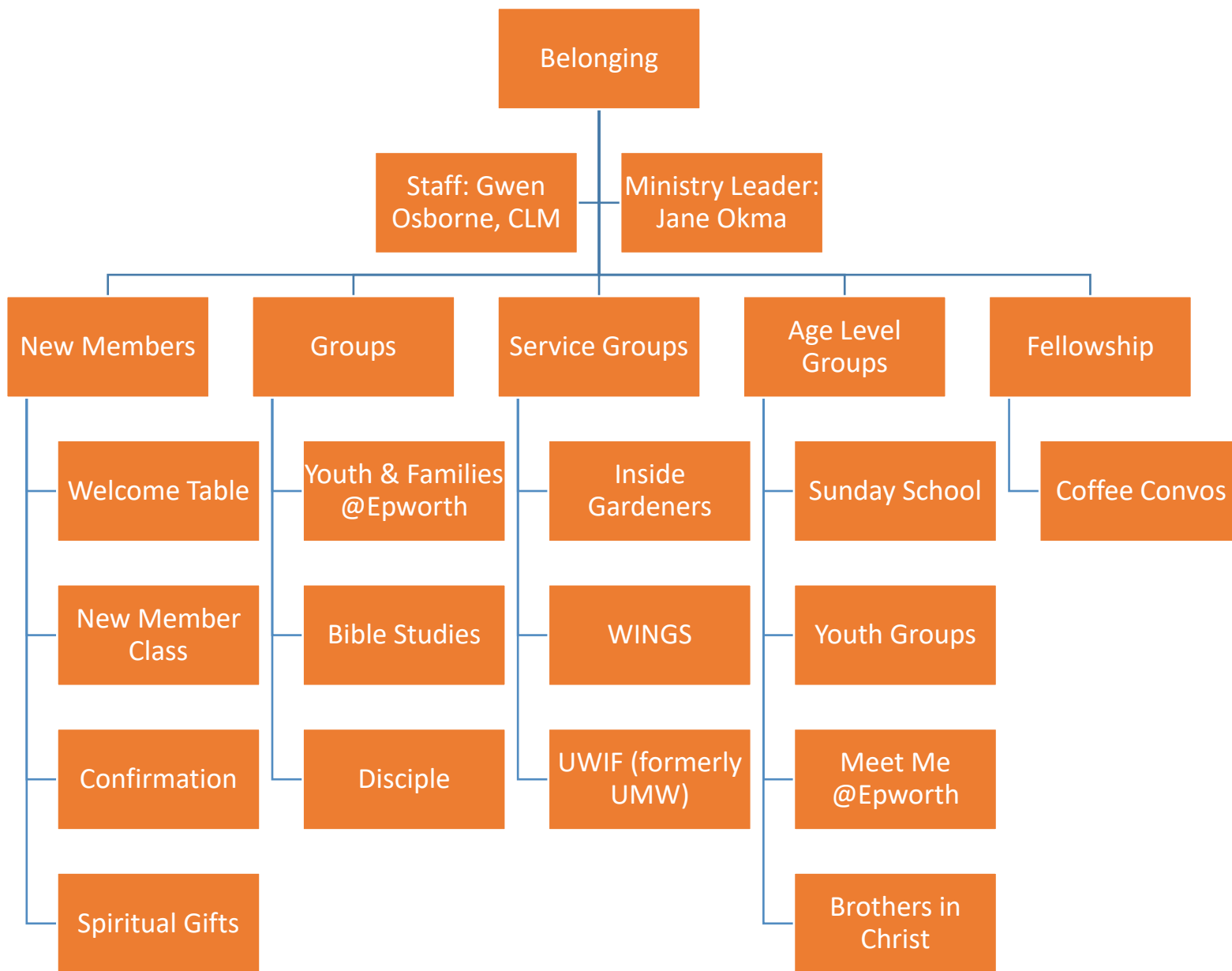
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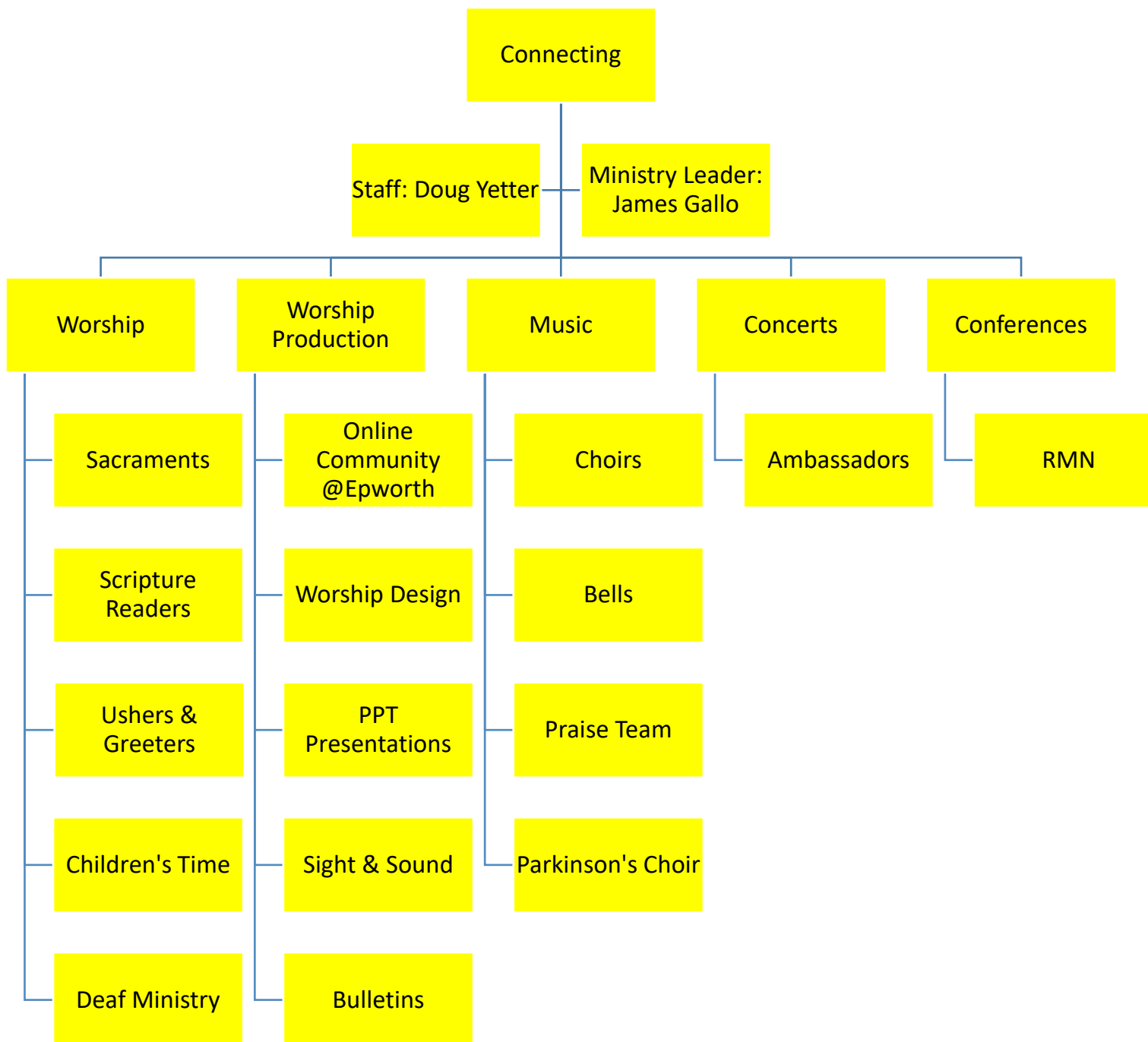
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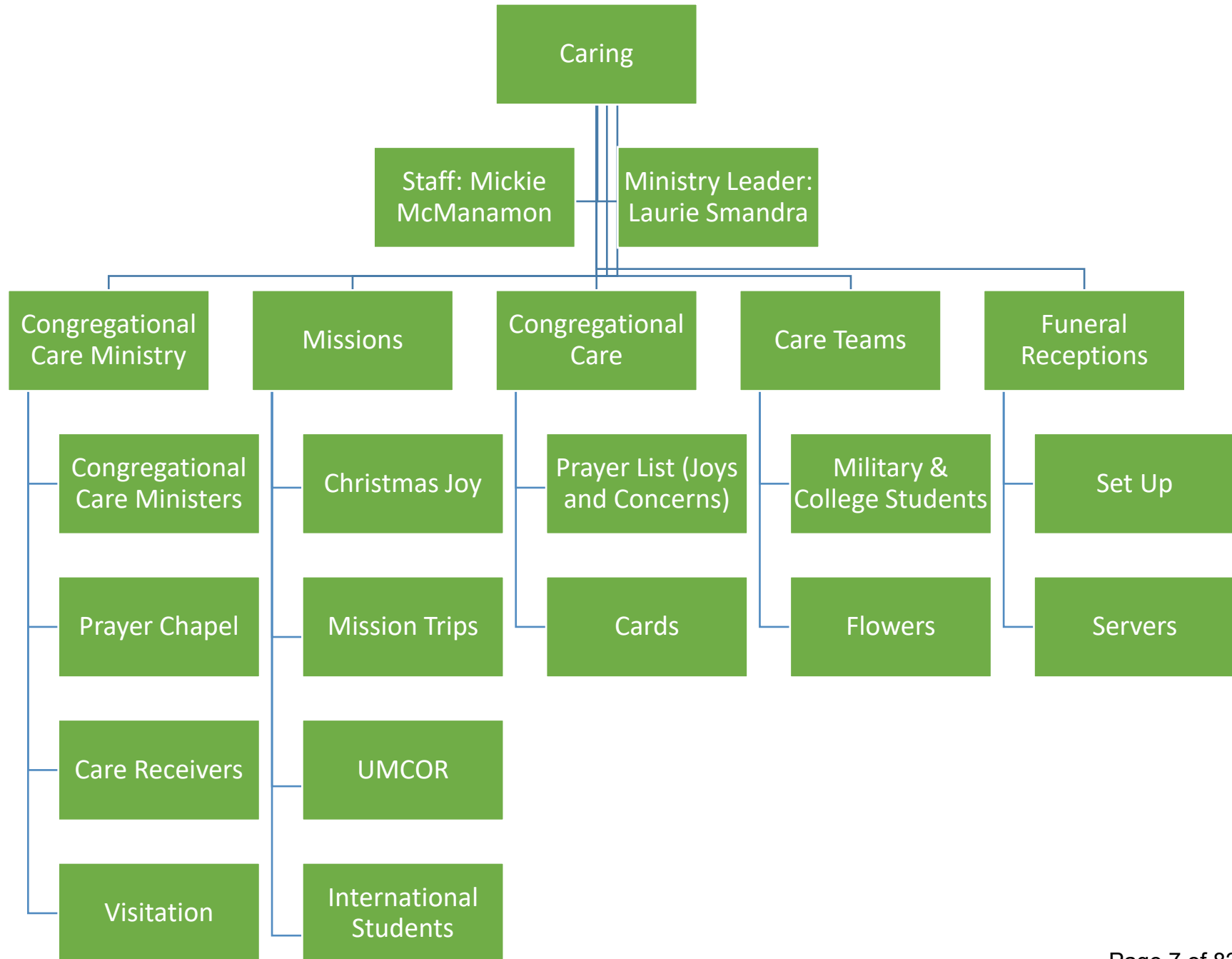
Exploring Faith/  
Embracing Community  
Pastor Vicki Gordy-Stith/Murray Archibald

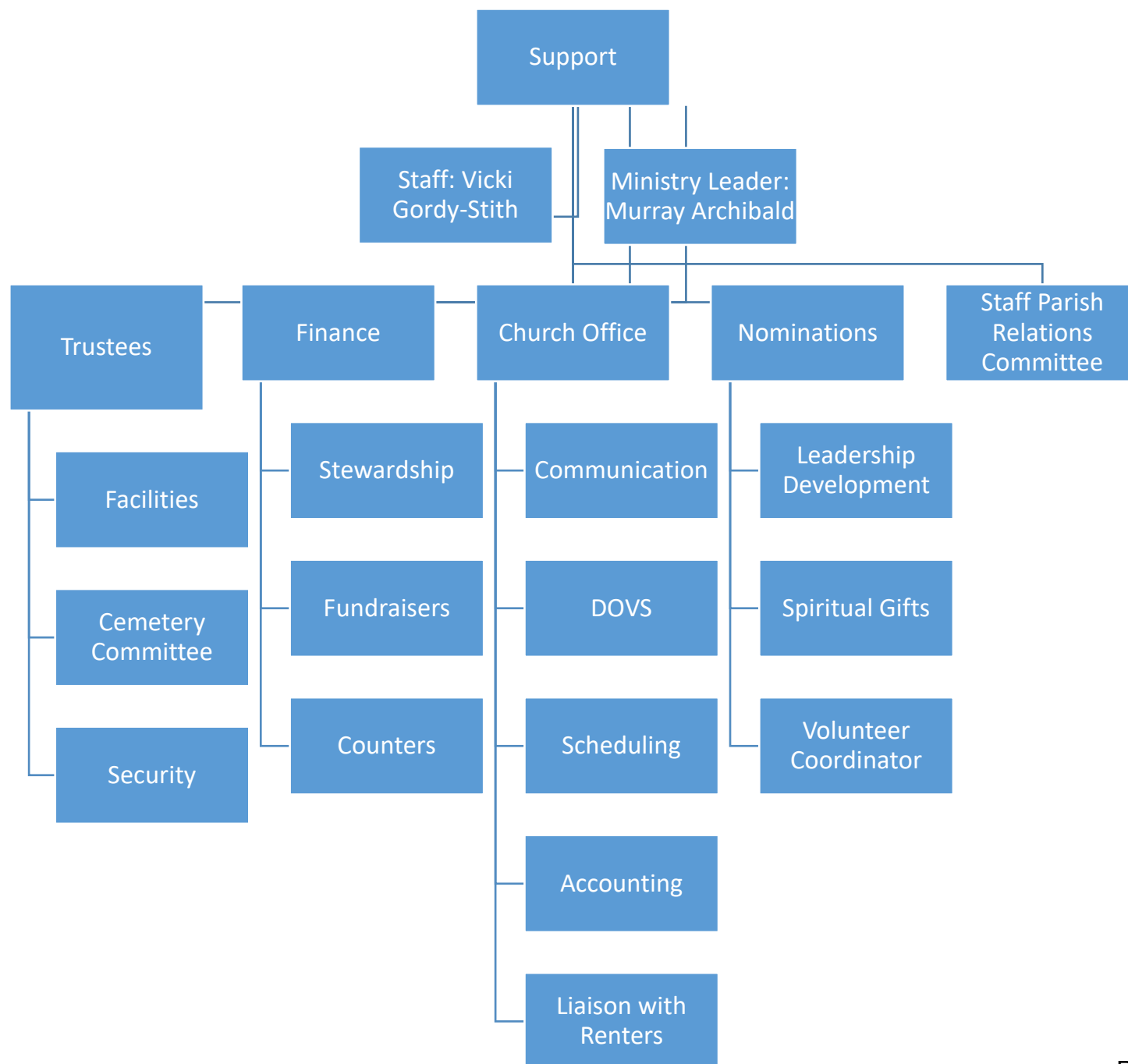












## Pastor's Narrative Report

I continue to love serving Epworth UMC, where we “Explore Faith and Embrace Community.” This past year, we focused on **Ubuntu**, based on Colossians 3:14-15: “Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.” Ubuntu, a South African word, emphasizes interconnectedness, compassion, shared responsibility, respect, reciprocity, and collective action. It can be translated roughly as, “**I am because we are.**” This year, we explored ways to bridge the divide in our communities and families and nation and how to live as one body bound together with love.

We plan our sermon series a year in advance. Supporting this theme, we preached sermon series on: Pillars of Ubuntu, The One-Another Invitations, Advent: Jesus and Human Dignity, Epiphany: Enlightening our Disagreements, Lent: Forgiveness and Reconciliation, Pentecost: All Things in Common, Repairing the Breach: Conflict Resolution, and Beatitudes: Ubuntu Blessings. I also developed and taught a Bible study on “Why Are We So Divided,” exploring ways we can bridge the divide through respectful dialogue. In that process, I connected with Braver Angels, an organization working to build bridges across the political divide.

I continue to serve as the Board of Ordained Ministry Chair. Our work this year focused on refining our process to improve equity and transparency, by creating rubrics for answers, and adjusting our timeline to only interview candidates whose paperwork passed. For Clergy Executive Session, we invited dialogue on ways we love boldly and ways we lead our communities to love boldly.

In serving our community, I focused on areas of social justice. Specifically,

- Epworth hosted and I spoke for “Good Trouble Lives On: Honoring John Lewis” in support of SDARJ, last minute due to heat index.
- I worked with Speak Out Against Hate (SOAH).
- Attended No Kings Interfaith Training and organized a prayer vigil before the No Kings Rally in RB.
- I spoke at No Kings Protest in Georgetown.
- Epworth hosted and I sang at SDARJ MLK Celebration
- I helped support Moms Demand Action Wear Orange Vigil, where I spoke and sang.
- Bo and I attended SOAH Community Dinner.
- I participated in and sang at World AIDS Day with CAMP Rehoboth.
- Epworth partnered with Tough Luck Tattoo Parlor fundraiser for Food Ministry, and I supported the effort by getting a mother-daughter tattoo.
- I serve as member of Board of Directors of LRAC (Lewes Rehoboth Area Congregations).
- Epworth hosted a Hospice Memorial Service and offered invocation.
- I was appointed to Governor’s Interfaith Council.
- I offered a prayer at Governor’s Prayer Breakfast.
- I offered the invocation at a Memorial Service for USNA 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Women at Academies and assisted in planning the service.
- I offered the invocation at Wreaths Across America ceremony in Epworth Cemetery.

In support of Epworth's Ministries:

- I conducted 15 funerals/memorial services.
- I continued to support our Grief Support Group by attending the first Thursdays of the month.
- I initiated a redesign of the music wing into a multi-use chapel, still ongoing.
- I started a new worship service at 8:00 a.m. on June 7 in the new chapel.
- I arranged the initial meeting with a Conference Vitality Specialist.
- I led the opening sessions for VBS and Epworth partnered with Israel UMC for VBS.
- I arranged for our staff to attend church safety training by State Police and we have implemented several additional safety measures.
- I held a Town Hall Meeting for Epworth to update them on the Chapel and other ministries at Epworth.

In support of the Conference and Area:

- I lead morning prayer session for United to Love, a BWC-Pen-Del Collaboration.
- I preached at Whaleyville UMC Homecoming.
- I serve on Area Committee on Episcopacy.
- I serve on NEJ Committee on Episcopacy.
- I have participated in Beaches Hub meetings.
- I serve as Chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry. We are redesigning our process to increase transparency and the equity of interviews.
- Taught Emotional Intelligence and Cultural Competence at Licensing School.

For continuing education this year:

- I completed the Certificate in Faith, Innovation and Social Impact Program through NYU.
- I attended Dunkle-Mackay Preaching Seminar.
- I took two prayer retreats (October and March).
- I participated in CPR Training with Staff.

In prayer for the coming year, we have discerned a focus for next year: Love Boldly: Hope over Fear, taken from 1 John 4:18-20: "So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate a brother or sister are liars, for those who do not love a brother or sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen." Within the current context of polarization, we struggle with hope and fear. Yet 1 John 4:18a reminds us that: "There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear." In reflecting on the denomination's new vision statement of "Love Boldly, Serve Joyfully, and Lead Courageously," we realized that both of those ideas work together. When we choose to love boldly, we find ourselves filled with hope, and that hope crushes our fear. We look forward to exploring this theme together.



# Report of the Pastor

The report of the pastor shall include the names of all persons involved in the changes in membership and other items as outlined in *The 2020/2024 Book of Discipline* (§§ 234, 340). This report should cover, as fully as possible, the work of the pastor. Care should be taken not to duplicate the reports of the Church Council, committees, organizations, and officers of the charge.

*Copies of this report should be filed with the recording secretary, pastor, district superintendent and chairperson of witness or evangelism ministries.*


Epworth United Methodist Church Church Rehoboth Beach: Epworth Charge  
Delaware District Peninsula-Delaware Annual Conference

For the period beginning June 11, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026  
DATE OF PRIOR CHARGE CONFERENCE DATE OF CURRENT CHARGE CONFERENCE

1. List those who have been received into baptized membership since the last report.  
*(Attach as a supplement.)*
2. List those who have been received into professing membership since the last report.  
*(Attach as a supplement.)*
  - a. On profession of faith or restored.
  - b. From other United Methodist churches.
  - c. From other non-United Methodist churches.
3. List those who have been removed from the professing membership since the last report.  
*(Attach as a supplement.)*
  - a. By action of the Charge Conference, or trial court, or by withdrawal.
  - b. By transfer to other United Methodist churches.
  - c. By transfer to other non-United Methodist churches.
  - d. By death.
4. Have the membership records and rolls been audited (§231)?  Yes  No  
Date of last audit: \_\_\_\_\_  
If not, please indicate reason: \_\_\_\_\_
5. The Pastor shall give a report on the state of the church and an account of pastoral ministry as it relates to (§ 340): providing support, guidance, and training to the lay membership in the church; ministering within the congregation and to the world; and administering the temporal affairs of the congregation. Include as a part of the report, a statement outlining the pastor's program of continuing education and spiritual growth for the past year and plans for the year to come (§ 350). *(Attach as a supplement.)*

SEND COPIES TO:

1. The recording secretary
2. Pastor
3. District Superintendent
4. Chairperson of witness or evangelism ministries.

Signed 

Printed Name Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

Date: June 17, 2026

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MEMBERSHIP AUDIT

The church council shall appoint a committee to audit the membership record, submitting the report annually to the charge conference. [¶ 231] The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church (2016)

CHURCH:	Epworth United Methodist Church	CHARGE:	Rehoboth Beach, DE
DISTRICT:	Delaware	CONFERENCE:	Peninsula-Delaware
BEGINNING DATE:	7/1/25	ENDING DATE:	6/30/26

## I. MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

\* List names on the back of the form indicating how each was received or removed.

