



2019 Charge Conference

United Methodist Church
of Mount Vernon

October 17, 2019

2019 Charge Conference Agenda

October 17, 2019

United Methodist Church of Mount Vernon

Gathering & Worship Moment

Call to Order

Intro of Minutes Form

Moment of Worship

Approval of minutes from 2018 Charge conference

Mission & Ministry Plan for 2020

Board of Trustees Report

Local Church Historian Report

Church Membership Report

Ministry Enlistment Report (NONE)

2020 Pastoral Support Form (FORM I)

- Resolution on Church Owned Parsonage
- Resolution on Accountable Reimbursement Plan

Lay Member(s) to Annual Conference 2020

Leadership Information Report for 2020

Closing Prayer

United Methodist Church of Mount Vernon 2018 Charge Conference – October 11, 2018

In Attendance: Kay Graber, Pat Sorgenfrey, Joy Mitchell, Weston Mitchell, Nancy Reasland, Kim Guardado, Julie Baty, Jo Harman, Ruth Miller, Karen Stoll, Steve Miller, Barb Shepley, Alison Dix, Stephanie Timm, Kim Schwiebert, Rick Schwiebert, Ray Reasland, Jim Baty, Dillon Fawcett, Clint Stanerson, Jay Currie and Pastor Brian Channel (Facilitator - Living Water UMC)

Gathering & Welcome – UMCMV Praise Team led Worship & Praise with attendees – *10,000 Reasons and Cornerstone*

The meeting was brought to order at 7:10pm by Pastor Brian Channel of Living Water United Methodist Church in Marion, acting as facilitator.

Sharing of Past Year Celebrations – UMCMV has numerous reasons for celebration in the past year including:

- Youth Group – Kim Guardado noted the increase in Youth Group participation and the excitement that Dillon Fawcett brings to the group.
- Romania Ministry – Nancy Reasland noted our ongoing connection with the Super Kids Day Center in Sibiu, Romania and the next trip in 2019.
- Neighbors in Need – Alison Dix reported on several persons/families helped within the Neighbors in Need fund, including:
 - Utilities payment for family of 3
 - Gary's card for family of 3
 - Alliant Utilities electric bill payment for family in need
 - Meyers Meadows – monthly rent payment for person in need
 - 4 gas cards provided for drop-in visitors
 - MidAmerican Energy payment for family in need
 - Support for housing for family with baby born in hospital
 - Assistance with water deposit to get water turned back on for family of 3 in Lisbon (\$100)
 - Assistance for family of 4 in Mount Vernon to reinstate electrical service (\$250)
 - Assistance for family of 7 (including infant who was in NICU) with electric bill (\$250)
 - Mount Vernon Schools project support for classroom improvement for class of 22 (\$50)

Alison reported that assisting with the Neighbors In Need fund is one of the most rewarding tasks that she has – to be able to be the hands and feet of Christ with no strings attached.

- Jim Baty announced the celebration of our church being out of debt, with \$1.2 million in renovations (including updates to accessibility and an elevator)
- Kay Graber noted the blending of our two services for Summer Worship
- Julie Baty mentioned the Care Ministry and that she has been able to provide communion to those that are unable to attend services.
- Pastor Joy noted the Discipleship Pathway program and its opportunities, direction and resources to help anyone discover and grow in faith according to our church's mission.
- Nancy Reasland mentioned UMC MV's continued relationship with Women at the Well, the United Methodist congregation with the Iowa Correctional Institution for Women
 - A related reason to celebrate – Pat Sorgenfrey's niece was released from ICIW in September after 34 years. She is involved with a re-entry ministry sponsored by Women at the Well.
- Ray Reasland noted the continuation of the Life Group ministry, with 5 active groups wrestling with the question "How is it with your soul?". Pastor Joy also mentioned the recent formation of a new small group for young couples.
- Karen Stoll mentioned the Worship Committees work throughout the year with the presentation of "Among Friends" as well as the Summer Celebration services.
- Nancy Reasland noted the very successful talent show held last Spring, with the proceeds helping the mission trip to Romania.
- Julie Baty mentioned the "Sacred Marriage" class this is occurring on Wednesday evenings through the end of October.
- Kim Guardado noted that there have been two Financial Peace University classes offered this year.
- Pastor Joy mentioned the continued women's Bible study that occurs each Wednesday morning and is attended by women from different churches in our community.

Devotion – Hebrews 12:1-3 – *1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.*

Pastor Channel noted that this passage comes directly after Paul's "Hall of Faith" chapter, where he mentions the actions of those who acted on faith – that which was hoped for and not seen. He encouraged those present to fix all eyes on Jesus, who scorned the shame of the cross and not forget the "cloud of witnesses" who have gone before us in our church's rich

history – that we have been standing on the shoulders of the vision of those people for 177 years. Lastly, he reassured that God *will* preserve His people despite opposition.

Approval of Minutes of 2017 Charge Conference Minutes – 2 charge conferences were held at UMCMV this past year:

- November 5, 2017 Charge Conference Minutes – Pastor Channel accepted a motion by Jim Baty to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Steve Miller. Motion carried.
- April 29, 2018 Special Charge Conference Minutes – Pastor Channel accepted a motion by Kay Graber to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Barb Shepley. Motion carried.

Mission and Ministry Plan for 2019 – this plan was reviewed, with special attention to the following:

- UMCMV's response to the Iowa Annual Conferences "WIG" (Wildly Important Goal), which is to have a process for making disciples of Jesus Christ by the end of the year 2020. Our church is in the implementation/sustaining phase of the "Discipleship Pathway", and continues work toward engagement beyond reading a flyer. Jim Baty pointed out the fact that we focus on helping people find something to get on this path, experience joy and move forward.
- Discussion of "Discerning God's Preferred Future"
 - Jim Baty led discussion the goals in the following areas, with all goals assessed to determine continued relevance, and some goals maintained for 2019:
 - Church Council
 - Worship
 - Endowment
 - SPRC
 - Pastor
 - Care Ministry
 - Education
 - Memorials
 - Trustees
 - Finance
 - Outreach/Mission

Jim noted that one of our main goals for 2019, with respect to the work of the Commission on a Way Forward, will be holding our church together.

Board of Trustees Report – see the attached packet for full report. Of special note:

- Our church currently carries no indebtedness on the property.
- There were no gifts or bequests.
- The Safe Sanctuary policy is on file and will be reviewed in 2019.
- The Parsonage inspection will be done in December and is not included in the packet.

Local Church Historian Report – Kay Graber noted the goal of pulling together a historical preservation team to:

- Determine the importance of each church record/document and catalog items
- Start the process of digitizing
- Publish a brochure with photos/background of historical items of UMCMV
- Bring the published church history up to date. This is a monumental job and will be worked on over the next couple of years. The last published comprehensive church history runs from 1841 to 1966.

Church Membership Report – Jo Harman highlighted the report with the attached packet, noting that UMCMV has:

- 520 active/non-active members
- Received 5 new members through Profession of Faith
- Received 7 new members through confirmation

Lay Ministry Report – Alison Dix reported that Julie Baty graduated from the School of Lay Ministry in 2018.

The following documents were voted on:

- **2019 Form I – Pastoral Support Form** – it was noted that this document will be signed by the Church Council and SPRC chairs, as well as the meeting's facilitator (Pastor Channel) and submitted. Pastor Channel accepted a motion by Nancy Reasland to pass Form I. The motion was seconded by Kim Guardado. Motion carried.
- **Accountable Reimbursement Resolution** – a motion was made by Jim Baty to accept this resolution. Ruth Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- **Church Owned Housing Exclusion Resolution** – Kim Guardado moved to approve the resolution. Barb Shepley seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Leadership Information Report for 2019 – Pastor Joy discussed that work continues on filling the holes on committees. Jim Baty made a motion to approve listed committee chairs, and for Church Council to approve remaining vacancies at their next meeting. Jay Currie seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The meeting was closed in prayer and adjourned by Pastor Brian Channel at 8:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Timm

Mission and Ministry Plan for 2020

United Methodist Church of Mount Vernon

Describing Current Reality

-Local Ministry Setting:

Describe the local community surrounding your church location. (Sample information can include changes in population, economic health, public school conditions, health services.)