\* Please list names of all persons baptized on the back and indicate Membership Status, if any.

MEMBERSHIP RECORDS & REPORTS [¶ 214-242]	1. Total at Beginning of Period	2. Additions*	3. Gross Total (Add Cols. 1 & 2)	4. Total Removed*	5. Total at End of Period
Professing Members [Section V: Church Membership; ¶214-225]	554	23	577	83 77 Plus 6 Deaths	494
Baptized Members who have not become Professing Members [¶ 215, 226, 231, 240]	34	0	34	0	34
Constituency Roll [¶ 230.3]	168	0	168	5	163
Affiliate Membership Roll [¶ 227] (member of another UMC)	8	0	8	4	4
Associate Membership Roll [¶ 227] (member of another denomination)	4	5	9	0	9

## II. NOTATIONS AND SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS IN KEEPING RECORDS

The Committee on Membership Audit has examined the rolls listed on this page, has reconciled the rolls with the membership changes (by name and number) as reported by the pastor, and has found the totals displayed to be correct and the records properly kept, except as noted above.

Signed:   
Membership Secretary

Signed:   
Pastor

**Membership Audit List  
July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026**

**Joined by Confession of Faith/Reaffirmation (14)**

Marty Rockey	Mark Cori
Virginia Gouse	Gwendolyn Miller
Emmalea Ruff	Gregory Miller
Wayne Perry	Susan Russell
Hary Martens	Kathleen Berault-Chmielewski
Sandi Lebens-Mosher	Matthew Brown
Dean Sheaver	Michael Finley

**Joined by Baptism (0)**

**Joined by Other Denomination (3)**

Sue Ellen Hearn	Holly Hearn
Larry Hearn	

**Removed from Membership by Death (10)**

Lois Shelley	Jim Arty
Joanne Merrick	Anita Stockton
Dean Shearer	Jean Young
Diane Cooper	Frances Mason
Brian Bowman	Melda Bengston

**Joined by UMC Transfer (6)**

John Griffiths	James Gallo
LaVerne Griffiths	Beth LaBella
Helen Quave	Greg Foster

**Removed from Membership by Transfer to another UMC (0)**

## Pastor of Media and Communication Church Conference Report for 2025-26

Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith

In October, 2025, I attended a Storytelling Festival in Jonesboro, Tennessee with my father and brother. During that weekend, I renewed my commitment to serve as a preacher-storyteller and engaged in online worship at Epworth while marveling at how well the Epworth AV Team did without me. Shuan Redick handles the livestream sound with exquisite attention to detail. Mike Duer not only takes care of lighting and presentation cues during worship but also sets up the weekly Constant Contact e-mail and YouTube Sunday service link – and he met with me and Lee Ann Walling monthly to learn about and implement better ways to communicate at Epworth.

Bryan Warner, Epworth’s Bookkeeper, not only knows how to tell a great story through camera positions and settings, he also assisted me in handling the cameras for several funerals, and awakened his grace-filled teaching skills with Jamie Forshey and Aysha Damir. Jamie Forshey brings both technical and artistic flair to the camera switcher, but also a grace that fills the booth with love. Since joining Epworth’s AV Team in November, 2025, Aysha Damir quickly learned cameras, lighting, and sound, then swept rental groups off their feet with hospitality.

Brianna Smandra inspires us and makes us laugh, handling sound on the sanctuary floor, (exiled from the booth) Sunday after Sunday. We look forward to a summer of training her in the other AV arts of lighting and cameras. We bid goodbye to veteran undergrads, Noah Ryan and Thomas Vyas (they both dropped in from time to time to work their magic with sanctuary floor sound and cameras, respectfully). And though Lee Ann Walling has other duties Sunday mornings with the Praise Team, she brings creativity and know-how to our website

and started a Podcast in June, 2026 to highlight the stories of our lives in faith.

How grateful I am to them all.



This year, I taught an Evangelism course at our June Licensing School for Pastors.

### **Epworth Media & Communications Milestones 2025-26**

- Replaced Conference Room Computer
- Audited all (20) Church computers and repurposed the newest one to Livestreaming
- Audited AV equipment and consumables
- Audited Sound, Projection, Lighting Instruments and Cameras
- Reviewed and Revised AV Manual
- Onboarded student intern from CHHS - integrated into Sunday team for training and rental coverage
- Engaged in 9-Module Pro-Church AV training with Mike Duer and Lee Ann Walling
  - Updated/expanded file photo library
  - Added video sermon previews Thursdays
  - Focused announcements on top three (cut from five minutes to 2-3 minutes)
  - Audited Website
    - Redesigned navigation
    - Updated pictures
    - Incorporated color palette
- Redesigned church logo and color scheme
- Installed microphones and speakers in sanctuary (CAP-EX)
- Ordered main speakers in sanctuary (CAP-EX)
- Resolved stage/shell curtain issue (March-July 25)
- Completed electrical equipment recycling cleanup of AV booth 25 Oct 25
- Designed and taught Healthy Digital Hygiene fall '25
- Filmed/edited Worship Service for snowstorm 25 Jan 26
- Chapel Task Force - researched and ordered sound system that makes use of existing equipment
- Provided AV support for eight funerals - including livestream and picture reels
- Explored ways to share curated chat comments with in-person congregation
- Added lobby announcement screen and signal using an expansion of our outdoor sign software
- Migrated website to new hosting provider, Hostinger, in June, 2026 after unsuccessfully troubleshooting administrative access issues with Bluehost
- Upgraded internet access for staff and congregation (working with Tammy Zhang and Response Computer Group)

**Christina L. Whaley**  
**pastortina@aol.com**  
**302-841-7589**

May 23, 2026

Charge Conference Report:

As Saint Francis de Sales wisely advised, “Have patience to walk with short steps until you have wings to fly.” Saint Francis encourages an active faith, trust, and self-compassion, and doing what is immediately within your view. The realization of your goals, spiritual maturity, and ultimate potential is the result. Such has been my life over this past year.

Most of life and ministry remain the same. Kenny and I continue to live outside of Snow Hill, MD. We still enjoy being involved in the lives of our three children and four grandchildren; the change is we are all a year older. Kenny continues to volunteer delivering Meals on Wheels. We are blessed worshipping God and connecting with the people at Epworth UMC in Rehoboth Beach. This year I had the wonderful opportunity to be the Face to Face Encounter Spiritual Director held right here at Epworth in May – June 2025.

As to “patience to walk with short steps,” in 2024 my primary eye doctor discovered that I have Fuchs Dystrophy. He made a referral to a cornea specialist, whose care I have been under since March 2025. This led to being first on a wait list for a DSEK corneal transplant in which I would receive two weeks’ notice of the actual transplant. Long story short, I held back on some new opportunities and plans to offer Spiritual Formation to avoid cancellation at the last minute. The actual surgery did not occur until March 2, 2026, and the cornea did not initially completely attach. This resulted in a second surgery on April 15<sup>th</sup>. The good news is that I can begin the next steps as my vision will continue to improve over the months to come.

Personally, being a retired pastor, offering Spiritual Formation and Spiritual Direction for All is my ministry focus as I meet with those who are seeking God in their everyday life experiences and/or are seeking a deeper relationship with God. It is an honor to meet with groups and/or directees in person or on zoom as churches of various denominations offer me sacred space for this ministry. I contribute monthly to a cohort group for spiritual direction, supervision, and personal “checking in,” and meet personally apart from this with a spiritual director monthly.

As an independent contractor with Discipleship Ministries of The Upper Room Emmaus Ministries, I have participated with other Consultants and Communicators in the monthly zoom meetings. Being a Communicator involves having an ongoing relationship working with the “Communities” assigned to me. Reviewing my 2025 Charge Conference Report, I noted serving sixteen Communities at that point. On July 15, 2025, my contract expanded by twelve more Communities such that I am involved with areas in Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Florida, and South Georgia. The communications and guidance offered occur through zoom, websites, phone calls, texting, emails, and Facebook.

In my own personal spiritual growth, I am being led weekly by a personal spiritual guide through the Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius. We are using *The Ignatian Adventure* by Kevin

O'Brien, SJ (September 2025 – June 2026). This has led to deeper daily contemplation and journaling in my own spiritual formation. I also participated in two retreats offered on zoom through St. Benedict Center in Nebraska by Oblate Director Steve Blum, PhD and Fr. Thomas, OSB. In the "Praying with Julian of Norwich Retreat" (September – December 2025), we used the book *Julian of Norwich: The Showings* by Mirabai Starr. The second retreat "Praying with *The Cloud of Unknowing*" began in April 2026 and runs for twelve weeks focusing on the book by William Johnston. These experiences are enriching my own spiritual life, formation, and relationship with God.

Being a Benedictine Oblate, I continue to be the Newark Oblate Director of Spiritual Formation. I participate in monthly ecumenical meetings, retreats, and Days of Reflection. During this past year, my activities have included mentoring an inquirer who will be making her Oblate Profession on July 11<sup>th</sup>. I also offered in December 2025 "Advent Listening with Silence: Saint Joseph," an experience using Lectio-Visio Divina contemplating the four dreams of Joseph and various pieces of artwork from the 1620s to present.

Lastly, I continue to take Sabbath time each week where I meet with God in silence and reflection. This is my way of centering with God, listening with the ear of my heart to the voice of God, and returning to the world to better serve God.

Grace and Peace,  
Christina L. Whaley

# **2025 Charge Conference Report**

## **Epworth United Methodist Church**

### **Inviting Ministries – Pastor Bo Gordy-Stith & Bob Tyler – Leaders**

The Inviting Ministry is composed of: Communications, Ecumenical/Interfaith, Food Ministries, Inclusive Ministries, and Social Justice

#### **Media & Communications**

- Replaced Conference Room computer.
- Audited all (20) Church computers.
- Audited AV equipment and consumables:
  - Sound (Soundboard; stage pocket switchboard; 33 wireless and 3 wired microphones; 4 amplifiers, 2 main (with 4 woofer) speakers; 12 chandelier fill speakers; 5 monitor wedges; 2 hot spot monitors; 1 in-ear drum monitor; 2 AV booth monitors; 8 lobby ceiling speakers; 6 choir room ceiling speakers).
  - Projection (3 projectors; 1 reflective and 2 backlit screens).
  - Lighting (12 house chandeliers, 48 stage lights, 8 floor lights).
  - Cameras (7 total – 4 PTZ remote controlled; 1 PTZ remote zoom; 2 remote stage cameras).
  - Computers (5 total – Pro-Presenter; ASL; REG Livestream (w/dual screens); ATEM 2 Switcher & Projector control; iPad for remote sound board operations from Sanctuary floor).
- Reviewed and revised AV Manual.
- Onboarded student intern from CHHS – integrated into Sunday team for training and rental coverage.
- Engaged in 9-Module Pro-Church AV training with Mike Duer and Lee Ann Walling:
  - Updated/expanded file photo library.
  - Added video sermon previews Thursdays.
  - Focused announcements on top 2-3 (cut from 5 to 2-3 minutes).
  - Audited Website:
    - Redesigned navigation.
    - Updated pictures.
    - Incorporated color palette.
  - Redesigned Church Logo and color scheme.
- Installed microphones and speakers in Sanctuary (CAP-EX).
- Resolved stage/shell curtain issue (March-July 2025).
- Electrical recycling cleanup of AV booth (Oct 2025)
- Designed and taught Healthy Digital Hygiene (Fall 2025)
- Filed/edited Worship Service for snowstorm (Jan 2026)
- Chapel TF – sound system.
- Eight funerals – including livestream and picture reels.
- Explored ways to share curated chat comments (with permission) with in-person congregation.

#### **Ecumenical/Interfaith**

- **The Lewes Rehoboth Association of Congregation (LRAC)** provides over \$825,000 of annual funding for the shelter, feeding, and empowerment ministries including the Community Resource Center, Family Promise of Southern Delaware, What is Your Voice domestic shelter, Lighthouse for Broken Wings shelter, the Springboard Collaborative shelter, West Side New Beginnings youth and community enrichment ministry, The Way Home halfway house for

persons released from incarceration, Cape Henlopen Food Basket, and the Milton Community Food Pantry. These programs are funded from **New Life Thrift Store** proceeds from selling donated items, thanks to a paid staff of three and 150 volunteers. Epworth's Pastor is on the LRAC Board of Directors, as well as one other Epworth church member. Epworth also has members who volunteer at the New Life Thrift Store.

- **Community Resource Center (CRC)** – This is an outreach program of LRAC. CRC provides funds, food, shelter, and support in many ways. Our Food Rescue ministry provides food to the CRC. This program is growing all the time due to the large homeless population in the area as well as those persons affected by the seasonal work in the area.
- **Seaside Jewish Community** – Epworth continues to partner in ministry and fellowship with our neighboring Jewish synagogue as our ministry partners. They are closely involved with our Food Rescue, Kitchen@Epworth, ISOP summer suppers, Social Justice projects (including LRAC), the Your Neighbors' Faith interfaith group, and the Beebe Cares monthly delivery to former patients who are food insecure. They have even provided funds for some of these projects! Our youth group and congregation join with them in community outreach efforts. We have for the past 13 years hosted their High Holy Days services in our sanctuary. This year, they collected food for distribution in our Good Sam ministry during the services.

**Food Ministries**

Our four Food Ministry Teams, building on their work from previous years, continued their important outreach and support to our community during this past year. We partner with area homeless shelters, the Community Resource Center (CRC), Beebe Cares, Milton Food Bank, La Esperanza, Pearl Domestic Violence Houses, and other support organizations in Sussex County.

- **Food Rescue** – During 2025 our Food Rescue Teams collected more than 409,000 pounds of food from 20 area grocery stores, restaurants, and farmer markets. These include:
 

WAWA	Grocery Outlet	Rehoboth Beach Giant
Giant Millville Market	Aldi	Historic Lewes Farmers
Fifer Market	Outback	Chick-fil-a
Surf Bagel	Tomato Sunshine	LaBaguette
	Panera	

Team Lead Maureen Knesel and her dedicated volunteers work tirelessly five days a week to transport, unload, triage, and stage 205 tons of fresh produce for distribution that would otherwise go to waste. While most of the rescued produce goes to our Good Sam distribution ministry, we supply:

Beebe Cares	Cape Henlopen Food	Basket
Hispanic Coalition	House of Mercy	Transformation Center
La Esperanza	Community Resource Center	Lighthouse for Broken Wings
Mary Mother of Peace	Milton Community Food Pantry	Savannah West
Sheltering Heart	Teach a Person to Fish Society	What is Your Voice

- **Food Intake (Pantry)** – During 2025 our Food Pantry Teams collected more than 52,415 pounds of food from individual contributors. Our Food Pantry Teams collect donations on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Team Leads Dotti Outland and Tom Lewis coordinated. In addition to our congregation members, many community members regularly and significantly donate food for us to distribute to our neighbors in need. Among these are the Delaware Food Bank, the GFWC Zwaanendael Women's Club, Stephen & Co. Salon and Spa, the Harry K. Foundation, the Lewes and Rehoboth Beach Rotary Clubs, the U.S. Postal Service, Rehoboth Elks, and neighborhood groups.
- **Food & Love (Kitchen@Epworth)** – Our volunteers on five Kitchen Teams continued to prepare hot meals for sharing with Good Sam Mobile clients and dine-in patrons at Epworth on

Sunday afternoons. During 2025, our Kitchen Teams prepared more than 3,900 hot meals for delivery to those in need. Maureen Knesel joined Epworth's staff as Kitchen Sexton and Dotti Outland expanded her responsibilities to include Food & Love as well as Food Intake. Epworth hosted meals prepared by our Kitchen@Epworth teams on Tuesday evenings for the local J-1 Students who were in the area for the summer of 2025 working at local businesses. This is a place for J-1 Students to receive a nourishing meal, information about our local area, and socialize with other students and our volunteers. J-1 Students also come to our Good Sam food distribution days on Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday to receive much needed food. We expect a similar number of J-1 Students during the summer of 2026 as we had in 2025 and have realized our efforts to better match the anticipated number of students.

- **Good Sam (Distribution)** – During 2025 our Good Sam Teams distributed shelf stable produce and hot food to more than 15,817 individuals at our Good Sam Mobile drive-through on Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. We receive email requests from community members to volunteer in the ministry almost weekly on our website. In addition to managing the many volunteers for the ministry, Team Lead David Streit also vets, trains, and integrates these new volunteers.

### Inclusive Ministries

- **Preschool** – Epworth Preschool is celebrating its 38<sup>th</sup> year as one of the most reputable, respected, and sought-after preschools in the community. We provide a nurturing, safe, and age-appropriate learning experience for children aged 2-4 years old. We include arts and crafts, music, sign language, science, gross motor activities, and devotions in our daily curriculum. We have a Board made up of Preschool Staff, EUMC Finance, and Board of Trustee Representatives, the Pastor, and former educators who meet quarterly. We offer two-, three-, and five-day classes, which meet from 9:00am to noon or 9:00am to 2:00pm. We also offer six weeks of summer camps with various themes. We currently have waiting lists for our camps and for fall.
- **Recovery Groups** – Epworth continues to “embrace community” by opening its doors to all support groups. This important initiative has proved successful providing meeting space to multiple groups.
- **Skatepark@Epworth** – has continued as a wonderful outreach to the younger community. While not officially an Epworth Ministry, the park is hosted on the Epworth campus – a zero-dollar lease. They have a Board of Directors who oversee the park, raise funds, pay for insurance and repairs – in turn, they report to the Epworth Trustees. The skatepark is in need of concrete repairs and they are in the process of organizing some fundraising events this summer to help fund these improvements.
- **Boys & Girls Club of Rehoboth** – They continue to lease space from Epworth. A new contract has been approved and will begin July 1<sup>st</sup> for three years. Attendance has been steady as it provides a safe place for structured after-school and summer activities to young people in our community.

### Social Justice

Social Justice concerns are very real at Epworth Church. When we say “All Means All”, we reach into many facets of our lives and the lives of our community, both near and far. The various concerns of Social Justice include:

- **Moms Demand Action** – This group has advocated for the cessation of gun violence and proper management of gun ownership. Bills that have passed in the Delaware Legislature now require applicants to be fingerprinted, obtain a permit, and receive training in the use of handguns.

- **Sisters Group** – This interfaith group consists of those of Jewish, Muslim, and Christian faiths. The women meet and share ideas, hopes, information, and prayers.
- **FIRE** (Faithfully Inviting and Reconciling Everyone) – The first Sunday of each month, FIRE encourages everyone to wear an Equality Stole. This is a sign of our commitment to equality for all people, and a celebration of Epworth being a Reconciling Congregation.
- **2025 Accomplishments**
  - Conducted a candlelight Prayer Vigil for Peace at Epworth Church with representatives from the Seaside Jewish Community and Reverend Marjorie Belmont from the Israel United Methodist Church in Lewes. Even with the threat of a tornado, at least 80 to 100 people were in attendance.
  - Supported MOMs Demand Action Beaches Chapter during their Wear Orange event at the Rehoboth Beach bandstand to promote gun safety with speakers including Governor Matt Myers.
  - Served as volunteers for the annual LOVE, Inc. fundraiser held at the Rehoboth Beach Convention Center which raised \$16,202 for the homeless population. The fundraiser was organized and directed by committee member Kim Witmer.
  - Promoted the United Methodist Church Missionary Project in Leland North Carolina from September 13<sup>th</sup>-September 20<sup>th</sup>. Kim Witmer, Bob Paulen, and Mike Duer from the Social Justice Committee participated in the project.
  - The committee sponsored a children’s diaper drive for victims of ICE enforcement efforts. The committee collected and delivered 4,668 diapers, 600 baby wipes and 45 jars of food.
  - The committee also sponsored a clothing drive for the homeless to benefit the Community Resource Center, 190 pairs of socks, 65 pairs of gloves, 70 hats, 95 hoodies, 30 coats, 36 scarves, 15 sweaters, 4 pairs of pants, 4 shirts, and 2 vests were all donated by the congregation.

Amos 5:24 prays, “Let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!” And in Micah 6:8, “He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. “May this ever be so at Epworth and throughout our community.

**Belonging Ministry**  
**2026 Charge Conference Report**  
**Submitted by Linda L. BenderHilt, Belonging Ministry Leader**  
**Supported by Gwen Osborne – staff liaison, Cathie Lewis, Robin Duer, and as of 1/2026,**  
**Jane Okma and Todd Popham**

Belonging is the Ministry Team that focuses on New Members, Group/Book Study, Age Level Groups such as Youth and Sunday School. Service Groups and Fellowship are also a component of this ministry. Gwen Osborne is the staff representative.

**New Members** classes were held 4x during the year (quarterly); with a total of 46 new members joining and six baptisms. Led by our Lay Leader, Todd Popham, each group met for a one-day session for about 4 ½ hours. A new members' brunch breakfast is usually planned for two weeks after officially joining.

**Looking Forward,**

- There will be a new lay leader with the beginning of the new church year, July 1<sup>st</sup>. She has some new ideas for changing up the new members' classes slightly. Anticipation is that the classes will be held once a quarter, possibly more.
- New members will continue to work with the volunteer coordinator.