The community of Mount Vernon is a very tight community with little diversity other than mild economic. The population remains rather stable although strong growth will occur over the next three years as two major housing developments are being prepared. The community can be described as passionate about its school district, invested in the presence of Cornell College and committed to celebrating the life of small-town Iowa. The most readily noticed attribute has to be that of the many festivals, weekly social events and other activities that bring a broad variety of culture and social interaction. There is also a considerable number of faith centers in this community for its size, although 2018-19 can also be described as a perceived exodus of community-based faith outward to growing non-denominational opportunities. This has been felt in our own church dramatically but also reported by other congregations. There is great access in our community to health and wellness services as well as professional counseling. This includes the basic health services of two medical clinics; three dentists; acupuncture; chiropractic; massage; two physical therapy clinics; three exercise centers; a pharmacy; yoga, Tai Chi and fitness classes; and certainly the anticipation for the new community Wellness and Activity Center set to open in early 2020. This is a community committed to housing a broad range of health and wellness opportunities. However, there are still pockets of need to be addressed.

What are the greatest opportunities / needs for transforming ministry in your community?

We would see opportunities to be in connection with Cornell Students as well as unchurched families in our community. We strive to make our organization a welcoming one to any type of visitor to our community. We know there is a need for connection with vacation bible school participants' families as well as the families of the youth group participants that do not regularly attend a church.

What resources and potential partners in your community? (including other churches, organizations)

The faith communities that remain in our community include St. John's Catholic Church, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, the Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church, the Community Bible Church and the United Methodist Church of Mount Vernon. Seeds of Faith Lutheran Church and the Lisbon United Methodist Church are also nearby and engage members of the Mount Vernon Community as do the Mount Vernon churches engaging members of the Lisbon community. Mount Vernon is also rich with Masons, Lions Club, PEO, VFW Post and Rotarians that hold faith in high esteem within their organizations. While competing for "time" in theory, the preservation of faith within each of these organizations is important to the resources we have to grow throughout the community a strengthening of spirituality. Additional

groups include Fellowship of Christian Athletes meeting in both the Middle School and High School as well as a chapter at Cornell College.

We continue to grow our outreach and partnerships in our relationships with SE Linn Community Center, MV-L Community Development Group, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, and Girl Scouts. We strive to be in connection also with the Mount Vernon & Lisbon School Districts and the City of Mount Vernon (due to location) as well as both Mount Vernon and Lisbon Parks & Rec departments.

-Local Congregation:

Share stories of where you have seen God work through your congregation.

- Great participation in community service projects, especially Servant Sunday showcase that God at work through the very willing servants who put hands and feet to work in the name of Christ in our community.
- It is also so impressive to see what this congregation donates for fundraisers, most recently the Heritage Days booth.
- The unsung heroes of the church are those who actively participate on committees, it is not overly glamorous, but keeps this place running behind the scenes.
- People sharing their faith journeys, having fellow Lay speakers from inside our congregation fill the pulpit when the pastor is gone really shows each other what a gift of sharing our faith journey can be.
- God working through our congregation recruiting Sunday school teachers. As teachers shared pieces of their decision-making process, God nudged individuals to: step out of their comfort zones, be willing to come as they are in their faith journey, add another job to an already full working parent schedule because they “knew it was important”, encouraged others to join them in teaching, and pray for the answer.
- Another moment came during VBS 2019: There is a young boy from our community that has been coming to VBS for several years. His mother will tell you it is most favorite thing in the summer. From a leader’s perspective, this child could be considered a serious challenge, yet, our leaders accept him and have learned he requires an adult, one-on-one crew leader. This year, we saw God work as He empowered one of our Confirmation youth, without any leader’s prompting, essentially become this boy’s one-on-one. It was joy to see them together and a huge help to the adults.
- Rosa’s journey through illness starting in January has been God showing up over and over: from prayers when she was first diagnosed, almost no hope she would even make it two weeks, to helping her celebrate her life, to financial support, to seeing her being her old self here and there, to helping her through chemo, through getting her daughter home, to helping her when she was struggling, God has truly showed us the power of supporting one of our own through a journey of sickness and the power of coming together in support of another.
- Support for others on their journeys of illness- Emily Smith, Emily Stoner Bell, Donna Walters, have all be amazing witnesses to the power of prayer, support and care.