**Groups** continue to grow yearly.

- Ministry fairs were held in September (18+ participants) and February (10 participants) to give the congregation an opportunity to meet the group leaders and share information about their group; over 100 folks participated in these events!
- The form for Exploring Faith Class continues to be available to leaders; uploaded to our website and is to be completed by those wishing to lead a faith class
- Zoom groups continued to meet Tuesday evenings – Faith Friends
- Many leaders did more than one book study
- David Garrett and Rev. Beth Labella Foster held a Lenten book study, An Unlikely Lent: Extraordinary People of the Easter Story
- Various Bible and Book study groups have met throughout the year: The Salt and Light Express written by our own Lee Ann Walling; Called to Journey, Called to Welcome; The Why and How of Stories; Healthy Digital Hygiene; Why Are We So Polarized and What Can We Do?; Unshakeable Hope: Building our Lives on the Promises of God; Christianity and World Religions, Christian Nationalism; Spirituality and Age: A Seekers Guide to Growing Older; "Never Give Up" (Relentless Determination to Overcome Life's Challenges); The Spirituality of Age, How to Know a Person; The Wisdom Jesus
- New Programs: Social Justice, The Mankind Project, USA
- Our Volunteering groups continue to operate and flourish: flower ministry, food rescue and mobile pantry, Stephen Ministry, Wings, card making and sending, Good Sam cards, fellowship coffee hour, food, and love kitchen crew, adopt a highway, Kiva, Epworth

facility team, FIRE, social justice, scripture readers, ushers, SS teachers, youth group, hospitality group/greeters, security team, CDL bus operators

- Meet Me at Epworth has scaled events back to 4 events a year from Labor Day until Memorial Day, mostly due to traffic in Rehoboth during the summer. The events are the big Memorial Day picnic, Halloween Costume party, Christmas Ugly Sweater party and St. Patrick's Day party.

### **Looking Forward**

- An Education Fair is being planned for the fall 2026 to open/introduce new classes
- Continue to find and develop new classes that will meet everyone's needs

**Service groups** also play a significant part in the Belonging Ministry:

**WINGS (Women in God's Service)** is a women's group that provides help where it is needed in the Church and helps church members connect with the many groups that the Church provides. This has become a vital service for the Church. They are usually the second group to greet and help visitors upon entering the church after the door welcome ushers.

- Helps Church office with mailings
- Welcomes visitors to the church
- Provide answers to questions about the Church to visitors and members
- Create bags for distribution through the Mobile Pantry at Valentine's Day, Easter, Mothers' Day, and Fathers' Day
- Help with events sponsored by the Church such as the Easter Egg Hunt, Breakfast with Santa, The Cookie Walk, fund raisers, and Vacation Bible School

### **Epworth UMC - Brothers in Christ Men's Ministry**



#### **Vision:**

- To build a thriving men's ministry enabling men to build relationships through fellowship, exploring their faith, and embracing community.

#### **Start Date**

- January 3, 2024

#### **Meeting Schedule:**

- Bi-Weekly from 9 – 10:00 am
- Location: Panera's 18423 Bryan Dr Rehoboth Beach, DE
- 9 – 9:15 Prayer/Joys & Concerns
- 9:15 – 9:45 Devotional/Faith Topic
- 9:45 – 10:00 Epworth Support Discussion/Prayer/Adjourn

- Facilitator: Todd Popham – Lay Leader

### Ministry Goals:

- Epworth Social Justice Committee Collaboration
- Book Club
- Men's Retreat
- Fellowship Events

**Sunday School** continues at Epworth; it is a year-round program. Attendance varies; one week with no children, three weeks with 1 child, three holidays: July had a week of 11; December had two weeks of 8 and 7 respectfully and Easter Sunday, we had 18+ children including nursery age children! Average attendance ranges from 4 to 6 children. The Sunday School roster consists of 22 families with a total of 39 children ranging from ages 2 to 12. A Children's Celebration is included in each Sunday worship service.

- Children have participated in the service as acolytes
- Curriculum continues a rotation schedule that includes storytelling, art, spiritual practice, games, missions, science, and cooking centered on a monthly Bible story
- We came full circle in 3 years, 5 months going through 40+ bible stories; we are on our second cycle of the 40+ bible stories
- Nine Church members work in teams of 2 each week to develop and share the Bible story's theme; a team of 2 is with our nursery-age children
- On the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month, Sunday school is held in the fellowship hall with arts & crafts, games, etc. led by Heather Mento who is assisted by the Youth group
- Vacation Bible School 2025: We had lots of fun this week as we explored the great Alaskan tundra. Our theme this year was True North: Trusting Jesus in a Wild World. It is easy to lose sight of what is true in our wild / chaotic world. Through bible adventure/sticky scripture, science/imagination, games, and music, we learned that Jesus is a faithful friend we can always trust! He is our true north! *Ponder* the otter taught us it's okay to wonder and question things – we can trust Jesus to show us the way. *Clawdia*, the Alaskan king crab shared when we feel alone/lonely, we can trust Jesus. *Kody*, the Kodiak bear showed us that when we feel powerless, we can trust Jesus. *Ernest*, the eagle, told us when we need hope, we can turn to and trust Jesus. Lastly, *Bruce* the moose said when we need help, we can trust Jesus.
- Where is Jesus? In our hearts and all around.
- Who is our true north? Jesus
- It takes a village to raise a child; well, I've learned it takes a church to pull off a successful Vacation Bible School! 21 children registered; smallest evening was 9 and largest evening was 15; 7 youth volunteers and 40+ adults.

### Looking Forward

- We are planning to continue this curriculum for next year

- Bi-monthly emails to parents and Sunday School volunteers on Sunday school happenings
- There will be Vacation Bible School this summer – theme is Rainforest Falls: Exploring the Nature of God; June 22-26, 2026. This year we will be traveling to the rainforest: Step through the mist into Rainforest Falls, overflowing with wild waterfalls, towering trees, and colorful creatures. Beneath a canopy of chattering birds and howling monkeys, kids plunge into a lifelong adventure of discovering the nature of God. They'll explore what it means to be rooted in relationship with God, their creator, a safe place in life's storms.
- A confirmation class continues to be offered by our Youth Group Director, Joy Gordy-Stith, but the students' parents were not interested at this time. She will continue to offer the class each year.

The **Youth Program** continues to meet biweekly with our Epworth youth during the worship service; led by our youth group director, Joy Gordy-Stith. No report was submitted.

**NOTE:** Epworth is a Safe Sanctuary church. We have a safe sanctuary plan and an anti-bullying policy that we reinforce as new teachers and leaders are found. We work to provide a safe and secure place for our children and youth as we continue our children's programs.

**Fellowship** (formerly Family Ministries/ Community Outreach) will continue. We were able to hold our Easter Egg Hunt, inviting children and their families through the Sunday School, Epworth Preschool, Vacation Bible school, and Rehoboth Beach Boys' and Girls' Club. Families enjoyed hunting for eggs, refreshments, activities and games – the weather cooperated and we were able to hold it outside.

**Looking Forward,**

- We plan to hold another Easter Egg Hunt and are investigating having a bonfire with pumpkin decorating in the fall

## Connecting Charge Conference Report 2025-2026

Ministry Team Leaders: Murray Archibald (*Ministry Leader*), Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith and Doug Yetter (*Staff Program Managers*) and Aleta Thompson (*Communion / Worship Design*).

**The Year in Review** – We continue to see an increase in regular attendance in worship (in-person / online) and our music ministries. The Connecting Team continues to seek out new ways to engage our congregation and our connection to God.

- Under the guidance of the Connecting Core Team, the ongoing work of creating a passionate worship experience – both live and livestream – by collaborating with the Music Department (*Chancel Choir, Bell Choir, Praise Team and Band*), Ushers (*Rick Buske*), Worship Design (*Murray Archibald*), Altar & Communion Team (*Aleta Thompson*), Lectors (*Pat Johnson*), Communion Stewards (*David Hagelin*), Acolytes (*Gwen Osborne*), and Worship Design Production Team (Pastor Bo).
- Our Chancel Choir and Praise Team continue to work together in and out of worship, and more singers have been engaged in both over the past year. The Bell Choir has ongoing challenges with illness, travel, and aging, but have maintained a monthly presence in worship.
- The Chancel Choir and Praise Team continue to enhance their musical knowledge and vocal technique. The Praise Team remains limited to 4 singers per service, and that has proven beneficial.
- The newest addition to the Music Department is the Parkinson's Voice Project Chorus – now called "Voices of Hope." The group is now in their 6<sup>th</sup> 12-week session, which culminates in a public performance of the music they've learned. Each meeting offers 45 minutes of Parkinson's-specific voice therapy, and 45 minutes of vocal training and singing. The membership has grown from 23 to 50 since their first session in Fall of 2024.
- The idea of a Youth Choir created by our Boys and Girls Club has been put on hold.
- Volunteer hours for all the above continue to hold steady at approximately 9,000 hours of service.
- Pastor Bo continues to improve the quality of the equipment for Sight and Sound and has established a solid core of volunteers in the booth. He continues to be an online host for our cyber-congregation – welcoming them, narrating through Communion to create a more active presence, and closing worship with an invitation to join us again.
- The Worship Design Production Team (guided by Murray Archibald) created and installed visuals for all church seasons including Pentecost, Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Holy Week, Easter, and the long season of Ordinary Time.
- Other areas under our purview also continue to flourish – the roster for Scripture Readers / Prayers of the People has grown and are adding online readers. Our acolyte schedule includes more of our youth, and their attendance and participation has become more regular. Looking Forward – Opportunities and Challenges for 2026-2027
- The motorized accordion curtain separating the "shell" from the chancel stopped working last year and the cost of repair was prohibitive. The motor was disengaged and the problem of closing the curtain was solved with the purchase of one small tool.
- Discussions around creating a chapel space in the Music Room for more intimate events – weddings, baptisms, and a separate traditional service have nearly come to fruition. Our first service is scheduled for June 7.

The Connecting Team continues to explore and implement inspiring worship concepts to support the worship series created by our Pastoral Staff and look forward to attracting those who wish to join us as we Explore Faith, Embrace Community, and strengthen our faith and love of God.

Submitted by Doug Yetter and Murray Archibald, 5-17-26

**2026 Charge Conference Report**  
**July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026**  
**Caring**  
**Laurie Smandra, Ministry Leader**  
**Mickie McManamon, Ministry Director**

You are God's chosen people. You are holy and dearly loved. So put on tender mercy and kindness as if they were your clothes.  
Don't be proud. Be gentle and patient.  
Colossians 3:12 NIRV

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**Congregational Care Ministry**

This ministry is now in full operation. We are commissioning our 2<sup>nd</sup> class of Congregational Care Ministers next month. This change, delivering prayer and care for those in need, by someone other than the senior pastors has been an issue with some of our congregation. The change from small church delivery of care to a large church delivery of care is very difficult for some of our older members. The expectation that a pastor will respond to my needs still exists. Once a Congregational Care Minister responds to their call and provides the caring that our church member needs their fears and questions are put to rest. Weekly, we receive prayer requests that are assigned to Congregational Care Ministers (CCM) They contact the requester with prayer. They may also recontact the person to continue prayers.

Additionally, our CCMs have been visiting members who are in the hospital or care facilities, as well as at home hospice. We received very positive feedback from the congregation. Paula Waite, Beebe Hospital chaplain, presented a 2-hr. workshop on serving within the hospital setting. It provided information on navigating hospital protocols to reach a person in need. All CCMs provide information to the chaplain's office to be vetted and receive their credentials to enter the hospital anytime day or night.

In addition, the Congregational Care Ministers provide a one-on-one prayer chapel immediately following Sunday service.

**Areas to address:**

- On going education for serving congregation in hospital or hospice care. (provided November 25)
- Prepare for our 2<sup>nd</sup> class of Congregational Care Ministers to be held October 2025. There are currently 7 candidates for that class. (completed, Commissioning 6/14)

**Card Ministry**

- Continues strong connection with congregation
- Card writers sent cards in following categories
  - Sympathy
  - Birthdays, over 75
  - Get Well
  - Encouragement
  - Anniversary
- Encouragement cards stuffed into each family's bag when getting foods from Good Sam.
- Thank You cards given to each family/club that donated food.

**Pastoral Care**

- Cooperative partnership with Chaplains at Beebe Hospital, Kent Co. Hospital, local Assisted Living facilities, and Hospice Care developed to give pastoral care to our congregation through phone, text or emails to the Chaplains
- Communion Ministers bring communion to residents in the assisted living facilities the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month

**Christmas Joy** – Major changes this past Advent Season

- School System accepting gifts other than gift cards
- Angel Tree came back. Congregation and community businesses assisted us in providing a Christmas to 45 children from Cape Henlopen Schools
- Infamous Epworth Cookie Walk returned to raise money for Christmas Joy

## Ministry Changes

### Stitchers of Love

- New leader stepped up to continue program.

### Flower Ministry, new ministry coordinator to begin in June

- Design Team
  - Breaks down altar flowers every Sunday into 6 individual vases
- Delivery Team
  - Teams deliver individual vases to congregation on Monday mornings
  - One Sunday month complete, full vases are given to The Moorings

### Receptions

- Funeral receptions are available when Celebration of Life is held in Sanctuary

### Meet Me@ Epworth

- Ministry serving special needs adults in lower Sussex County

### Plans for upcoming year:

1. Lunch Bunch to return. During the winter months it is difficult for some of our congregation to get out and socialize. Lunch Bunch provides an opportunity to sit, have lunch, talk, or participate in planned activities. Sit, bring a friend and spend the afternoon at Epworth.
  - a. Wednesdays from January to April
  - b. Bring your lunch, coffee, tea, and water provided by church
  - c. Activities being discussed
    - i. Games (Board, Cards)
    - ii. Crochet and Knitting
    - iii. Indoor walking track around sanctuary
    - iv. Chair Yoga
    - v. Additional suggestions welcomed
2. Health and Wellness coordinator
  - a. Blood donations
  - b. Flu shots
  - c. Medical check ins

2026 Charge Conference Report  
Finance Committee  
David Hagelin, Chair

Overall Financial Health

- This fiscal year has been challenging at times from an income and cash flow perspective, but our overall financial health is stable and our balance sheet is relatively strong.
- With retirement of the church mortgage in 2023 and payoff of the loan for our new roof last year, the only remaining regular capital expense is \$3,750 per month for the lease of our HVAC system.
- At the end of April 2026, general fund giving for the fiscal year was running about 1 percent below projections while special giving for operations was roughly 12 percent below projections. Rental income was running roughly 5 percent above projections. While expenses at the end of April were running about 14 percent above projections, a significant portion of those costs (totaling approximately \$80,000) were capital expenditures covered through one-time gifts made in FY 2024-2025. Committing these gifts – totaling \$575,000 – to capital projects preserves funds for church operations.
- Efforts of the Fundraising Committee, which was formed three years ago as an auxiliary group of the Finance Committee, contribute to our revenue. Fundraising events have provided fellowship opportunities that reinforce our vision to explore faith and embrace community.
- An external financial audit completed in January resulted in few recommendations for changes. The recommendations focused on specific processes and procedures, some of which have been modified since the 2023 audit period. A less extensive follow-up audit will be scheduled in early 2027 with plans for annual audits going forward.
- Migration to a new software for online giving and membership management was rolled out this spring. The move to One Church software, as well as the planned transition from the desktop version of QuickBooks (accounting and bookkeeping software) to the online version, will produce savings and greater efficiency.

FY 2026-2027 Budget

- The proposed budget for the next fiscal year is a balanced budget that we believe is realistic given financial performance in recent months.
- Total income is budgeted at 2.6 percent above the projected amount for FY 2025-2026. Total expense is budgeted at about 11 percent under the projected amount for FY 2025-2026. Planned capital expenditures (which total \$79,000 for the new fiscal year) will now be budgeted below the bottom line as these funds will come from our capital expenditure reserves, not from operating income.
- An increase in general fund giving of about 1 percent from our estimated giving level at the end of June is projected for FY 2026-2027. An increase in rental income of roughly 20 percent from the estimated amount at the end of June reflects a new rental agreement with the Boys & Girls Club.
- All salaries under SPRC include a 3 percent wage increase, which is less than \$6,000 over the projected amount for FY 2025-2026.
- The Governing Board has approved the proposed budget. Income and expenses will be tracked closely and adjustments made as needed to be fiscally prudent.

Stewardship Campaign

- The FY 2025-2026 campaign resulted in a greater number of pledges, at a total higher amount, than in the previous year.
- The FY 2026-2027 campaign began in late April. Pledges typically are submitted well into the summer. While it is too early to predict the outcome, the number and total amount of pledges are running ahead of last year at this point of the campaign. We are encouraged by the number of new church members who have made commitments.

***The faithfulness and generosity of the Epworth congregation continue to inspire me!***

Fund Raising  
2025 Charge Conference Report  
Submitted by Linda L. BenderHilt, Recording Secretary

**Current Members:** Sue Brenton, Chairperson

Linda BenderHilt (recording secretary), Ethel Cabry, Jamie Forshey, David Hagelin, Jeanne Jerfsten, Dotti Outland, Susan Selph, David Streit, Kim Witmer, and Gwen Osbourne-staff representative; Susan Jimenez attends per the fundraisers she is involved in.

**Our Mission Statement:** Our purpose / focus of the fund-raising committee is to raise monetary funds to assist in supporting Epworth's Vision – exploring faith and embracing community and Mission – inviting, belonging, connecting, caring = All Means All.

This committee held its first meeting on June 7, 2023.

**Past fund-raising events:**

- Golf Tournament
  - Held on Saturday, November 1, 2025, at the American Classic Golf course
  - Did well – awesome cochairs in Scott Button and David Streit and awesome volunteers, especially Scott Button for rounding up sponsors; the tournament was organized well, good venue, and all the participants seemed to enjoy.
  - Some numbers: total \$17,350=Checks totaling \$16,400 were received. This includes all sponsorships, golfer fees, and contributions from other people who didn't necessarily play golf + Gift cards/certificates/50.50 totaled \$950.
  - Expenses included food/lunch, golfcarts, signage, hole in one insurance, thank you ad, and were donated by our cochairs.
- Plant Sale
  - Held Saturday, May 9, 2026, from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
  - Thank you to chair, Susan Selph, and all the volunteers for your help in planning and executing the Plant Sale.
  - Wonderful vendors that shared information about a variety of things: native plants, bees, gardening tools, etc.
  - Numbers:
    - Caterpillar Movie: expenses=\$535, Income=\$347.85, net: -\$187.15
    - Pant Sale: expenses=\$543.15, income=\$346.00 (to Epworth), net: -\$197.15
    - Funds available for next year are \$769.00

**Upcoming fundraisers include:**

- Golf Tournament
  - Theme: Drive Away Hunger
  - Date sometime in October
- Christmas Joy 365 Craft Show

- Saturday, November 21, 2026
- This event will help Christmas Joy 365 with the cost of gifts for the children of Cape Henlopen School District.
- The Fund-Raising committee held a discussion weighting the pros and cons and it was decided we will hold another plant sale in May
- The Fund-Raising committee is planning an online auction in the fall.

**From David Hagelin on Finances:**

- The Fundraising committee continues to have a line item for Fundraising Income within General Fund/Special Giving for Operations —the newer development is that there will be a corresponding Fundraising Expense line item on the expense side of the budget, so those expenses can be more clearly tracked than in the past.

## SPRC 2025-2026 Charge Conference Report

### Staff Parish Relations Committee

May 13, 2026

#### Members:

Mike Fehrenbach, Murray Archibald, Rev. Bo Gordy-Stith, Rev. Vicki Gordy-Stith, Susan Jimenez, Rick Downes, Dorothee Mumford, Todd Popham, Amy Benedict, Dan Hoffman (Chair.)

#### Meetings:

Scheduled for the first Tuesday of each month from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM generally held on ZOOM. Confidentiality is stressed and respected during discussions.

#### KEY 2025-26 ACCOMPLISHMENT

*The SPRC Committee completed an update of our Employee Handbook. Entitled "Personal Policy Manual", the document better reflects current state and local mandates as well as conference regulations. This electronic document can now be updated as required.*

#### Report:

Our initial meeting of the 2025-2026 year provided an opportunity for new member instruction and for returning members to review information regarding the workings of the committee. This includes the importance of the development of relationships of pastors and staff with our church family and community; the need for maintaining a working relationship with our District Superintendent and Conference leaders; working to insure the health and safety of our staff and volunteers. Guidelines and responsibilities were reviewed and covenants were signed promising to maintain confidentiality as well as maintaining the standards set by our congregation and the Conference. In an effort to be available and visible to the congregation and community all SPRC members received and will continue to wear nametags to encourage interaction.

We celebrated the reappointment of Pastors Vicki and Bo Gordy-Stith to EPWORTH for another year! We continue to appreciate the gifts and talents they bring as they serve EPWORTH'S family as well as the conference and the surrounding community, stressing EXPLORING FAITH

AND EMBRACING COMMUNITY. The emphasis this year in sermons, song and action has been guided by UNBUTU- I AM BECAUSE WE ARE.

Our pastors remain engaged within this ministry as well as being involved in numerous community and Conference activities. Adjustments were made to Pastor Bo's job description- Pastor of Media and Communication- to better reflect his evolving responsibilities. Pastor Bo continues to use his position in transportation for the Cape Henlopen School District as one of his many outreaches to the wider Rehoboth Beach community. Pastor Vicki remains very involved in Conference affairs including the Annual Conference and BOOM. We are all excited that she has been appointed to The Delaware Ecumenical Council by Governor Meyer! She continues to participate in and promote activities that encourage interaction and connection with those in the wider Sussex County, DE community and other faith families. Goals and accomplishments for both our Pastors are reviewed at each meeting. One of the reasons we do this each month is to ensure that they are not being over scheduled and have opportunities for self-care and reflection.

Our committee continues, as required, to have two active members certified in Safe Sanctuary Protocols. Given the number of staff we employ as well as the number of groups that rent and use our facilities this seems important to be ready to deal with any situations that may arise.

Our staffing level remains stable. The part time Bookkeeper we hired has completed his first 12 months and is settling in nicely and making major contributions. This has allowed our Office Manager to realign work flow to better match individual skills and time constraints. The DOV (Devoted Office Volunteers) program continues to be an active and effective support for Pastors and Staff. We joyfully celebrated Administrative Assistant Week with our whole staff.

The SPRC supports and encourages EPWORTH to continued to be very proactive in developing and providing outreach to both in person and on-line participation. We made sure the staffing resources were in place to switch from Servant Keeper to One Church online platforms. This has resulted in an increased participation in worship, study groups and in the size of our congregation. Our on-line and social media presence continues to evolve and this has also led to an increase in involvement and participation beyond our traditional congregation.

The SPRC Committee completed a yearlong program to update of our Employee Handbook. We consulted with private companies, government agencies and other religious groups to be sure we had made prudent changes and additions. It is now a Personal Policy Manuel and better reflects current standards and state, local and conference regulations. This can now be updated as required.

Looking ahead: We are excited for the Vision Consultant program the Conference has offered to begin this Summer. This will help us prepare for several years into the future, Also, we are

aware that in approx. 3 to 5 years we will need to handle the retirement of our Music Director and both of our Pastors. While this requires a small amount of planning now, we know we must prayerfully and responsibly be always looking forward.

Finally: the SPRC will continue to assist in promoting positive church staff, church family and community relationships to allow EPWORTH to accomplish its mission and ministry- welcoming all, offering God's love to all and serving all.

2026 Charge Conference Report  
Epworth United Methodist Church  
Board of Trustees  
Thomas Lewis, President

**Board of Trustees members:**

President: Tom Lewis  
Vice-president: Dee Speck  
Recording Sect.: Rose Schmidt (resigned December 2025)  
Members: Risk Buske, Dick Coyle, R.L. Hughes, Len Johnson, Alicia Popham,  
Dan Potts  
Non-voting: Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith (Lead Pastor), Murray Archibald (Governing  
Board Chair), John Hilt (Facilities Manager)

**2025-2026 Board of Trustees Activities:**

**General**

- Rose Schmidt resigned as Recording Secretary for the Board of Trustees
- The building has passed all required inspections
- New 3-year Memorandum of Agreement with the Rehoboth Boys and Girls Club
- Received a Security Assessment at First Entry by the Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Agency
- Agreed to be a hub for UMCOR Emergency response materials
- Agreed to be an emergence Red Cross shelter
- Received \$65,000 grant from LRAC

**Sanctuary**

- New speakers purchased
- Motor removed from the alter curtain system so it is manually controlled

**Interior**

- New security camera system installed, replacing older system and Blink cameras
- The music room is being renovated to serve as both the music/choir room and a chapel for early Sunday services and smaller ceremonies
- Continued general repair and replacement

**Exterior**

- Parking lot blacktop repaired and resealed
- New walkway along the outside of the Fellowship Hall
- New walk-in refrigerator/freezer ordered, currently being installed
- Two vehicle barrier bollards installed at the ocean side entrance
- New Storage shed for the food ministry
- Storm damage included seven trees around the building

### **Ongoing projects**

- Repairing the sidewalks around the facility, particularly the ADA pads which have been deteriorating
- Repairing caulking along the first floor of the building
- Working with representatives of the skate park about the repair of the Rehoboth Skate Park located at Epworth

# Epworth United Methodist Church

## Governing Board Report

### Recent Work and Strategic Leadership 2025-2026

Epworth United Methodist Church's Governing Board is composed of the lay chairpersons from four ministry areas (Inviting, Caring, Connecting, Belonging), and the chairs of Trustees, SPRC, and Finance. Over the past year, the Governing Board has been actively engaged in strengthening congregational life, modernizing church systems, improving facilities, and aligning ministry with the broader United Methodist Church's emerging vision: **"Love Boldly, Serve Joyfully, Lead Courageously."** Across recent months, the Board has balanced spiritual leadership with practical governance, addressing ministry vitality, policy oversight, financial stewardship, and community impact.

### Key Strategic Priorities and Actions

#### 1. Ministry Vision, Congregational Growth, and Spiritual Leadership

- Began the process of integrated the new denominational vision into board and congregational planning.
- Supported town hall meetings and leadership communication around mission alignment.
- Encouraged expanding membership engagement, with strong new member classes and orientation growth.
- Supported major churchwide initiatives including Miracle Sunday, VBS partnership with Israel UMC, and expanded worship opportunities such as the pilot 8:00 a.m. summer service beginning in June 2026.

#### 2. Governance, Personnel, and Policy Development

- Oversaw and unanimously approved the **updated Personnel Policy Guidelines (March 2026)** after extensive SPRC development.
- Clarified governance structures, HR expectations, and employment practices for staff.
- Continued succession awareness, including long-term staff planning.
- Strengthened board processes through town halls, committee integration, and policy review.

#### 3. Facilities, Security, and Capital Improvements

- Advanced multiple significant property initiatives:
  - Approved a comprehensive churchwide security camera system.
  - Continued bollard, fencing, roof, sidewalk, and caulking repair projects.
  - Oversaw Music Room/Chapel conversion discussions.
- Managed capital expenditures from a major \$500,000 gift, preserving substantial reserves for future projects while prioritizing critical repairs.
- Continued Boys & Girls Club lease renegotiation with stronger protections, accountability, and financial terms.

#### 4. Financial Oversight and Systems Modernization

- Guided successful external audit review with limited recommendations.
- Led migration from Servant Keeper to **One Church** for membership and giving systems.
- Approved FY 2026–2027 budget development.
- Coordinated stewardship campaign planning while aligning with broader mission initiatives.
- Began movement toward clearer written financial authority and policy structures.

## 5. Community Engagement and Missional Outreach

- Expanded food security, housing, and justice ministries:
  - Thousands of pounds of food collected.
  - Significant support for shelters, diaper drives, and Springboard Delaware housing.
- Explored and advanced Epworth's potential role as one of Delaware's first church-based **American Red Cross Emergency Shelters**, including:
  - Task force formation
  - Facility review
  - Social Justice volunteer mobilization
  - Governance communication and decision-routing frameworks
- Positioned Epworth as a stronger community resilience partner.

## Governing Board Members

- **Murray Archibald** – Chairperson
- **Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith** – Lead Pastor
- **Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith** – Associate Pastor
- **Todd Popham** – Lay Leader
- **David Hagelin** – Finance
- **Tom Lewis** – Trustees
- **Dan Hoffman** – SPRC
- **Linda BenderHilt** – Belonging Ministry
- **Mike Tyler** – Inviting Ministry / Social Justice
- **Laurie Smandra** – Caring Ministry
- **Amy Benedict** – Recording Secretary (2026)
- **Pat Johnson** – Retired Secretary (2025)

## Overall Assessment

In recent months, the Governing Board has demonstrated a strong blend of spiritual discernment and operational leadership. Its work reflects a congregation preparing for future growth while responsibly addressing infrastructure, governance, staff policy, financial systems, and mission outreach. Particularly notable is the Board's movement toward broader community leadership through Red Cross shelter exploration, security modernization, and strategic ministry expansion. Epworth's Governing Board is not only maintaining church operations—it is actively shaping the church's future witness in Sussex County and beyond.

## **2026 Charge Conference Report**

### **Lay Leader – Todd Popham**

A summary of my Lay Leader activities on behalf of Epworth United Methodist Church since July 1, 2025.

#### **New Member Orientations**

- Facilitated two new member classes – 18 new members
- Coordinated with Volunteer Coordinator Rose Verona to engage new members in church roles

#### **Brothers in Christ**

- Led our Men's Group - Brothers in Christ
- Coordinated transition to new Brothers in Christ Leader Leonard Logan

#### **Pastor/Staff Support**

- Met with Senior Pastor each month for mutual coaching and spiritual growth
- Met with Associate Pastor every other month for mutual coaching and spiritual growth
- Met with Director of Music quarterly

#### **Governing Board Leadership**

- Led devotional message at meetings
- Provided coaching to improve meeting management

#### **SPRC**

- Advocate for pastor self care/professional development
- Subject matter resource to change employee handbook to Personnel Policies Manual

#### **Worship Service Support**

- Scripture Reader, Pray for our Pastor volunteer

#### **Nominations/Leadership Committee**

- Active member helping identify and develop future church leaders

### **Ministry Areas Support**

- Emmaus
- Social Justice
- Food & Love

### **Lay Leader Replacement**

- Supported the recruitment and orientation for our new Lay Leader



During the past year, I participated in **communicating ministries** as follows [check all that apply]

- shared the message in \_\_\_\_\_ worship services
- served as worship leader in \_\_\_\_\_ services
- delivered \_\_\_\_\_ devotional messages
- taught \_\_\_\_\_ classes
- shared my faith story to \_\_\_\_\_
- other speaking activities (please list): Scripture reader in service / prayer for the pastor in service – on scheduled basis and as needed

During the past year, I have participated in additional opportunities for ministry as follows:

District Committee on Ministry – Lay member Delaware District – mid-year absence due to husband’s medical status.  
EUMC Adult Choir; EUMC Handbells ; CAMP Chorus and Alliance choir, WomenKind a Capella ladies group of singers  
Epworth Emmeus fellowship gatherings and district activities (primarily prayer specific recently)

(Part 4)

#### **PERSONAL AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH**

In what activities, have you engaged in/or what books have you read or used during the past year to help you develop your devotional life; improve your understanding of the Bible; improve your understanding of The United Methodist Church; and to improve your skills in caring, leading, communicating and speaking?

Daily devotions – currently Henri Nouwen “You are the Beloved” and online Richard Rohr’s daily devotion. Online Grateful Living “Word for the Day”. Scripture time -New Revised Oxford Annotated version. Last Advanced Class : Be a Disciple – Come to the Waters – Sept 2024  
Limited opportunity this year due to family illness. Hope to improve participation on line this year.

Oxford

(Part 5)

#### **FEEDBACK**

Do you feel called to be in service in any area of ministry, either in the church or outside the church, in which you are not currently involved?  Yes  No If yes, please list those areas below:

Have a long history of teaching study groups / Sunday School for mixed adults that I embraced and provided a safe place for discussion and development of long-standing relationships. I would love to explore that possibility in this space in the future. Those times and space allow and promote growth spiritually and as a community.

Other comments about your year of ministry you would like to add:

I have personally experienced and caring, love, and support of pastors and friends at the UMC churches in Delaware. For this I am most grateful. This inspires me to continue to live and grow in Christ and to express that love, caring, and kindness to all I encounter and to remember always that I am a beloved child of God as is anyone I may encounter on this life’s journey.



**LAY MINISTER MINISTRY**  
**Certified Lay Minister (CLM)**  
**ANNUAL REPORT TO CHURCH CONFERENCE**

Report for year ending December 2025

**(PART 1) PERSONAL DATA**

Name:  Mr.  Mrs.  Ms. Gwen Osborne

Address: 33045 E. Light Drive

City/State/Zip: Lewes, DE 19958

Home Phone: 443-745-6950 Cell Phone: 443-745-6950

Email: gosborne@epworth.faith

Name of District: Dover

Name of Church: Epworth United Methodist Rehoboth Beach

Church Address: 19285 Holland Glade Road

City/State/Zip: Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971

Church Phone: 302-227-7743

**(PART 2) CURRENT STATUS**

Please attach a copy of your Certified Lay Minister Certificate.

1. Date of your current certification by DCOM or CCLSM? Sept. 2026

**(PART 3) MINISTRIES**

During the past year, I participated in **CARING MINISTRIES** as follows:

- served as a volunteer in a care-giving institution
- provided one-on-one caring
- at a hospital, nursing home, or to a shut-in
- in membership/evangelism visitation
- served in caring/outreach projects (*food pantry, prison ministry, etc.*)
- other **CARING** activities (*please list*): Congregational caring Ministry

During the past year, I participated in **LEADING MINISTRIES** as follows:

- served as member of committee, board, commission, council, task force, etc.
  - as a volunteer at a community agency, CAMP Rehoboth
  - at my local church
  - beyond my local church
- on my:  District  Conference  Jurisdiction  General Church level

other **LEADING** activities (please list): Belonging Ministry Leader, Volunteer Staff

During the past year, I participated in **COMMUNICATING MINISTRIES** as follows:

shared the message in 2 worship services

served as worship leader in 2 services

delivered \_\_\_\_\_ devotional messages

taught 3 Classes New member classes

shared my faith story to At all new member classes

other **SPEAKING** activities (please list): \_\_\_\_\_

During the past year, I have participated in additional opportunities for ministry as follows:

When needed, I am always willing to lend a hand to any of our current ministries and or volunteer groups.

**(Part 4) PERSONAL AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH**

In what activities have you engaged in/or what books have you read or used during the past year to help you develop your devotional life; improve your understanding of the Bible; improve your understanding of The United Methodist Church; and to improve your skills in caring, leading, communicating and speaking?

Soul Reset class in 2025.  
Meditation group in 2025 - 2026

**(Part 5) FEEDBACK**

Do you feel called to be in service in any area of ministry, either in the church or outside the church, in which you are not currently involved?  Yes  No If yes, please list those areas below:

Other than the areas that I am currently involved in, I do not feel the need to stretch myself and or my areas currently.

Other comments about your year of ministry you would like to add:

It's been a great year of learning and adjusting to the current climate in our world and in the church.

# COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

GOVERNING BOARD & STANDING COMMITTEES For July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027

## GOVERNING BOARD

CHAIRMAN	Linda Kauffman	<b>Murray Archibald (January 1, 2026)</b>
LAY LEADER	Todd Popham	<b>Doreen Hartly</b>
LEAD PASTOR	Vicki Gordy-Stith	
SECRETARY	Pat Johnson	<b>Amy Benedict</b>
TRUSTEE CHAIR	Tom Lewis	
SPRC CHAIR	Dan Hoffman	
FINANCE CHAIR	David Hagelin	

## MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS/PROGRAM MANAGERS

INVITING	Mike Tyler/Bo Gordy-Stith	
BELONGING	Linda BenderHilt/Gwen Osborne	<b>Jane Okma</b>
CONNECTING	Murray Archibald/Vicki Gordy-Stith & Doug Yetter	<b>James Gallo</b>
CARING	Val Linder/Mickie McManamon	<b>Laurie Smandra</b>
LAY MEMBERS TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE	Murray Archibald	
	Mike Tyler	
RESERVE LAY MEMBER	Ruth Ann Curley (19)	<b>Sandra Waldee-Warden</b>

## SUPPORT TEAMS

### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

President	Tom Lewis	>3 <9
1st Vice President		To be elected
Secretary		<b>Diane Cook</b>
Staff Representative	Vicki Gordy-Stith	
2027 Term	Rick Buske	
	R.L. Hughes	
2028 Term	Tom Lewis	
	Dee Speck	
	Alicia Popham	
2029 Term		<b>Len Johnson</b>
		<b>Dan Potts</b>

**Dick Coyle (27)**

**Cemetery Committee -- A Standing Committee**

Leader

Secretary

Representatives of Trustees (2)

Cemetery Representative

Lay Members

*Amenable to the Board of Trustees (2012 Discipline)*

Roger Truitt

Tom Lewis

Jay Stevenson

Sue Spencer

Loretta Mahan

David Garrett

Gerry Alexander

Karen Foery

Allen Helsel

Dan Potts

**STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Leader

Pastor

Lay Leader

2027 Term

2028 Term

2029 Term

Dan Hoffman

Vicki Gordy-Stith

Todd Popham

Mike Fehrenbach (21)

Dorothe Mumford (24)

Rick Downes

Amy Benendict

**Susan Jimenez**

**Dan Hoffman**

>5<9

**Doreen Hartly**

**Susan Jimenez**

**Dan Hoffman**

**Gwen Miller**

**NOMINATIONS & LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

Chair

Co-Chair

Lay Leader

2027 Term

2028 Term

Vicki Gordy-Stith (Lead Pastor)

Gwen Osborne

Todd Popham

Stephanie Hughes

Shawn McHugh

No more than 9.

**Doreen Hartly**

2029 Term

**Rose Verona**

**Rose Verona**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Leader  
Treasurer  
Financial Secretary  
Staff Support & Resources

David Hagelin  
Bob Thoman  
  
Tammy Zhang, Account Manager  
Vicki Gordy-Stith

No defined size.  
**Suzanne Bigos (co-chair)**

Planned Giving  
Trustee Representative  
SPRC Representative  
Governing Board Chair

Tom Lewes  
Dan Hoffman  
Linda Kauffman  
David Hagelin (21)  
Rob Cline (21)  
Dennis Drenner (24)

**Murray Archibald**

2027 Term

2028 Term

2029 Term

Roy Okma  
Suzanne Bigos  
**Bob Thoman**

**Bob Thoman**  
**Kathleen Berault-Chmielewski**

**Social Justice Leader**

Judy Stout

**LRAC Representatitves**

Gwen Osborne  
Doreen Hartly

## Epworth Church Volunteer Leader Covenant

**Vision:** Explore Faith and Embrace Community

**Mission:** Inviting All, Belonging, Connecting to God, and Caring

At Epworth, our leaders fulfill the biblical role of equipping people for the work of the ministry, from Ephesians 4:12-13: “His purpose was to equip God’s people for the work of serving and building up the body until we all reach the unity of faith and knowledge of God’s Son. God’s goal is for us to become mature adults—to be fully grown, measured by the standard of the fullness of Christ.” This passage also includes the role of all our volunteers: serving and building up the people of God into unity, while becoming mature adults and reflecting Jesus to others.

As leaders and volunteers, we work together with our pastors, staff, and leadership to live out our vision of Exploring Faith and Embracing Community, by fulfilling our mission of Inviting All, Belonging, Connecting to God, and Caring. **We set the tone** and pace for the entire congregation. **We model** the faith, the behavior, the life, and the attitude of a Christian for our congregation and our community. **We shape** the heart, character, and life of this community. For this reason, it is vital that we **walk the Christian walk**. Spiritually healthy leaders will produce a spiritually healthy church, which will contribute to a spiritually healthy community.

To help us live out these standards, we developed the following covenant to guide our life together as leaders. We use these standards to hold ourselves accountable to live as a part of a loving community as we live into this beloved community. We also recognize that God’s grace empowers us to be faithful, God’s grace allows us to forgive and reconcile, and God’s grace brings transformation in our lives. (In the Methodist tradition, we call these aspects of grace: prevenient, justifying, and sanctifying grace.)

As followers of Jesus in the Methodist tradition, we seek both personal and social transformation. We do not shy away from engagement in justice issues of our day, and we approach these social concerns through a lens of love. When we encounter theological differences, we attempt to follow the adage: “In essentials, unity; in nonessentials, liberty; in all things, charity.” We value the full participation of women and men, and all people regardless of age, race, class, background, sexual orientation, and gender identification.

Jesus summarized the goal of the Christian life with two commandments: love the Lord our God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength; and love your neighbor as yourselves. John Wesley spoke of this goal as sanctification, Christian perfection, or holiness. Our Methodist tradition offers three General Rules designed to help Christians pursue this goal. As leaders we pursue these “rules” as we grow in faith and service together. We have organized our covenant around these three rules.

## Epworth Church Volunteer Leader Covenant

**Vision:** Explore Faith and Embrace Community

**Mission:** Inviting All, Belonging, Connecting to God, and Caring

**1) Do no harm.** Avoid:

- a) Self-destructive behavior (addictive behavior, poor self-care)
- b) Moral compromise (sexual misconduct, greed, dishonesty)
- c) Self-centeredness and pride (refusing to see your ministry in the context of the whole ministry effort of Epworth)
- d) Malice (harboring resentment, acting in anger, backbiting)
- e) Gossip (which harms both the person and the church and ministries)

**2) Do good:**

- a) Love everyone with the radical love of Jesus
- b) Respect everyone and accept differences as part of God's diverse creation
- c) Publicly support Epworth, our pastors, staff, leaders, and other volunteers, including accepting a decision as your own, even if you disagreed
- d) Handle conflict one-on-one, speaking directly to the person (Exceptions: speak to teachers when dealing with children in the Boys and Girls Club or Preschool and when conflict continues, contact Epworth's Lay Leader for assistance)
- e) Always assume positive intentions and build others up
- f) Maintain confidentiality when it is warranted
- g) Ask for clarity when you do not understand
- h) Care for ourselves, our spouse, partner, and family members
- i) Be engaged with those in need, both inside the church and out

**3) Stay in love with God:**

- a) Attend worship
- b) Engage in close Christian friendships for spiritual growth in a small group
- c) Serve God with our time and talents
- d) Give in proportion to our income, with the tithe being the goal
- e) Spend time in prayer, meditation, and the personal study of scripture
- f) Grow in the fruit of the Spirit: goodness, patience, kindness, faithfulness, self-control, love, joy, peace, and gentleness

**Covenant:** I have read the above and I commit to living my life and pursuing ministry in a way that is consistent with these expectations. I desire to serve under this covenant at Epworth.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Ministry Area: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Epworth Church Non-Member Volunteer Leader Covenant

**Vision:** Explore Faith and Embrace Community

**Mission:** Inviting All, Belonging, Connecting to God, and Caring

At Epworth, our leaders fulfill the biblical role of equipping people for the work of the ministry, from Ephesians 4:12-13: “His purpose was to equip God’s people for the work of serving and building up the body until we all reach the unity of faith and knowledge of God’s Son. God’s goal is for us to become mature adults—to be fully grown, measured by the standard of the fullness of Christ.” This passage also includes the role of all our volunteers: serving and building up the people of God into unity, while becoming mature adults and reflecting Jesus to others.

As leaders and volunteers, we work together with our pastors, staff, and leadership to live out our vision of Exploring Faith and Embracing Community, by fulfilling our mission of Inviting All, Belonging, Connecting to God, and Caring. **We set the tone** and pace for the entire congregation. **We model** the faith, the behavior, the life, and the attitude of a Christian for our congregation and our community. **We shape** the heart, character, and life of this community. For this reason, it is vital that we **walk the Christian walk**. Spiritually healthy leaders will produce a spiritually healthy church, which will contribute to a spiritually healthy community.

To help us live out these standards, we developed the following covenant to guide our life together as leaders. We use these standards to hold ourselves accountable to live as a part of a loving community as we live into this beloved community. We also recognize that God’s grace empowers us to be faithful, God’s grace allows us to forgive and reconcile, and God’s grace brings transformation in our lives. (In the Methodist tradition, we call these aspects of grace: prevenient, justifying, and sanctifying grace.)

As followers of Jesus in the Methodist tradition, we seek both personal and social transformation. We do not shy away from engagement in justice issues of our day, and we approach these social concerns through a lens of love. When we encounter theological differences, we attempt to follow the adage: “In essentials, unity; in nonessentials, liberty; in all things, charity.” We value the full participation of women and men, and all people regardless of age, race, class, background, sexual orientation, and gender identification.

Jesus summarized the goal of the Christian life with two commandments: love the Lord our God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength; and love your neighbor as yourselves. John Wesley spoke of this goal as sanctification, Christian perfection, or holiness. Our Methodist tradition offers three General Rules designed to help Christians pursue this goal. As leaders we pursue these “rules” as we grow in faith and service together. We have organized our covenant around these three rules.

## Epworth Church Volunteer Leader Covenant

**Vision:** Explore Faith and Embrace Community

**Mission:** Inviting All, Belonging, Connecting to God, and Caring

1) **Do no harm.** Avoid:

- a) Self-destructive behavior (addictive behavior, poor self-care)
- b) Moral compromise (sexual misconduct, greed, dishonesty)
- c) Self-centeredness and pride (refusing to see your ministry in the context of the whole ministry effort of Epworth)
- d) Malice (harboring resentment, acting in anger, backbiting)
- e) Gossip (which harms both the person and the church and ministries)

2) **Do good:**

- a) Love everyone with radical love
- b) Respect everyone and accept differences
- c) Publicly support Epworth, our pastors, staff, leaders, and other volunteers, including accepting a decision as your own, even if you disagreed
- d) Handle conflict one-on-one, speaking directly to the person (Exceptions: speak to teachers when dealing with children in the Boys and Girls Club or Preschool and when conflict continues, contact Epworth's Lay Leader for assistance)
- e) Always assume positive intentions and build others up
- f) Maintain confidentiality when it is warranted
- g) Ask for clarity when you do not understand
- h) Care for ourselves, our spouse, partner, and family members
- i) Understand that each person we encounter has personal limitations, health issues, etc. Please respect them and be kind in all encounters

3) **Stay in love with God, however you understand God:**

- a) Practice awe and gratitude
- b) Engage in close friendships for personal growth
- c) Serve with our time and talents
- d) Spend time in prayer and meditation in whatever way you define it
- e) Grow in grace: goodness, patience, kindness, faithfulness, self-control, love, joy, peace, and gentleness

**Covenant:** I have read the above, and I commit to living my life and pursuing ministry in a way that is consistent with these expectations. I desire to serve under this covenant at Epworth.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Ministry Area: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2026 KEY LEADERSHIP LIST

<b>CHURCH/CHARGE:</b>	Epworth UMC	<b>CITY/STATE:</b>	Rehoboth Beach, DE
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**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. The left column (2025) **must** be completed every year for each filled position in your church, even if you have previously given the information to your District Office.
2. The right column (2026) **must** be completed in one of the ways listed below:
  - a. If there is a new person in the position, the right column must be filled out completely.
  - b. If the person from the prior year is remaining in the position but they have a change in their contact information, the right column must be filled out completely.
  - c. If there are no changes to the position from the previous year, you will only need to enter the person's name in the right column (filling out the left column is still required).

LAY LEADER			
Current (2025)		New (2026)	
Name:	Todd Popham	Name:	Doreen Hartley
Email:	<a href="mailto:toddpopham@gmail.com">toddpopham@gmail.com</a>	Email:	<a href="mailto:dormhartley@verizon.net">dormhartley@verizon.net</a>
Work:		Work:	
Mobile:	443-517-3150	Mobile:	410-615-5082
Home Address:	18380 Alpine Loop Road Lewes, DE 19958	Home Address:	23924 Sunny Cove Court Lewes, DE 19958
ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD/COUNCIL CHAIR			
Current (2025)		New (2026)	
Name:	Murray Archibald	Name:	Same
Email:	<a href="mailto:rma.archibald@gmail.com">rma.archibald@gmail.com</a>	Email:	
Work:		Work:	
Mobile:	302-236-2931	Mobile:	
Home Address:	117 Kings Creek Road Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971	Home Address:	
PASTOR-PARISH CHURCH CHAIR			
Current (2025)		New (2026)	
Name:	Dan Hoffman	Name:	Same
Email:	<a href="mailto:d1953hoffman@gmail.com">d1953hoffman@gmail.com</a>	Email:	
Work:		Work:	
Mobile:	908-235-8298	Mobile:	
Home Address:	20240 Long Meadow Lane Lewes, DE 19958	Home Address:	
PASTOR-PARISH CHARGE CHAIR			
Current (2025)		New (2026)	
Name:	N/A	Name:	
Email:		Email:	
Work:		Work:	
Mobile:		Mobile:	
Home Address:		Home Address:	

## 2026 KEY LEADERSHIP LIST

FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR			
Current (2025)		New (2026)	
Name:	David Hagelin	Name:	Same
Email:	dmhagelin@gmail.com	Email:	
Work:		Work:	
Mobile:	614-270-7781	Mobile:	
Home Address:	13 Leighs Way Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971	Home Address:	
FINANCE COMMITTEE CHURCH TREASURER			
Current (2025)		New (2026)	
Name:	Bob Thoman	Name:	Same
Email:	bobthomanappraisals@gmail.com	Email:	
Work:		Work:	
Mobile:	717-586-3474	Mobile:	
Home Address:	255 Country Club Drive Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971	Home Address:	
TRUSTEE COMMITTEE CHAIR			
Current (2025)		New (2026)	
Name:	Tom Lewis	Name:	Same
Email:	mathguy29@yahoo.com	Email:	
Work:		Work:	
Mobile:	302-278-3019	Mobile:	
Home Address:	19701 Chelmer Drive Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971	Home Address:	
NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES REPRESENTATIVE			
Current (2025)		New (2026)	
Name:		Name:	Judy Stout (Social Justice)
Email:		Email:	judystout612@gmail.com
Work:		Work:	
Mobile:		Mobile:	302-893-2336
Home Address:		Home Address:	30350 South Mill Run Milton, DE 19968
YOUTH MINISTRIES LEADER			
Current (2025)		New (2026)	
Name:	Joy Gordy-Stith	Name:	Same
Email:	kgordystith@yahoo.com	Email:	
Work:		Work:	
Mobile:	302-750-3964	Mobile:	
Home Address:	81 Pond's Edge Court Felton, DE 19943	Home Address:	

## 2026 KEY LEADERSHIP LIST

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH PRESIDENT			
Current (2025)		New (2026)	
Name:		Name:	
Email:		Email:	
Work:		Work:	
Mobile:		Mobile:	
Home Address:		Home Address:	
UNITED METHODIST MEN PRESIDENT			
Current (2025)		New (2026)	
Name:		Name:	
Email:		Email:	
Work:		Work:	
Mobile:		Mobile:	
Home Address:		Home Address:	
CHURCH STAFF (SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT)			
Current (2025)		New (2026)	
Name:	Tammy Zhang	Name:	Same
Email:	tzhang@epworth.faith	Email:	
Work:		Work:	
Mobile:	410-999-7475	Mobile:	
Home Address:	24526 Marsh Hawk Lane Georgetown, DE 19947	Home Address:	
COMMITTEE ON DISABILITIES CHAIR			
Current (2025)		New (2026)	
Name:		Name:	
Email:		Email:	
Work:		Work:	
Mobile:		Mobile:	
Home Address:		Home Address:	
OTHER LEADERSHIP ROLE (SPECIFY):			
Current (2025)		New (2026)	
Name:		Name:	
Email:		Email:	
Work:		Work:	
Mobile:		Mobile:	
Home Address:		Home Address:	



# Report of the Trustees

The trustees are amenable to the Charge Conference and as such are required to make an annual report

(¶ 2550). Additional reports should be made as requested by the Charge Conference or Church Council or equivalent. Numbers in parentheses refer to paragraphs in the 2020/2024 Book of Discipline.

*Copies of this report should be filed with the recording secretary, pastor, district superintendent and the board of trustees.*

Epworth United Methodist Church Church Rehoboth Beach, DE Charge.  
Delaware District Peninsula-Delaware Annual Conference

For the period beginning 7/1/25, and ending 6/30/26  
DATE OF PRIOR CHARGE CONFERENCE DATE OF CURRENT CHARGE CONFERENCE

1. Organization for the present conference year was effective (date) \_\_\_\_\_, by electing the following officers (no less than three, and up to nine persons):

Name	Term Expires
President <u>Thomas Lewis</u>	<u>2028</u>
Vice President <u>Dee Speck</u>	<u>2029</u>
Secretary <u>Rose Marie Schmidt (resigned)</u>	_____
Treasurer _____	_____
Member <u>Len Johnson</u>	<u>2029</u>
Member <u>Dan Potts</u>	<u>2027</u>
Member <u>Dick Coyle</u>	<u>2027</u>
Member <u>R. L. Hughes</u>	<u>2027</u>
Member <u>Alicia Popham</u>	<u>2029</u>

2. a. Is the local church incorporated (¶2529.1a)?  **Yes** - List the record locator/account number given to the organization by the state:  
 **No**

b. Who is the custodian of deeds and other legal papers? Special Projects Manager  
 c. Where are they kept? Deed File Cabinet

3. Name or names in which title to each piece of property is recorded, as shown by civil land records (¶¶2536, 2538):

	Name(s)	Office	Book	Page
Church Buildings	<u>Epworth UMC</u>	<u>19285 Holland Glade Rd</u>	<u>1726</u>	<u>120</u>
Church Buildings	_____	_____	_____	_____
Parsonages	_____	_____	_____	_____
Parsonages	_____	_____	_____	_____
	<u>EPWORTH UMC</u>			
Other	<u>Cemetery</u>	<u>187 Henlopen Ave</u>	<u>On File</u>	_____
Other	_____	_____	_____	_____

4. Does each deed contain trust clause (§2503)?  Yes  No

5. Do you have a long-term plan for the replacement of facilities and equipment as they deteriorate?  Yes  No

6. a. Insurance (§2533.2, 2550.7)

Item Insured/ Insurance	Replacement Value	Amount of Coverage/ Limits	Type of Coverage	Company	Restricted By Coinsurance (Yes or No and amount)		Expires When
					Y <input type="checkbox"/>	N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Church Buildings	\$15,409,000	\$ same	RC	Selective	Y <input type="checkbox"/>	N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amount: 8/2026
Parsonages	\$	\$			Y <input type="checkbox"/>	N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amount:
Church Furnishings and Equipment	\$1,769,565	\$ same	RC	Selective	Y <input type="checkbox"/>	N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amount: 8/2026
Parsonage Furnishings and Equipment	\$	\$			Y <input type="checkbox"/>	N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amount:
Vehicle(s)/ Commercial Auto		\$1,000,000	RC	Selective			8/2026
Hired and Non- Owned Auto Liability		\$					
General Liability		\$1,000,000	RC	Selective			8/2026
Medical Payments		\$					
Umbrella/Excess Liability		\$3,000,000	RC	Selective			8/2026
Worker's Compensation/ Employers Liability		\$500,000	RC	The Hartford			8/2026
Employment Practices Liability		\$100,000	RC	Selective			8/2026
Employee Benefits Liability		\$500,000	RC	Selective			8/2026
Directors and Officers/ Errors Omissions		\$1,000,000	RC	Selective	Y <input type="checkbox"/>	N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amount: 8/2026
Crime/Employee Dishonesty Coverage		\$500,000	RC	Selective			8/2026
Professional Liability Coverage/ Pastoral Counseling		\$1,000,000	RC	Selective			8/2026
Sexual Misconduct Coverage		\$1,000,000	RC	Selective			8/2026
Cyber Coverage, if any		\$50,000	RC	Selective			8/2026

b. Have the buildings been inspected for fire and other safety hazards within the past year?  Yes  No

c. Have you assessed the replacement value within the last 5 years?  Yes  No

d. Who performed the assessment? \_\_\_\_\_

e. Does the church have a Misconduct Prevention Policy, such as Safer Sanctuaries?  Yes  No

Note: It is recommended that the Misconduct Prevention Policy be reviewed every couple of years, Provide the date last reviewed? \_\_\_\_\_

f. Is the amount of insurance adequate?  Yes  No

(to determine the adequacy of coverage, please use the GCFA Insurance Worksheet found at:

[www.gcfa.org/resource/umc-minimum-insurance-requirements](http://www.gcfa.org/resource/umc-minimum-insurance-requirements))

7. a. Has an annual accessibility audit for church properties been conducted (§ 2533.6)?  Yes  No

(attach as a report; an example accessibility audit form may be found at [www.gcfa.org/forms-and-assets](http://www.gcfa.org/forms-and-assets))

b. If needed, have you developed an accessibility plan?  Yes  No (Attach plan)

8. a. Has an annual evaluation been conducted in relation to the church buildings, grounds, and facilities showing the impact on their ability to be carbon neutral and/or have net zero greenhouse gas emissions (§ 2550.11)?  Yes  No

(attach as a report)

b. If needed, have you developed a plan/timeline for the renovation and development to achieve this?  Yes  No

(attach plan/timeline)

9. Provide a detailed list of income-producing and permanent funds:

Item	Date Received	Amount	Where Invested	Income	How Income is Used for Ministry
Cemetery	May 2021	\$872,245	Stocks, Bonds, CDs	\$161,712	Cemetery Only
Endowment	2019	\$248,093	Vanguard	\$28,816	

(Attach as a supplement a statement "clarifying the manner in which these investments made a positive contribution toward the realization of the goals outlined in the Social Principles of the church and showing the investments are socially responsible..." § 2533.5 and § 2550.9)

President of Trustees Thomas R Lewis

Printed Name: Thomas R. Lewis

Date: 5/28/2026

SEND COPIES TO:

1. The recording secretary
2. Pastor
3. District Superintendent
4. The board of trustees.

ANNUAL ACCESSIBILITY AUDIT FOR UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES (12533.6)



Church Epworth United Methodist Church District Delaware

	Y	N	Guidelines (see key on p. 4 for scoring instructions & B, S, G info.)	Explain "NO" Answers
<b>GETTING INTO THE CHURCH</b>				
1- B	X		Clearly visible signs mark <u>or</u> direct people to accessible entrances	
2- B	X		1+ marked ADA parking spaces are on level ground near entrance	
3- G	X		Wheelchair users don't have to go behind parked cars, cross traffic	
4- S	X		At least 1 per 25 spaces is clearly marked with access symbol on vertical signs and on pavement (# of accessible spaces: _____)	
5- B	X		Accessible parking spaces are 8' wide with adjacent 5' access aisle	
6- S	X		At least one accessible space is van accessible: 11' wide with clearly marked adjacent 5' access aisle (or 8' space with 8' access aisle)	
7- B	X		36" wide curb cuts (curb ramps) are provided close to parking	
8- B	X		Route (sidewalk) from accessible parking to accessible building entrance is smooth, flat, and at least 36" wide (width: _____)	
9- B	X		Entrance is level <u>or</u> has exterior ramp with non-slip surface and minimum width of 36" between handrails (width: _____)	
10- S	X		Ramp has max. incline of 1:12 (length: _____ rise: _____ ratio: _____) with no more than 30' between level landings, <u>or entrance is level</u>	
11- S	X		34-38" handrails are on both sides of exterior ramp/ stairs, lower ramp railing is no higher than 4" above deck, <u>or entrance is level</u>	
12- B	X		There is a 60"x 60" level platform at entry door (size: _____) with space (~ 18") on pull side of door <u>or automatic door opener used</u>	
13- G	X		Automatic door opener available, <u>or attended doorbell for assist</u>	
14- B	X		Entrance door is 36" wide; threshold no more than beveled 1/2" high	
<b>GETTING AROUND THE CHURCH</b>				
15- B	X		Signs in entrances/ halls direct visitors and help them locate rooms	
16- B	X		Corridors are at least 36" wide and have non-glare floor surface	
17- B	X		Objects that protrude more than 4" from the wall have a lower edge no higher than 27" above the floor, or a barrier such as a planter or guard rail, to allow detection with a cane	
18- B	X		Multi-level buildings provide access to all common/ most program areas via elevator, lift and/ or ramp(s), <u>or building is on one level</u>	
19- B	X		Interior doorways have a minimum of 32" clearance and thresholds are level or are no more than 1/2" high and beveled	
20- S	X		Door handles to ADA bathrooms/ common areas are easy to grasp, operate with one hand (e.g. lever style) using less than 6 lbs. force	
21- S	X		Carpet pile is even, no more than 1/2" thick, with no or firm padding; floor mats have non-slip backing and are stable	
22- G	X		Fire alarm controls and extinguishers are no more than 48" (h: _____) from floor; visual and auditory fire alarms are in place	
23- B	X		At least one marked ADA unisex/ family restroom ( <u>or one stall in male &amp; female restrooms</u> ) is accessible from each floor; has ~60"x 60" turning space with 33 – 36" high wall-mounted grab bar next to toilet extending 54" from back wall; toilet height 17 – 19" (h: _____)	
24- S	X		27" sink clearance from floor (h: _____), w/ easy to operate controls (lever style, automatic, etc.), hot water & drain pipes are covered	
25- B	X		Soap dispenser and paper towels are mounted no higher than 48" (h: _____) <u>or placed on counter for access</u>	
26- B	X		Bottom edge of at least one mirror is 40" or lower (h: _____)	

	Y	N	Description / Guidelines (see page 4 for scoring instructions)	Explain "NO" Answers
27- B	X		Drinking fountain is no higher than 36" with easy hand controls and wheelchair clearance, <b>or</b> paper cups are provided	
28- B	X		Interior stairs/ ramps have handrails on both sides, <b>or all one level</b>	
29- S	X		Top/bottom step edges & ramp level changes marked, <b>or one level</b>	
<b>SANCTUARY, CLASSROOMS, AND FELLOWSHIP AREA</b>				
30- B	X		At least 1-2 level pew cuts/spaces for wheelchair users are available	
31- S	X		Wheelchair spaces are 33"x48" forward or 33"x60" side approach (size: _____), distributed throughout the room for choice in seating, with view of pulpit/ screen when others stand	
32- G	X		Chancel area and choir loft are accessible, e.g. with ramp or lift	
33- S	X		Handrail(s) provided for steps to the chancel, <b>or chancel is level</b>	
34- B	X		At least one aisle in each space is 36" wide or more (w: _____)	
35- B	X		Fellowship - e.g. potlucks, coffee hour- is offered in accessible space	
36- B	X		In fellowship area and classrooms at least one table has minimum of 27" clearance on the underside, and a maximum height of 34"	
37- B		X	1-2 sturdy chairs have armrests, seats ~18" from floor, & no wheels	no armrests
<b>COMMUNICATIONS AND ENVIRONMENT</b>				
38- S	X		Members are sensitized about need to minimize use of fragrances	
39- G	X		Soaps, cleaning products and other chemicals are fragrance free; candles are unscented and non-petroleum-based	
40- S	X		Projected words (e.g. song lyrics) use large font and good contrast	
41- B	X		Large print bulletin, song lyrics, & scriptures provided <i>on request</i>	
42- S		X	Braille <b>or</b> electronic documents provided <i>upon advanced request</i>	no Braille, yes to others
43- B	X		Microphone used by all speakers or comments are repeated at mic.	
44- S	X		Assisted listening system (FM and/or loop) & receivers are available	
45- G	X		ASL sign language interpreter is provided <i>upon advanced request</i>	
46- S	X		Print/ e-mailed copies of sermon provided <i>upon advanced request</i>	
47- G	X		Captions are provided / turned on for videos and other media	
<b>ATTITUDES</b>				
48- B	X		Accessibility measures and who to contact for questions described in bulletin, website, maps, Find-A-Church site, <b>and/or</b> signage	
49- B	X		Pastor(s), ushers, greeters, and leaders have learned and practice appropriate disability etiquette and hospitality	
50- S	X		Signs, websites, <b>and/or</b> bulletin boards offer evidence that people with visible and hidden disabilities are welcome and included in the life of the congregation, e.g. through support group info., photos	
51- B	X		Disruptions are accepted and incorporated into worship	
52- B	X		Qualified service animals (e.g. guide dogs) are welcome within the church building(s) including the sanctuary and fellowship hall	
53- B	X		Congregation works to use inclusive, person-first language in worship, e.g. people are invited to "rise in body or in spirit"	
54- S	X		Classes and programs are adapted <i>as needed</i> to facilitate active participation of children and adults with disabilities	
55- B		X	Disability Awareness Sunday ¶1265.4 observed during past 1-2 years	none provided
56- S	X		Gifts of persons with disabilities are identified and used in service, worship, and leadership roles, and to help to improve access	
57- B	X		Needs of people on special diets are considered when food is offered, including gluten-free & alcohol-free communion elements	
58- S	X		Transportation offered plus valet parking <b>or</b> parking lot assistance	
59- S		X	"Buddy" system offered for individuals needing 1:1 support	none offered

GOALS FOR ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENT FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR	Target Date
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	

YES  NO  Request consultation from Conference Disability Concerns Committee

Comments (continue on additional pages if needed):

Signature of Pastor: *Thomas R Lewis* Date 5/28/26

Signature of Trustees Chairperson: *Thomas Lewis* Date 5/28/26

Signature of District Superintendent: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date Form Completed 5/28/2026 Charge Conference Date \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE PRINT NAMES AND PROVIDE PHONE NUMBER OR E-MAIL ADDRESS:**

Form completed by Thomas R Lewis Contact info mathguy29@yahoo.com

Contact person for church *Thomas Lewis* Contact info \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE NOTE:**

- This form is for use on existing buildings only; refer to current [ADA standards](#) and state regulations for construction or major remodeling projects.
- The survey should be completed by a team including a member of the trustees, and people with construction, architecture and/or rehabilitation backgrounds. Include persons with disabilities and family members, especially someone who uses a wheelchair and someone with low vision.
- Interview persons with disabilities and family members of children and adults with disabilities to learn how welcoming your congregation is and to help set priorities.
- This is not an all-inclusive listing of ADA guidelines or appropriate accommodations, but rather represents basic first steps that a church may take to begin to implement accessibility measures.
- Resources are available through your [conference Disability Concerns Committee](#) (¶1653) and through the Disability Ministry Committee of the UMC at [umcdmc.org](http://umcdmc.org) to help you plan and carry out improvements.

**Scoring Instructions:**

1. Based on your findings, circle or highlight the letter in the **Yes** column or mark the **No** column for each audit item. Focus on your main accessible entrance and Sunday morning activities, especially worship. If the intent of the item is met in a different way, e.g., greeters are posted on Sundays to open doors and provide directions (#13 and 15), mark it **Yes**. If you will fix the issue very soon, mark **Yes**. If an item occurs at least 85% of the time, e.g., microphone use in worship and meetings, score it **Yes**. If only part of a multi-question item is met, mark that item as **No** unless alternatives are given, as designated by "or." If a system is in place to provide services, e.g. "buddy" companions or e-mailed bulletin for Braille users, mark **Yes** even if no one is using it. See [Guidance for Completing the Accessibility Audit](#) at [umcdmc.org](http://umcdmc.org) for further clarification.
2. Add the number of **Yes** responses in each badge category (**Copper**, **Bronze**, **Silver**, and **Gold**).
3. Compute the percentage of **Yes** responses in that badge category.
4. In order to receive a badge at the designated level, the church needs to score at least 85% at that level and any lower levels, i.e., the church cannot receive **Silver** if the **Bronze** level is not met.

	Copper	Bronze	Silver	Gold
1. & 2. # of Yes's	55 / 59	31 / 32	18 / 20	7 / 7 + <sup>s</sup> =
3. Percentage	93 %	97 %	90 %	100 %
4. Score earns badge? Criteria:	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> 50% of <i>all</i> items	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> 85% of <b>B</b> items	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> 85% of B & S items	Yes* <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> 85% <b>B, S &amp; G</b> items

**Honorable Mention – Copper (Partial accommodations)** – The church has completed the Annual Audit and set at least two specific goals for the coming year. While not physically accessible, the church strives to be disability-inclusive, make the changes they can, and make their ministries accessible in alternative ways. *(Verified by self-report, using this Annual Accessibility Audit for United Methodist Churches.)*

**B = Bronze (Basic accessibility and accommodations)** – The church is welcoming and offers basic amenities needed for a disabled person to participate, e.g., a place to park, a way to get into the building and sanctuary, a bathroom that is usable, etc. Most items at this level are low cost and easily provided. *(Verified by self-report, using this Annual Accessibility Audit for United Methodist Churches.)*

**S = Silver (Satisfactory accessibility and accommodations)** – The church has many accessible features and offers accommodations for persons with diverse disabilities including hearing loss and limited vision. While some areas are not yet fully accessible and inclusive, the congregation is working towards full accessibility. *(Verified by self-report, using this Annual Accessibility Audit for United Methodist Churches.)*

**G = Gold (Great accessibility and accommodations)** – The congregation exceeds ADA and strives to provide accessible space and accommodations. The church welcomes persons with disabilities through intentional measures and ongoing need-based improvements. This church could host conference events per ¶716.2 of the *Book of Discipline*. *(\*Verified by this Annual Accessibility Audit for United Methodist Churches and a virtual or in-person site visit. <sup>s</sup>Additional measures you have taken may count as bonus Gold points to reach 85% or more. You must apply for this level. Contact your conference Disability Concerns Committee or check the link below for further instructions.)*

For all levels, check with your [annual conference Disability Concerns committee](#) or see the [DMC website Accessibility Resources](#) for instructions on how to access your badge.

**PENINSULA-DELAWARE ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
SAFE SANCTUARIES  
LOCAL CHURCH/CHARGE SELF-ASSESSMENT AND STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE**

**CHURCH/CHARGE:** Epworth United Methodist Church **DISTRICT:** Delaware

The Safe Sanctuaries Policy of the Peninsula-Delaware Conference (PDC) is seeks to ensure that each local church provides a safe and secure environment for all children, youth and adults who participate in its ministries and activities. This document serves two purposes:

1. It provides the local church with a clear and concise way to determine if it is in compliance with the PDC Safe Sanctuaries Policy.
2. It alerts the District Superintendent (DS) if there are areas of non-compliance and the date by which the non- compliance will be remedied.

**Instructions:**

- Indicate compliance status (Yes or No) for each of the operating guidelines.
- Indicate date by which non-compliance will be resolved for any section for which the answer is "No."
- Ensure that certification section is signed by the Pastor and Chairperson of Trustees.
- Submit with Charge Conference Reports.

Operating Guideline	Compliance Status	Anticipated Compliance Date
A Safe Sanctuaries Policy has been adopted by the local church/charge (may be combined with Sexual Ethics Policy)	Yes	
A SAFE Team has been formed and has reviewed compliance with the Safe Sanctuaries Policy	Yes	
All volunteers and staff who work with children or youth have been trained annually in Safe Sanctuaries Policy and Operations		Fall 2026
All volunteers and staff who work with children or youth have been trained annually in First Aid and CPR	Yes	
The Trustees have completed an annual review of all church facilities accommodating children or youth including, but not limited to, Sunday School rooms & doors, age and activity appropriate equipment, first aid kits and fire extinguishers and 911 postings by telephones.	Yes	
The SAFE Team has verified adherence to the "Six-Month Membership" rule for volunteers working with children or youth	Yes	
The SAFE Team has verified that all staff and volunteers working with children or youth have completed a written application, personal reference form, driver license and criminal background check and participation covenant and that the confidentiality of these records are protected.	Yes	
No individuals who have been convicted of any crime against a child or teenager have been accepted as a worker with children or youth.	Yes	
Basic Procedures for Safe Ministry (as defined in Safe Sanctuaries for Youth)	Yes	
All staff and volunteers have been trained on <i>Appropriate Interpersonal Boundaries</i>	Yes	

**PENINSULA-DELAWARE ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
SAFE SANCTUARIES  
LOCAL CHURCH/CHARGE SELF-ASSESSMENT AND STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE**

The Two-Adult Rule is observed at all times during church sponsored programs or events	Yes	
All staff and volunteers are at least five (5) years older than the youth they lead	Yes	
No worker under the age of eighteen (18) serves in an adult capacity	Yes	
All rooms set aside for children or youth have a door with a window or a half-door	Yes	
Open-door counseling is required when working with youth and any counseling need by a youth or the youth's family is confidentially reported to the pastor	Yes	
Counseling sessions are limited to two or three sessions and referral to a professional with expertise in the needs of youth are made, when necessary	Yes	
<i>Advance notice to parents</i> with full information about the event is provided, including the requirement for parent permissions and notification if a staff member or volunteer will be alone with a child	Yes	
<i>Participation Covenants</i> for all participants and leaders are required to establish behavior standards	Yes	
<i>Parent and Family Education</i> of the local church's Safe Sanctuaries policies and procedures is held annually	Yes	
<i>Appropriate Equipment and Supervision</i> plans including, but not limited to, transportation considerations, sleeping arrangements, youth group websites for any activity taking place away from the church are reviewed by the SAFE team before presenting to children or youth	Yes	
<i>Bathroom procedures</i> for children and youth have been established and reviewed by the SAFE Team and are observed by all staff and volunteers who work with children or youth	Yes	
<i>Reporting procedures for Allegations of Abuse</i> have been established and reviewed by the SAFE Team.	Yes	
A <i>Covenant</i> that protects children, youth and other vulnerable persons has been established with any registered sex offender(s) who are participating in the life of the church.	Yes	

The undersigned certify that the above statements are true, to the best of their knowledge, and that they will exercise due diligence in ensuring compliance in the future.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson of Trustees

5/28/2026  
Date Submitted

*Peninsula-Delaware Conference Safe Sanctuaries Local Church/Charge  
Self-Assessment and Statement of Compliance*



# Report of the Finance Committee

The report of the Finance Committee shall be made on this form, or one revised and adapted by the Annual Conference. Numbers in parentheses refer to paragraphs of *The 2020/2024 Book of Discipline*.

Copies of this report should be filed with the recording secretary, pastor, district superintendent and chairperson of the committee on finance

**Epworth United Methodist Church** Church **Rehoboth Beach, DE** Charge  
**Delaware** District **Peninsula-Delaware** Annual Conference

For the period beginning **7/1/2025** and ending **6/30/2026**  
DATE OF PRIOR CHARGE CONFERENCE DATE OF CURRENT CHARGE CONFERENCE

## I. ORGANIZATION

1.a. Has the committee been organized according to *The 2020/2024 Book of Discipline* (§258.4)?  Yes  No

b. Names of officers?

Chairperson David Hagelin Vice Chairperson \_\_\_\_\_  
Treasurer(s) Robert Thoman Financial Secretary Scott Button

## II. BUDGET AND COMMITMENT PLAN

2.a. Has the committee submitted to the Church Council, or its equivalent, a complete budget for the ensuing year?  Yes  No

If not, why? \_\_\_\_\_

b. Did the committee give the Church Council an opportunity to request financial support for recommended ministries (§258.4)?  Yes  No

If no, why? \_\_\_\_\_

3. How frequently does the Financial Secretary/Treasurer send members and contributors regular reports of their giving?  
 Monthly  Quarterly  Semi-annually  Annually  No, we do not send reports

4. Is giving by individual participants in the local church regularly reviewed?  Yes  No

If no, why? \_\_\_\_\_

5. What are the plans for raising sufficient income to meet the budget adopted by the Church Council (§258.4)?

Pledge Campaign and Rental Income

6. Does the Financial Secretary/Treasurer report regularly to the Church Council on the giving trends in the church/charge?  Yes  No

If no, why? \_\_\_\_\_

### III. THE HANDLING OF CHURCH FUNDS

7. Does the Treasurer regularly make reports to the Committee on Finance and the Church Council on the financial position of the church (§258.4b)?  Yes  No

If no, why? \_\_\_\_\_

8. Are all benevolences and other connectional funds remitted monthly to the conference treasurer (§258.4b)?  Yes  No

If no, why? \_\_\_\_\_

9.a. What bank(s) have been designated by the Church Council as a depository (§258.4d)?

Fulton Bank \_\_\_\_\_ Vanguard \_\_\_\_\_  
Morgan Stanley \_\_\_\_\_ United Methodist Foundation \_\_\_\_\_

b. Are all accounts FDIC insured and in amounts at or below the current FDIC insurable limit?  Yes  No

If not, why? \_\_\_\_\_

c. Are all accounts in the name of the church?  Yes  No

If not, why? \_\_\_\_\_

10.a. Has the committee established written financial policies to document the internal controls of the local church (§258.4d)? (Attach as a supplement.)  Yes  No

b. Have these policies been reviewed by the committee and found to be adequate and effective (§258.4d)?  Yes  No

11. Are the church offerings counted by a counting committee in accordance with the mandates of the Discipline (§258.4a)?  Yes  No

If not, why? \_\_\_\_\_

12. Are all funds deposited promptly in accordance with procedures developed by the Committee on Finance (¶258.4a, d)?  Yes  No

If not, why? \_\_\_\_\_

13. Are financial officers of the church bonded (¶258.4b)?  Yes  No

If not, why? \_\_\_\_\_

14.a. Have the financial records of the church and all its organizations been audited for the prior fiscal year (¶258.4c)?  Yes  No

If not, why? An external financial audit for calendar year 2023 was completed in January 2026. An audit will be conducted annually starting in 2027 for the prior year.

c. Were there any recommendations or exceptions?  Yes  No

d. If there were recommendations or exceptions, how has the church addressed them?

The recommendations focused on specific processes and procedures, some of which have been modified since the 2023 audit period or are in the process of being modified.

Signed David Hagelin

Printed Name: David Hagelin

Date: 6/1/2026

SEND COPIES TO:

1. The recording secretary
2. Pastor
3. District Superintendent
4. Chairperson of the committee on finance

**Epworth United Methodist Church**  
**Operating Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual**  
 July 2025 through May 2026

06/08/26

Cash Basis

Ordinary Income/Expense	Jul '25 - May 26	Budget	\$ Over Budget
<b>Income</b>			
<b>40100 · Operating Funds</b>			
<b>50 · Support Operations</b>			
40102 · General Income Fund	686,748.11	701,250.00	-14,501.89
40104 · Holiday and Loose Plate Funds	11,901.60	12,837.00	-935.40
<b>40105 · Rent</b>			
40106 · Funeral Income	1,877.63	1,000.00	877.63
40108 · Community Income	23,165.43	22,000.00	1,165.43
40109 · Outreach Support Groups	3,681.00	3,300.00	381.00
40110 · Other Rental Income	3,415.91	2,750.00	665.91
40161 · Boys & Girls Club	32,402.94	31,680.00	722.94
<b>Total 40105 · Rent</b>	64,542.91	60,730.00	3,812.91
<b>40111 · Interest Income</b>			
40121 · Interest - CRN Sinking Fund	0.00	600.00	-600.00
40127 · Interest - Designated Invest	0.00	1,100.00	-1,100.00
40111 · Interest Income - Other	4,185.95	2,200.00	1,985.95
<b>Total 40111 · Interest Income</b>	4,185.95	3,900.00	285.95
<b>40129 · Special Giving for Operations</b>			
40117 · Cemetery Tithes	5,841.00	7,500.00	-1,659.00
40122 · Staff Christmas Gift	7,965.00	0.00	7,965.00
40124 · Personnel Support	6,713.52	5,500.00	1,213.52
40126 · Preschool Bldg Usage	13,120.00	12,600.00	520.00
40130 · Legacy Tithes	13,759.30	12,000.00	1,759.30
40132 · Events Pay	18,751.56	16,200.00	2,551.56
40162 · Facilities General	90.42	11,000.00	-10,909.58
40301 · One Time Gifts	1,565.00	30,000.00	-28,435.00
40325 · Fundraising Income	16,686.00	7,500.00	9,186.00
40334 · SkatePark Usage	0.00	500.00	-500.00
40450 · Other Designated Giving	2,638.60	0.00	2,638.60
40999 · Misc. Income	1,590.00	925.00	665.00
<b>Total 40129 · Special Giving for Operations</b>	88,720.40	103,725.00	-15,004.60
<b>Total 50 · Support Operations</b>	856,098.97	882,442.00	-26,343.03
<b>Total 40100 · Operating Funds</b>	856,098.97	882,442.00	-26,343.03
<b>40200 · Program Funds</b>			
<b>10 · Inviting All</b>			
41000 · Social Justice Funds	50.00	0.00	50.00
41999 · Food Teams Operations	51,749.75	13,750.00	37,999.75
<b>Total 10 · Inviting All</b>	51,799.75	13,750.00	38,049.75
<b>20 · Finding Your Place</b>			
<b>40700 · Family Ministries</b>			
40701 · Revolution Youth	60.00	0.00	60.00
40702 · Vacation Bible School	0.00	500.00	-500.00
40703 · Adult	205.00	275.00	-70.00
40704 · Sunday School	0.00	275.00	-275.00
<b>Total 40700 · Family Ministries</b>	265.00	1,050.00	-785.00
<b>Total 20 · Finding Your Place</b>	265.00	1,050.00	-785.00
<b>30 · Demonstrating Care</b>			
<b>40950 · Demonstrating Care</b>			
40603 · Flower Ministry	597.50	0.00	597.50
40954 · Misc Income	1,034.41	1,650.00	-615.59
<b>Total 40950 · Demonstrating Care</b>	1,631.91	1,650.00	-18.09
<b>Total 30 · Demonstrating Care</b>	1,631.91	1,650.00	-18.09

## Epworth United Methodist Church Operating Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual July 2025 through May 2026

	Jul '25 - May 26	Budget	\$ Over Budget
40 · Connecting to God			
40600 · Connecting To God	16,600.00	15,000.00	1,600.00
<b>Total 40 · Connecting to God</b>	<b>16,600.00</b>	<b>15,000.00</b>	<b>1,600.00</b>
<b>Total 40200 · Program Funds</b>	<b>70,296.66</b>	<b>31,450.00</b>	<b>38,846.66</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>926,395.63</b>	<b>913,892.00</b>	<b>12,503.63</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>926,395.63</b>	<b>913,892.00</b>	<b>12,503.63</b>
<b>Expense</b>			
50000 · Operating Expenses			
50.01 · Support Operations			
50110 · SPRC			
50111 · Senior Pastor			
50112 · Senior Pastor Wages	73,750.57	70,762.00	2,988.57
50113 · SP CPP	4,340.51	4,393.00	-52.49
50114 · SP Health Benefits	21,900.36	22,191.00	-290.64
50116 · SP CRSP	4,215.39	4,972.00	-756.61
50132 · SP Travel & Discretion	2,027.33	4,750.00	-2,722.67
56122 · SP Social Security Allowance	7,096.32	7,095.00	1.32
56123 · SP Housing	22,000.00	22,000.00	0.00
<b>Total 50111 · Senior Pastor</b>	<b>135,330.48</b>	<b>136,163.00</b>	<b>-832.52</b>
50117 · Pastor of Media & Communica			
50118 · Pastor of Media & Communica	42,487.50	42,482.00	5.50
50119 · AP CPP	2,313.40	2,354.00	-40.60
50121 · AP Housing	7,333.26	7,334.00	-0.74
50122 · AP CRSP	5,669.30	6,435.00	-765.70
50139 · AP Travel & Education	0.00	2,750.00	-2,750.00
56121 · AP Social Security Allowance	3,638.04	3,806.00	-167.96
<b>Total 50117 · Pastor of Media &amp; Communica</b>	<b>61,441.50</b>	<b>65,161.00</b>	<b>-3,719.50</b>
50130 · Church Staff			
50131 · Church Staff Wages	223,881.98	229,328.00	-5,446.02
50133 · Payroll Tax Expense	18,590.78	17,545.00	1,045.78
50134 · Employer 403(B) Match	3,771.63	3,394.00	377.63
50135 · Staff Health Benefits	13,958.33	13,750.00	208.33
50141 · Events Pay	18,098.75	17,250.00	848.75
<b>Total 50130 · Church Staff</b>	<b>278,301.47</b>	<b>281,267.00</b>	<b>-2,965.53</b>
<b>Total 50110 · SPRC</b>	<b>475,073.45</b>	<b>482,591.00</b>	<b>-7,517.55</b>
50150 · Facilities Combined			
50160 · Facilities			
50161 · Repairs & Maintenance	36,412.86	29,788.00	6,624.86
50162 · Utilities	64,963.10	59,500.00	5,463.10
50163 · Custodial Supplies	7,037.91	9,438.00	-2,400.09
50164 · Insurance	33,727.00	31,977.00	1,750.00
50165 · Cable, Internet & Phone	13,161.69	8,250.00	4,911.69
50166 · Capital Building Expenses	91,045.00	35,000.00	56,045.00
50168 · Leased Equipment	54,631.07	50,600.00	4,031.07
50169 · Administrative Costs	289.45	0.00	289.45
50171 · Grounds Maintenance	22,924.88	20,625.00	2,299.88
50176 · Snow Removal	12,064.75	7,500.00	4,564.75
50181 · Security	1,421.74	0.00	1,421.74
50182 · Technical Support	50.00	750.00	-700.00
<b>Total 50160 · Facilities</b>	<b>337,729.45</b>	<b>253,428.00</b>	<b>84,301.45</b>
50177 · Facilities - Kitchen			
50170 · Kitchen Supplies	9,539.49	3,663.00	5,876.49
50178 · Kitchen Equipment Repairs	4,037.50	5,000.00	-962.50
50179 · Capital Improvements - Kitchen	22,984.00	0.00	22,984.00

## Epworth United Methodist Church Operating Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual July 2025 through May 2026

	Jul '25 - May 26	Budget	\$ Over Budget
Total 50177 · Facilities - Kitchen	36,560.99	8,663.00	27,897.99
Total 50150 · Facilities Combined	374,290.44	262,091.00	112,199.44
<b>50300 · Finance</b>			
50125 · Staff Development	1,085.22	1,200.00	-114.78
50129 · Staff Appreciation	9,732.61	0.00	9,732.61
50136 · Contract Labor	4,094.20	6,233.00	-2,138.80
50137 · Worker's Comp Insurance	3,342.00	5,775.00	-2,433.00
50304 · Banking Expense	10,638.20	13,750.00	-3,111.80
50305 · Accounting Services	7,460.00	6,000.00	1,460.00
50310 · Copier Maintenance & Overages	729.26	1,375.00	-645.74
50555 · Source Collaborative	183.64	7,337.00	-7,153.36
50801 · Office Supplies	4,879.36	4,576.00	303.36
50803 · Postage	1,759.28	913.00	846.28
50999 · Fund Raising Expenses	0.00	2,000.00	-2,000.00
Total 50300 · Finance	43,903.77	49,159.00	-5,255.23
<b>50500 · Connectional Ministry Expenses</b>			
50550 · Conference	91,194.40	76,428.00	14,766.40
50575 · District	2,683.31	2,673.00	10.31
Total 50500 · Connectional Ministry Expenses	93,877.71	79,101.00	14,776.71
Total 50.01 · Support Operations	987,145.37	872,942.00	114,203.37
Total 50000 · Operating Expenses	987,145.37	872,942.00	114,203.37
<b>50100 · Program Expenses</b>			
10.01 · Inviting All			
50800 · Communications			
50804 · External Advertising	3,055.00	3,300.00	-245.00
50805 · Website Costs	1,643.82	1,664.00	-20.18
50809 · Computer Software	3,128.77	1,419.00	1,709.77
50810 · Special Advertising	0.00	250.00	-250.00
Total 50800 · Communications	7,827.59	6,633.00	1,194.59
50900 · Fellowship			
50901 · Fellowship	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Total 50900 · Fellowship	0.00	500.00	-500.00
50960 · Bus Ministry	768.19	500.00	268.19
Total 10.01 · Inviting All	8,595.78	7,633.00	962.78
<b>20.01 · Finding Your Place</b>			
50400 · Belongings			
50402 · Spiritual Gifts	0.00	500.00	-500.00
50468 · Belongings Supplies	3,128.53	480.00	2,648.53
Total 50400 · Belongings	3,128.53	980.00	2,148.53
<b>50690 · Family Ministries</b>			
50700 · Childrens Ministries			
50707 · Vacation Bible School	1,873.65	1,800.00	73.65
Total 50700 · Childrens Ministries	1,873.65	1,800.00	73.65
50725 · Revolution Youth			
50729 · Youth Room Supplies	134.07	0.00	134.07
50731 · Special Events	6,574.20	500.00	6,074.20
Total 50725 · Revolution Youth	6,708.27	500.00	6,208.27
<b>50750 · Adult Small Groups</b>			
50752 · Supplies and Resources	63.81	0.00	63.81
50754 · Special Events	700.00	400.00	300.00
50756 · Literature & Publications	679.72	462.00	217.72

## Epworth United Methodist Church Operating Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual July 2025 through May 2026

	Jul '25 - May 26	Budget	\$ Over Budget
50757 · Administrative Costs	23.76	0.00	23.76
Total 50750 · Adult Small Groups	1,467.29	862.00	605.29
Total 50690 · Family Ministries	10,049.21	3,162.00	6,887.21
Total 20.01 · Finding Your Place	13,177.74	4,142.00	9,035.74
30.01 · Demonstrating Care			
50950 · Care Ministries			
50612 · Flower Ministry	3,622.50	0.00	3,622.50
50953 · General Supplies	2,351.36	2,937.00	-585.64
50955 · Administrative Costs	3,358.00	913.00	2,445.00
50958 · Funeral/Receptions	2,924.66	1,250.00	1,674.66
50963 · Card Ministry	215.59		
Total 50950 · Care Ministries	12,472.11	5,100.00	7,372.11
Total 30.01 · Demonstrating Care	12,472.11	5,100.00	7,372.11
40.01 · Connecting to God			
50600 · Worship			
50601 · Memberships/Licenses	4,721.21	2,563.00	2,158.21
50604 · Worship Supplies	7,977.17	9,625.00	-1,647.83
50606 · Contract Labor	7,750.00	8,400.00	-650.00
50609 · Administrative Costs	708.63	913.00	-204.37
Total 50600 · Worship	21,157.01	21,501.00	-343.99
50615 · Sight & Sound			
50616 · Administrative Costs	738.00	0.00	738.00
50617 · Capital Equipment	25,060.77	2,500.00	22,560.77
50619 · Contract Labor	3,106.25	500.00	2,606.25
Total 50615 · Sight & Sound	28,905.02	3,000.00	25,905.02
50625 · Music Ministry			
50602 · Printed Music	572.99	500.00	72.99
50603 · Music Equipment	1,450.00	500.00	950.00
50607 · Special Events	3,650.00	2,800.00	850.00
50608 · Praise Music	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00
50625 · Music Ministry - Other	-350.00		
Total 50625 · Music Ministry	5,322.99	5,300.00	22.99
Total 40.01 · Connecting to God	55,385.02	29,801.00	25,584.02
Total 50100 · Program Expenses	89,630.65	46,676.00	42,954.65
70000 · Mortgage & CRN			
87000 · Interest Expense - CRN Notes	625.00	2,750.00	-2,125.00
Total 70000 · Mortgage & CRN	625.00	2,750.00	-2,125.00
Total Expense	1,077,401.02	922,368.00	155,033.02
Net Ordinary Income	-151,005.39	-8,476.00	-142,529.39
Net Income	<b>-151,005.39</b>	<b>-8,476.00</b>	<b>-142,529.39</b>

## Epworth United Methodist Church

## Balance Sheet

As of May 31, 2026

	May 31, 26
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Checking/Savings</b>	
10000 · Operating Bank Accounts	
10100 · General Fund - Fulton Bank	24,791.59
10110 · Savings - Fulton Bank	92,908.43
10112 · Designated - Money Mkt	951.69
10113 · Designated - Investment	89,304.28
10118 · Reserve - Bldg - Money Mkt	810.03
10119 · Reserve - Bldg - Investment	62,616.23
10120 · Reserve Bldg-Preferred Savings	98,135.93
10121 · Reserve Bldg-CD	126,595.50
10122 · Reserve - CD Morgan Stanley	52,637.97
10126 · Money Mkt - Fulton	75,141.27
10624 · Venmo	1,893.46
10625 · Food Ministries - Checking	59,075.75
10626 · Food 9 Month CD	30,347.46
<b>Total 10000 · Operating Bank Accounts</b>	<b>715,209.59</b>
10220 · Epworth Legacy Endowment	
10223 · Vanguard - MM	1,831.74
10224 · Vanguard - FTSE Social Index	246,260.89
<b>Total 10220 · Epworth Legacy Endowment</b>	<b>248,092.63</b>
10375 · Cemetery Operating	
10401 · Operating Checking	26,317.01
10402 · Morgan 6 Mo. CD	51,775.72
10403 · Operating Money Mkt	36,794.34
10406 · Morgan 9 Mo. CD	25,392.71
10408 · Cash Reserve - Cemetery CD's	52,013.73
<b>Total 10375 · Cemetery Operating</b>	<b>192,293.51</b>
10409 · Cemetery Perpetual Care	
10405 · United Methodist Foundation	6,061.20
10407 · Epworth CRN Investment	80,000.00
10410 · Morgan Stanley Investment	
10424 · Capital Reserve	
10420 · Advisory # 854	149,999.77
10422 · Advisory - MM	1,039.28
<b>Total 10424 · Capital Reserve</b>	<b>151,039.05</b>
10426 · LT Investment Account	
10421 · Index # 655	492,837.56
10423 · Index - MM	17,392.05
<b>Total 10426 · LT Investment Account</b>	<b>510,229.61</b>
<b>Total 10410 · Morgan Stanley Investment</b>	<b>661,268.66</b>
<b>Total 10409 · Cemetery Perpetual Care</b>	<b>747,329.86</b>
10616 · Preschool Operating	70,527.77
10617 · Preschool MS 6mo CD	50,000.00
10619 · Preschool Money Market	55,959.37
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<b>2,079,412.73</b>
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>	
12000 · Accounts Receivable	-0.50
<b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>	<b>-0.50</b>
<b>Other Current Assets</b>	
10650 · Petty Cash for Events	55.00

## Epworth United Methodist Church

## Balance Sheet

As of May 31, 2026

	May 31, 26
Total Other Current Assets	55.00
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>2,079,467.23</b>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	
15000 · Church & Property	
15001 · Building Cost	9,360,854.00
15002 · Furniture	179,990.00
15003 · Equipment	437,351.00
15004 · Land	229,717.56
15010 · A/D - Church & Property	-1,266,653.00
<b>Total 15000 · Church &amp; Property</b>	<b>8,941,259.56</b>
15200 · Parsonage Property	-400,396.07
15500 · Other Property	
15501 · Cemetery Columbarium	204,349.44
<b>Total 15500 · Other Property</b>	<b>204,349.44</b>
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>8,745,212.93</b>
<b>Other Assets</b>	
1500 · Prepaid Delmarva Power	6,660.00
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>6,660.00</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>10,831,340.16</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
Other Current Liabilities	
20005 · Payroll Liabilities	3.05
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<b>3.05</b>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>3.05</b>
<b>Long Term Liabilities</b>	
22000 · Fund Balances	
32500 · Missions - Designated	
32550 · General Missions	11,608.76
32700 · Christmas Joy 365	20,812.85
<b>Total 32500 · Missions - Designated</b>	<b>32,421.61</b>
32625 · Support - Designated	
32401 · Wings	2,773.70
32576 · Emmaus Fund Ministry	1,804.00
32803 · Coffee Ministries	317.67
32806 · Memorials	526.06
32808 · Designated Funds	42,790.49
32809 · Green Team	518.86
32815 · Bus Ministry	46.07
32816 · Skatepark	1,929.94
32817 · Youth Group	6,878.29
32960 · Outreach Ministries	734.56
<b>Total 32625 · Support - Designated</b>	<b>58,319.64</b>
32900 · Inviting All - Designated	
32400 · ISOP	3,381.42
32402 · Food Rescue	2,529.67
32662 · Food & Love	100.00
<b>Total 32900 · Inviting All - Designated</b>	<b>6,011.09</b>

**Epworth United Methodist Church**  
**Balance Sheet**  
As of May 31, 2026

	May 31, 26
Total 22000 · Fund Balances	96,752.34
22350 · Capital Revenue Notes	
22290 · CRN - Cemetery	80,000.00
22300 · CRN - 1 year or more	10,000.00
Total 22350 · Capital Revenue Notes	90,000.00
Total Long Term Liabilities	186,752.34
Total Liabilities	186,755.39
Equity	
38400 · Gain/(Loss) Unrealized-Cemetery	350,302.25
38500 · Gain/(Loss) Unrealized-Church	140,954.40
38550 · Gain/(Loss) Unrealized - Legacy	124,493.34
38600 · Gain/(Loss) Unrealized-CRN Sink	29,395.52
38700 · Transfers Between Accounts	1,424,778.79
38750 · Opening Balance Equity	7,343,665.67
38999 · Unrestricted Fund Equity	1,323,791.35
Net Income	-92,796.55
Total Equity	10,644,584.77
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>10,831,340.16</b>

Epworth United Methodist Church  
Budget Worksheet  
July 2026 through June 2027

	Budget 2025-2026	Jul 2025	Aug 2025	Sep 2025	Oct 2025	Nov 2025	Dec 2025	Jan 2026	Feb 2026	Mar 2026	Jul 25 - Mar 26 Actual	Forecast Apr - Jun 2026	Projected for 2025-2026	Budget for 2026 - 2027
Ordinary Income/Expense														
Income														
40100 - Operating Funds														
50 - Support Operations														
40102 - General Income Fund	765,000	42,202	55,687	125,278	58,511	53,315	92,916	73,411	41,330	35,198	577,847	150,000	727,847	735,000
40104 - Holiday and Loose Plate Funds	14,000	1,103	753	833	441	1,427	334	1,116	1,143	1,633	8,783	3,300	12,083	12,000
40105 - Rent	1,000				631					100	731	750	1,481	1,500
40106 - Funeral Income	0										0	0	0	0
40107 - Wedding Income	24,000	2,466	0	1,400	6,225	975	1,975	600	2,475	900	17,016	6,000	23,016	24,000
40108 - Community Income	3,600	845	180	150	465	0	150	566	180	2,556	3,556	1,000	3,556	3,600
40109 - Outreach Support Groups	3,000	215	461	145	870	100	2,880	245	2,281	245	2,281	735	3,016	3,000
40110 - Other Rental Income	34,560	2,880	2,880	3,480	3,480	2,880	3,003	2,880	2,880	2,880	28,643	8,640	35,283	48,000
40161 - Boys & Girls Club	66,160	6,406	3,521	4,575	11,671	3,955	5,128	4,311	5,535	4,125	49,227	17,125	66,352	80,100
Total 40105 - Rent														
40111 - Interest Income	600					0					0	0	0	0
40121 - Interest - CRN Sinking Fund	1,200					0					0	0	0	0
40127 - Interest - Designated Invest	2,500					0					0	0	0	0
40128 - Interest - Legacy Endowment	2,400					2,010	199	193	183	185	4,009	555	4,564	2,400
40111 - Interest Income - Other	6,700	329	379	287	244	2,010	199	193	183	185	4,009	555	4,564	2,400
Total 40111 - Interest Income														
40129 - Special Giving for Operations	0													
40147 - Mission Tithes	7,500		5,841		0						0	0	0	0
40117 - Cemetery Tithes	0										5,841	0	5,841	6,000
40122 - Staff Christmas Gift	6,000	946	610	295	295	295	610	610	610	610	7,965	0	8,000	8,000
40124 - Personnel Support	12,600	3,165	905	905	905	905	905	905	905	905	4,272	2,440	6,712	8,520
40126 - Preschool Bldg Usage	12,000		500	13,259							9,500	3,620	13,120	12,400
40130 - Legacy Tithes	17,500	2,317	825	820	5,665	625	1,375	575	1,500	375	14,077	3,600	17,677	18,000
40132 - Events Pay	12,000	20	20	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	90	30	121	250
40162 - Facilities General	40,000	565	0	0	0	2,560	0	0	0	0	565	1,000	1,565	32,500
40300 - Finance Funds	7,500	0	0	10,200	3,580	0	0	0	0	0	16,340	2,500	18,840	10,000
40301 - One Time Gifts	500										0	0	0	0
40325 - Fundraising Income	0										0	0	0	0
40334 - SkatePark Usage	0										0	0	0	0
40444 - Cemetery Services	1,000	600	565	1,424	-12,200	315					2,589	500	3,089	3,000
40450 - Other Designated Giving	0										315	100	415	500
40999 - Misc. Income	15,000	990	133	400	21,269	9,065	8,449	740	262	3,521	44,830	2,250	47,080	24,000
Total 40129 - Special Giving for Operations	968,460	57,653	81,806	157,886	69,122	65,417	109,442	81,121	51,206	41,527	715,179	184,770	899,949	947,420
Total 50 - Support Operations	968,460	57,653	81,806	157,886	69,122	65,417	109,442	81,121	51,206	41,527	715,179	184,770	899,949	947,420
Total 40100 - Operating Funds														
40200 - Program Funds														
10 - Inviting All	0													
41000 - Social Justice Funds	15,000	990	133	400	21,269	9,065	8,449	740	262	3,521	44,830	2,250	47,080	24,000
41999 - Food Team Operations	15,000	990	133	400	21,269	9,065	8,449	740	262	3,521	44,830	2,250	47,080	24,000
Total 10 - Inviting All														
20 - Finding Your Place	0													
40700 - Family Ministries	500		20			20					40	60	100	100
40701 - Revolution Youth	300				125						0	0	0	0
40702 - Vacation Bible School	300										125	125	250	300
40703 - Adult	0										0	0	0	0
40704 - Sunday School	1,100	0	20	0	125	20	0	0	0	0	165	185	350	900
Total 40700 - Family Ministries	1,100	0	20	0	125	20	0	0	0	0	165	185	350	900
30 - Demonstrating Care	0													
40950 - Demonstrating Care	1,800	15	10	0	0	75	295	0	0	9	370	130	500	500
40603 - Flower Ministry	1,800	15	10	0	0	1,000	0	0	0	9	1,034	500	1,534	1,500
40954 - Misc Income	1,800	15	10	0	0	1,075	295	0	0	9	1,404	630	2,034	2,000
Total 40950 - Demonstrating Care	1,800	15	10	0	0	1,075	295	0	0	9	1,404	630	2,034	2,000
40 - Connecting to God	15,000	1,006	1,663	5,550	21,394	10,160	8,744	740	56,468	45,057	773,228	182,835	966,064	43,400
40600 - Connecting to God	15,000	1,006	1,663	5,550	21,394	10,160	8,744	740	56,468	45,057	773,228	182,835	966,064	43,400
Total 40 - Connecting to God	15,000	1,006	1,663	5,550	21,394	10,160	8,744	740	56,468	45,057	773,228	182,835	966,064	43,400
Total 40200 - Program Funds	32,900	58,658	83,469	163,436	90,516	75,577	118,186	81,861	56,468	45,057	773,228	182,835	966,064	990,820
Total Income	1,001,360	58,658	83,469	163,436	90,516	75,577	118,186	81,861	56,468	45,057	773,228	182,835	966,064	990,820
Expense	1,001,360	58,658	83,469	163,436	90,516	75,577	118,186	81,861	56,468	45,057	773,228	182,835	966,064	990,820
Gross Profit														

Epworth United Methodist Church  
Budget Worksheet  
July 2026 through June 2027

	Budget 2025-2026	Jul 2025	Aug 2025	Sep 2025	Oct 2025	Nov 2025	Dec 2025	Jan 2026	Feb 2026	Mar 2026	Jul '26 - Mar 26 Actual	Forecast Apr - Jun 2026	Projected for 2025-2026	Budget for 2026 - 2027
50000 - Operating Expenses														
50.01 - Support Operations														
50110 - SPRC														
50111 - Senior Pastor														
50112 - Senior Pastor Wages	77,195	6,433	6,433	9,422	6,433	6,433	6,433	6,433	6,433	6,433	60,885	19,299	80,184	79,512
50113 - SP CPP	4,793	391	391	391	391	391	391	399	399	399	3,542	1,197	4,739	4,903
50114 - SP Health Benefits	23,995	2,186	2,186	2,124	2,124	2,124	2,124	1,939	1,939	1,939	18,023	5,817	23,840	23,966
50116 - SP CRSP	5,424	452	404	366	366	366	366	608	332	332	3,552	4,543	4,104	5,000
50117 - SP Travel & Discretion	5,000	0	0	178	614	763	763	0	0	0	1,554	2,600	4,054	5,000
50123 - SP Social Security Allowance	7,741	645	645	645	645	645	645	645	645	645	5,806	7,741	7,919	7,919
50123 - SP Housing	24,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	18,000	6,000	24,000	24,000
Total 50111 - Senior Pastor	148,148	12,116	12,032	15,115	12,562	11,521	13,139	11,381	11,748	11,748	111,362	37,744	149,105	149,403
50117 - Pastor of Media & Comm.														
50118 - Pastor of Media & Comm.	46,350	3,863	3,863	3,863	3,863	3,863	3,863	3,863	3,863	3,863	34,763	11,589	46,352	47,742
50119 - AP CPP	2,574	209	209	209	209	209	209	212	212	212	1,890	636	2,526	2,640
50121 - AP Housing	8,000	667	667	667	667	667	667	667	667	667	6,000	2,000	8,000	8,000
50123 - AP CRSP	7,021	571	571	571	571	571	571	449	449	449	4,771	1,347	6,118	5,550
50138 - AP Travel & Education	3,000										0	1,000	1,000	3,000
50121 - AP Social Security Allowance	4,158	173	346	346	346	346	346	346	346	346	2,945	1,033	3,983	4,264
Total 50117 - Pastor of Media & Comm.	71,103	5,482	5,655	5,655	5,655	5,655	5,655	5,656	5,656	5,656	50,369	17,610	67,979	71,196
50130 - Church Staff														
** 50131 - Church Staff Wages	250,177	20,556	20,556	20,556	20,556	20,556	20,556	20,279	19,871	19,871	183,930	60,837	244,767	250,648
50133 - Payroll Tax Expense	19,139	1,668	1,594	1,636	1,636	1,636	1,636	2,009	1,601	1,616	15,310	4,654	19,964	19,175
50134 - Employer 401(k) Match	3,703	-250	303	569	569	569	569	569	125	500	3,522	375	3,897	1,500
50135 - Staff Health Benefits	15,000	1,250	1,250	1,250	1,250	1,250	1,250	1,250	1,250	1,250	11,458	3,750	15,208	15,450
50141 - Events Pay	17,500	1,850	395	1,310	5,075	1,995	1,894	325	1,105	1,055	14,124	4,500	18,224	18,000
Total 50130 - Church Staff	305,519	25,074	24,097	25,319	29,856	24,484	25,855	24,432	23,952	25,232	228,343	74,116	302,459	304,773
Total 50110 - SPRC	624,770	42,872	41,765	45,060	48,075	40,880	45,469	41,349	41,237	42,516	390,073	128,470	519,543	525,372
50150 - Facilities Combined														
50160 - Facilities														
50161 - Repairs & Maintenance	32,600	3,217	1,230	2,187	4,252	1,483	1,981	1,984	12,406	1,399	30,139	7,500	37,639	37,950
50162 - Utilities	64,000	6,022	6,892	3,994	5,479	3,286	5,605	8,794	7,944	5,618	53,632	18,000	71,632	70,000
50163 - Custodial Supplies	10,300	900	0	529	1,355	834	526	598	694	522	5,926	8,176	5,926	8,500
50164 - Insurances	34,888	0	0	6,663	3,285	3,285	3,426	3,426	3,426	3,426	26,877	10,278	37,155	42,000
50165 - Cable, Internet & Phone	9,000	951	1,721	236	1,761	228	996	1,014	1,017	0	10,104	3,060	13,164	13,500
** 50166 - Capital Building Expenses	35,000	22,982	0	25,845	0	0	0	0	0	0	89,996	0	69,996	0
50168 - Leased Equipment	55,200	4,562	5,384	4,548	8,297	3,749	4,701	5,227	4,555	4,565	45,599	13,695	59,294	54,780
50169 - Administrative Costs	0	0	0	32	0	0	0	32	0	0	133	233	250	250
50171 - Grounds Maintenance	22,500	1,745	3,527	1,745	0	1,745	3,491	1,816	1,745	3,818	19,434	5,235	24,669	24,000
50172 - Repairs - Bldg	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
50173 - Maintenance - Bldg	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
50174 - Contract Labor	7,500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
50176 - Snow Removal	0	0	188	81	15	5	320	3,280	3,647	5,018	12,005	0	12,005	7,500
50181 - Security	1,000	0	0	50	0	0	0	197	197	0	805	200	1,005	1,000
50182 - Technical Support	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	200	250	250
Total 50160 - Facilities	271,839	40,378	18,943	45,632	24,454	14,625	21,034	26,171	35,842	47,561	274,640	60,518	335,158	269,830
50177 - Facilities - Kitchen														
50178 - Kitchen Supplies	4,000	614	179	161	619	0	1,583	275	131	527	4,089	1,350	5,439	5,500
50178 - Kitchen Equipment Repairs	5,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,895	372	3,350	2,985	500	3,485	5,000
50179 - Capital Improvements-Kitchen	0	1,600	0	15,220	2,600	2,600	0	964	0	0	22,984	0	22,984	0
50177 - Facilities - Kitchen - Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total 50177 - Facilities - Kitchen	9,000	2,214	179	15,381	3,219	2,600	1,583	4,234	131	527	30,068	1,850	31,918	10,500
Total 50150 - Facilities Combined	280,839	42,592	19,122	61,213	27,673	17,225	22,617	30,405	35,772	48,088	304,707	62,368	367,075	269,330
50300 - Finance														
** 50125 - Staff Development	1,200	0	0	1,195	0	0	-100	0	0	0	1,085	100	1,185	1,200
50128 - Travel	0	0	0	177	0	543	0	8,877	0	0	9,597	0	9,597	9,000
50136 - Staff Appreciation	6,800	372	372	372	372	372	372	372	372	372	3,350	1,116	4,466	4,500
50137 - Worker's Comp Insurance	6,000	1,077	365	364	364	364	364	277	315	315	2,713	3,658	3,900	3,900
50304 - Banking Expense	15,000	1,340	1,037	1,127	855	951	988	1,315	842	796	9,261	2,100	11,361	7,800
50305 - Accounting Services	6,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,210	5,250	7,460	7,460	0	5,500	5,500
50306 - Administrative Costs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
50310 - Copier Maintenance & Overages	1,500	15	146	0	15	309	699	199	15	15	250	949	1,200	500
50555 - Source Collaborative	8,000	0	0	184	0	833	49	756	1,227	184	434	250	5,071	5,000
** 50803 - Postage	5,000	730	35	194	0	833	49	756	1,227	347	4,171	900	5,071	1,750
50803 - Postage	1,000	295	0	295	0	0	0	707	383	383	1,444	400	1,844	1,750
50998 - Fund Raising Expenses	2,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	250	250
Total 50300 - Finance	52,800	2,457	2,567	2,529	2,975	3,007	1,369	14,516	8,206	2,237	39,963	6,311	46,274	39,600
50500 - Connectional Ministry Expenses														

Epworth United Methodist Church  
 Budget Worksheet  
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	Budget 2025-2026	Jul 2025	Aug 2025	Sep 2025	Oct 2025	Nov 2025	Dec 2025	Jan 2026	Feb 2026	Mar 2026	Jul '25 - Mar 26 Actual	Forecast Apr - Jun 2026	Projected for 2025-2026	Budget for 2026 - 2027
50560 - Conference	83,376	19,963	6,948	27,702	6,948	1,507	6,948	6,995	77,154	27,981	106,135	85,619		
50575 - District	2,818	243	243	7,191	7,191	1,752	7,240	7,240	28,981	28,981	108,303	83,618		
Total 50560 - Connectional Ministry Expenses	86,294	19,963	7,191	28,765	7,191	1,752	7,240	7,240	28,981	28,981	108,303	83,618		
Total 50.01 - Support Operations	944,753	107,889	63,574	117,023	107,488	85,303	85,215	85,215	314,091	314,091	1,041,201	922,920		
Total 50000 - Operating Expenses	944,753	107,889	63,574	117,023	107,488	85,303	85,215	85,215	314,091	314,091	1,041,201	922,920		
50100 - Program Expenses														
10.01 - Inviting All														
50800 - Communications														
50804 - External Advertising	3,600	216	216	270	948	0	948	216	2,407	2,407	750	3,157	3,600	
50805 - Website Costs	1,800	0	0	715	353	353	0	288	1,356	1,356	1,800	1,800	1,800	
50809 - Computer Software	1,800	616	0	474	0	0	0	628	169	2,237	555	3,200	3,200	
50810 - Special Advertising	250	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total 50800 - Communications	7,450	832	216	985	424	353	1,113	1,132	759	5,989	1,755	7,754	8,600	
50900 - Fellowship														
50901 - Fellowship	500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	500	
Total 50900 - Fellowship	500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	500	
50960 - Bus Ministry	500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	500	
Total 10.01 - Inviting All	8,150	832	216	985	424	353	1,113	1,132	759	5,989	1,755	8,430	9,550	
20.01 - Finding Your Place														
50400 - Belongings														
50402 - Spiritual Gifts	500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	500	
50488 - Belongings Supplies	500	600	504	504	173	139	541	116	279	2,599	750	3,249	2,500	
Total 50400 - Belongings	1,000	600	504	504	173	139	541	116	279	2,599	750	3,249	2,500	
50690 - Family Ministries														
50700 - Childrens Ministries														
50701 - Sunday School Curriculum	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
50707 - Vacation Bible School	1,800	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,800	
Total 50700 - Childrens Ministries	1,800	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,800	
50725 - Revolution Youth														
50729 - Youth Room Supplies	500	0	0	5	6,574	25	104	0	0	0	0	0	300	
50731 - Special Events	500	0	0	5	6,574	25	104	0	0	0	0	0	2,500	
Total 50725 - Revolution Youth	1,000	0	0	5	6,574	25	104	0	0	0	0	0	2,500	
50750 - Adult Small Groups														
50752 - Supplies & Resources	0	0	0	0	0	84	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,200	
50754 - Special Events	500	700	700	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,800	
50756 - Literature & Publications	600	81	81	81	130	91	130	91	564	250	804	750	3,000	
50757 - Administrative Costs	0	0	0	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	0	
Total 50750 - Adult Small Groups	1,000	77	81	700	105	64	130	91	1,342	250	1,562	1,562	5,000	
Total 20.01 - Finding Your Place	3,300	77	81	705	6,679	89	234	91	8,050	2,200	2,950	11,350	11,350	
Total 30.01 - Demonstrating Care	4,300	677	81	1,209	6,851	288	775	116	10,649	2,950	3,658	14,150	14,150	
50950 - Care Ministries														
50912 - Flower Ministry	0	375	225	375	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	3,415	4,400	
50953 - General Supplies	3,200	716	0	30	404	15	334	255	2,265	3,015	750	3,000	5,500	
50955 - Administrative Costs	1,000	484	0	627	242	553	242	242	2,874	726	3,600	2,000	2,500	
50958 - Funeral/Receptions	1,500	0	0	530	506	307	307	307	1,689	350	2,018	2,000	2,000	
50953 - Card Ministry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
50965 - Stephen Ministry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total 50950 - Care Ministries	5,700	1,575	225	1,562	1,452	1,175	541	797	632	9,273	2,801	12,074	11,900	
40.01 - Connecting to God														
50600 - Worship														
50601 - Memberships/Licenses	2,800	1,842	0	288	281	343	327	160	438	3,926	1,320	5,246	5,500	
50604 - Worship Supplies	10,500	294	173	213	47	441	811	1,457	75	229	1,500	5,239	6,000	
50605 - Worship Design	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
50606 - Contract Labor	9,000	850	600	900	450	600	750	900	600	600	1,950	8,200	8,250	
50609 - Administrative Costs	1,000	302	302	242	-184	-184	249	610	249	249	1,010	1,010	1,000	
Total 50600 - Worship	23,300	2,765	1,075	1,643	779	1,200	1,888	2,517	1,113	1,526	5,170	19,689	20,750	
50615 - Sight & Sound														
50616 - Administrative Costs	0	0	0	0	736	0	0	0	0	0	736	0	2,250	
50617 - Capital Equipment	2,500	1,809	150	100	4,266	0	4,266	0	10,341	0	10,341	0	0	
50619 - Contract Labor	500	0	0	0	150	0	750	0	546	305	2,006	450	2,500	
Total 50615 - Sight & Sound	3,000	1,809	150	100	5,154	0	5,022	0	545	305	13,086	450	4,750	
50625 - Music Ministry														
50602 - Printed Music	500	37	145	145	127	145	145	145	145	10	189	439	500	
50603 - Music Equipment	500	145	145	145	145	145	145	145	145	145	1,015	1,500	1,500	
50607 - Special Events	2,800	600	600	600	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	2,100	1,550	1,550	3,650	3,750	
50625 - Music Ministry - Other	1,500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	500	

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**Epworth United Methodist Church**  
**Budget Worksheet**  
July 2026 through June 2027

	Budget 2025-2026	Jul 2025	Aug 2025	Sep 2025	Oct 2025	Nov 2025	Dec 2025	Jan 2026	Feb 2026	Mar 2026	Jul '25 - Mar 26 Actual	Forecast Apr - Jun 2026	Projected for 2025-2026	Budget for 2026 - 2027
Total 50626 - Music Ministry	5,300	182	745	0	272	0	1,645	145	160	155	3,304	2,235	5,539	6,250
Total 40.01 - Connecting to God	31,600	4,776	1,970	1,743	6,204	1,200	8,555	2,862	1,818	1,986	30,914	7,855	38,769	31,750
Total 50100 - Program Expenses	49,750	7,860	2,492	5,499	14,932	3,016	11,659	4,706	3,579	3,767	57,511	15,361	72,872	67,650
66901 - Reconciliation Discrepancies	0										0	0	0	0
70000 - Mortgage & CRN	0	0		0		0					0	0	0	0
50355 - Roof Loan Interest	0										0	0	0	0
50356 - Roof Principal	0										0	0	0	0
87000 - Interest Expense CRN Notes	5,600	625									625	250	875	250
Total 70000 - Mortgage & CRN	1,000,003	116,174	66,066	122,521	122,420	71,319	82,867	98,217	88,794	103,849	672,227	242,721	1,114,948	990,820
Total Expense	1,357	-57,516	17,403	40,914	-31,904	4,258	35,319	-16,356	-32,326	-58,792	-96,998	-49,886	-148,884	0
Net Ordinary Income	1,357	-57,516	17,403	40,914	-31,904	4,258	35,319	-16,356	-32,326	-58,792	-96,998	-49,886	-148,884	0
Net Income														
90000 - Capital Expenditures														
50166 - Capital Building Expenses														40000
50179 - Capital Improvements-Kitchen														20000
50617 - Capital Equipment														18846
Total 90000 - Capital Expenditures	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	78,846

**2026 PASTOR'S COMPENSATION AND OTHER BENEFITS**

**Effective Date : 7/1/2026**

<b>Vicki Gordy-Stith</b>	<b>Epworth United Methodist</b>
<b>Pastor's Name</b>	<b>Church Name</b>
Full Elder (FE)	
<b>Pastor's Conference Relationship</b>	<b>Rehoboth Beach, DE</b>
Fulltime	<b>Charge Name</b>
<b>Pastor's Status</b>	

Compensation Type	Approved Comp	Contributions by Church for Multi-Church Charges				
		Type Name	Type Name	Type Name	Type Name	Type Name
1 SALARY -Cash salary approved by Charge Conference to be paid directly to the Pastor	\$79,512	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2 FURNITURE ALLOWANCE	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3 OTHER CASH ALLOWANCES-any payment to the Pastor which does not require supporting document DO NOT include Furniture or Housing Allowances.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4 SOCIAL SECURITY ALLOWANCE - paid to the Pastor to partially offset Self Employment Tax	\$7,919	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5 BASE COMPENSATION (add lines 1-4)	\$87,431	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
6 HOUSING ALLOWANCE - include only if parsonage is not provided	\$24,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>7 TOTAL COMPENSATION (add lines 5-6)</b>	<b>\$111,431</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

[\(Click here to go back to worksheet to edit\)](#)

<b>The following questions require answers:</b>		
A. ARE YOU PROVIDED A PARSONAGE?	No	
B. ARE YOU PROVIDED AN ACCOUNTABLE REIMBURSEMENT PLAN?	No	Not Included in Total Compensation
C. ARE YOU PARTICIPATING IN UMPIP (United Methodist Personal Investment Plan)?	No	"Contribution Election Form" to Change Amount
D. ARE YOU PARTICIPATING IN SALARY REDUCTION TO OTHER INSTITUTIONS?	No	
E. ARE YOU EXPECTING TO RECEIVE EQUITABLE COMPENSATION?	No	

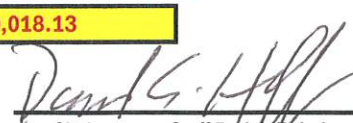
**OTHER BENEFITS**

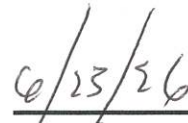
8 COMPASS FIXED FOR 2026	\$1,800.00	2026 = \$1800 FULL-TIME CLERGY
9 COMPASS MATCHED AND UNMATCHED FOR 2026	\$7,800.17	7% of Total Plan Compensation
10 COMPREHENSIVE PROTECT PLAN (CPP) 2026	\$4,902.96	4.4% of Total Plan Compensation
11 UMPIP FIXED FOR 2026	Not Eligible	2026 = (\$1350 3/4 TIME) (\$900 1/2 TIME) (\$450 1/4 TIME)
12 UMPIP UNMATCHED FOR 2026	Not Eligible	7% of Total Plan Compensation
13 TRAVEL	\$2,500.00	Use 2026 IRS Rate (2025 Rate is 67.0¢ per mile)
14 CONTINUING EDUCATION	\$2,500.00	Recommended Minimum \$800
15 HEALTH & DENTAL COVERAGE	\$17,820.00	Full-Time Clergy only - \$17,820
16 LIFE INSURANCE	\$264.00	If Paid by Church
<b>17 TOTAL OTHER BENEFITS PAID BY CHURCH</b>	<b>\$37,587.13</b>	

[\(Click here to go back to worksheet to edit\)](#)

<b>18 TOTAL FINANCIAL OBLIGATION FOR CHURCH</b>	<b>\$149,018.13</b>
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\_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson, Staff Parish Relations  
or  
District Superintendent

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Note: Return this page and "Contribution Election Form" to the Peninsula-Delaware Conference,  
139 N. State Street, Dover DE 19901 No later than October 1, 2025

**2026 PASTOR'S COMPENSATION AND OTHER BENEFITS**

**Effective Date :** 7/1/2026

<b>Patrick (Bo) Gordy-Stith</b>	<b>Epworth United Methodist</b>
<b>Pastor's Name</b>	<b>Church Name</b>
Full Elder (FE)	
<b>Pastor's Conference Relationship</b>	<b>Rehoboth Beach, DE</b>
3/4 Time	<b>Charge Name</b>
<b>Pastor's Status</b>	

		Contributions by Church for Multi-Church Charges				
Compensation Type	Approved Comp	Type Name	Type Name	Type Name	Type Name	Type Name
1 SALARY -Cash salary approved by Charge Conference to be paid directly to the Pastor	<b>\$47,742</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2 FURNITURE ALLOWANCE	<b>\$0</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3 OTHER CASH ALLOWANCES-any payment to the Pastor which does not require supporting document DO NOT include Furniture or Housing Allowances.	<b>\$0</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4 SOCIAL SECURITY ALLOWANCE - paid to the Pastor to partially offset Self Employment Tax	<b>\$4,264</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5 BASE COMPENSATION (add lines 1-4)	<b>\$52,006</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
6 HOUSING ALLOWANCE - include only if parsonage is not provided	<b>\$8,000</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>7 TOTAL COMPENSATION (add lines 5-6)</b>	<b>\$60,006</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

[\(Click here to go back to worksheet to edit\)](#)

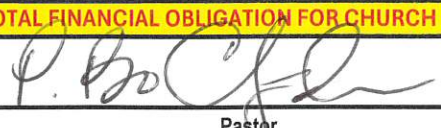

<b>The following questions require answers:</b>		
A. ARE YOU PROVIDED A PARSONAGE?	No	
B. ARE YOU PROVIDED AN ACCOUNTABLE REIMBURSEMENT PLAN?	No	0 Not Included in Total Compensation
C. ARE YOU PARTICIPATING IN UMPIP (United Methodist Personal Investment Plan)?	Yes	"Contribution Election Form" to Change Amount
D. ARE YOU PARTICIPATING IN SALARY REDUCTION TO OTHER INSTITUTIONS?	No	0
E. ARE YOU EXPECTING TO RECEIVE EQUITABLE COMPENSATION?	No	0

**OTHER BENEFITS**

8 COMPASS FIXED FOR 2026	Not Eligible	2026 = \$1800 FULL-TIME CLERGY
9 COMPASS MATCHED AND UNMATCHED FOR 2026	Not Eligible	7% of Total Plan Compensation
10 COMPREHENSIVE PROTECT PLAN (CPP) 2026	\$2,640.26	4.4% of Total Plan Compensation
11 UMPIP FIXED FOR 2026	\$1,350.00	2026 = (\$1350 3/4 TIME) (\$900 1/2 TIME) (\$450 1/4 TIME)
12 UMPIP UNMATCHED FOR 2026	\$4,200.42	7% of Total Plan Compensation
13 TRAVEL	\$1,500.00	Use 2026 IRS Rate (2025 Rate is 67.0¢ per mile)
14 CONTINUING EDUCATION	\$1,500.00	Recommended Minimum \$800
15 HEALTH & DENTAL COVERAGE	Not Eligible	Full-Time Clergy only - \$17,820
16 LIFE INSURANCE	\$0.00	If Paid by Church
<b>17 TOTAL OTHER BENEFITS PAID BY CHURCH</b>	<b>\$11,190.68</b>	

[\(Click here to go back to worksheet to edit\)](#)

<b>18 TOTAL FINANCIAL OBLIGATION FOR CHURCH</b>	<b>\$71,196.68</b>
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 _____ Pastor	 _____ Chairperson, Staff Parish Relations or District Superintendent	6/5/24 _____ Date
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## **HOUSING ALLOWANCE RESOLUTION**

The chairperson informed the meeting that under the tax law, a minister of the gospel is allowed to exclude from gross income: (1) the rental value of a home furnished to him or her as part of his or her compensation; or (2) a housing allowance paid to him or her as part of his or her compensation, to the extent used by him or her to rent or provide a home and to the extent such allowance does not exceed the fair rental value of the home, including furnishings and appurtenances such as a garage, plus the cost of utilities.

The (Charge Conference or church council) on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of June 2026, after discussing the amount to be paid to Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith as a housing allowance, on motion duly made and seconded, adopted the following resolution:

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith shall receive a salary of \$79,512.00 for the year. Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith shall also receive a housing allowance of \$24,000 for the year 2026-2027 and all future years unless otherwise provided.

The housing allowance (and/or rent-free use of a home) shall be so designated in the official church records.

## HOUSING ALLOWANCE RESOLUTION

The chairperson informed the meeting that under the tax law, a minister of the gospel is allowed to exclude from gross income: (1) the rental value of a home furnished to him or her as part of his or her compensation; or (2) a housing allowance paid to him or her as part of his or her compensation, to the extent used by him or her to rent or provide a home and to the extent such allowance does not exceed the fair rental value of the home, including furnishings and appurtenances such as a garage, plus the cost of utilities.

The (Charge Conference or church council) on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of June 2026, after discussing the amount to be paid to Rev. Dr. Patrick (Bo) Gordy-Stith as a housing allowance, on motion duly made and seconded, adopted the following resolution:

Rev. Dr. Patrick (Bo) Gordy-Stith shall receive a salary of \$47,942.00 for the year. Rev. Dr. Patrick (Bo) Gordy-Stith shall also receive a housing allowance of \$8,000 for the year 2026-2027 and all future years unless otherwise provided.

The housing allowance (and/or rent-free use of a home) shall be so designated in the official church records.

# HOUSING ALLOWANCE ESTIMATE WORKSHEET

<u>EXPENSE ITEM</u>	<u>ESTIMATE</u>
• Utilities (electricity, heat, water, trash pickup and local telephone)	<u>\$8,800</u>
• Furniture and appliances (purchases and repair)	
• Building repairs and remodeling	<u>\$2,500</u>
• Property Insurance	<u>\$3,000</u>
• Yard maintenance, landscaping and improvements	
• Maintenance items (cleaning and maintenance supplies, electrical supplies)	
• Miscellaneous	
<b><u>FOR OWNERS</u></b>	
• Real Estate Taxes	
• Mortgage payments/down payment	<u>\$23,000</u>
• Improvements	
<b><u>FOR RENTERS</u></b>	
• Rent payments	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u><u>\$37,300</u></u></b>