- All the building issues we have been experience and the all the number of volunteer hours donated to help take care of issues, combat high costs by donating labor and time and working to manage projects so we best utilize resources.
- Sharing joys and concerns at both worship services and the connection that gives us as a congregation.
- New members getting involved with programs and a life group so they feel connected and supported.
- Our new class of members in August as well as our Confirmands who joined our membership in September 2019 after a full year of classes.
- Pastor Cristi's visit in July and sharing his faith with us in order to grow our connection with Romania.
- Through the quarterly SE Linn Bulk food special offerings and the food we are delivering to SE Linn every quarter, we are helping to feed God's people and battling food shortage in our community.
- Our new program this year called ALPHA and how it taught us about the Christian faith and made meaningful connections with new and old members of our faith community.
- Our Youth Mission Trip to Milwaukee and the amazing impact it had on each of the participant's lives. They were able to share with us their experiences the Sunday they returned, and their witness was inspiring.
- In May 2019 the church council presented, voted on, and passed (14-4) a position statement opposing the General Conference 2019 vote to uphold current language in the UMC Book of Discipline that states that homosexuality is inconsistent with Christian teaching and to add specific penalties for gay pastors and pastors who marry gay couples. That was followed by two Point of View sessions that helped those attending learn how to engage in fruitful discussions with people of differing viewpoints. Then over the course of the summer, educational sessions were offered to all congregation members and the current confirmation students that provided them opportunities to ask questions and learn more about the issues facing the UMC regarding LGBTQ+ inclusion. On September 8th a church-wide vote was completed to understand the congregation's alignment with the statement approved by the church council. About 85% of the voting congregation agreed with the MVUMC Council in opposing the action of the General Conference 2019 (#GC2019). Although our church family has faced tough conversations, there are still differing opinions. Work is being done to find the appropriate path to move forward in rebuilding unity. It is crucial to remember that a church that welcomes all is welcoming, not only to the 85% that supported the Church Council position, but also to the 15% that opposed it.

Describe the greatest strengths of your congregation.

Generosity and service are the true strengths of our congregation. We have experienced a recession in overall pledge numbers over the past two years but a growth in the total amount of both contributions to the church and contributions to mission activities. This coincides with a growth in participation in outreach ministries to bring ourselves alongside those in need. Our congregation participates in strong numbers to events both hosted and engaged by our church. These include Heritage Days, Chalk the Walk, Mission of Hope, Women @ Well Connection, Vacation Bible School and other community festivals. Congregation members serve meals, prepare and donate, set-up and clean-up and otherwise respond

multiple times throughout the year to the requests to participate in these many activities. Our congregation is also experiencing true growth in commitment to small groups, leading us more deeply into sharing and each other's lives, though the numbers are not yet strong in percentage of the congregation. We are developing a passion for missions both near and far as we turn our attention toward a partnership in Romania and have seen this begin to engage a broadening interest in the congregation. Our congregation is also very talented; from the committed volunteers that comprise our Praise Team to the vocalists in the Chancel and Bell Choirs; our pianists and organist; our artists that framework Vacation Bible School, Chalk the Walk and our church decor; and those that knit for our prayer shawl ministry are just some of the examples of the depth of talent we enjoy.

Modeling volunteering is amazing gift within our congregation. We have many families where the parents volunteer in Sunday school, Youth group, and church events and their youth are seen following their footsteps to become some of our best happily, serving volunteers.

What resources (materials, facilities, staff, volunteers etc.) does your congregation have for ministry to the community?

Based on what is described above, the combination of our faith experience, our passion for artistry and music ministry and the depth of our social reach into the community, our church is nearly 100% oriented toward resources for this community. Our Care Ministry Team and Stephen Ministry provides a great array of care resource to persons ranging from sick and injured to emotional concerns, loneliness, lost or searching and much more, both short term and extended. Our pastor is located in the community and committed to being visible and present for the community as a resource, often times being the primary go to for needs-based assistance. Our church building is also a major resource to the community offering our classrooms to Scouts, Preschool, Alcoholics Anonymous, Al-Anon and many other group activities. Our Fellowship Hall with commercial kitchen is capable for expanded meal opportunities and perhaps a soup kitchen or meal night. Our sanctuary has been a gathering place for fund-raising events, youth recital and other large gatherings, including the community Vacation Bible School due to its size and accessibility.

We also see the work done by Dillon Fawcett and the Youth Group Volunteers as very instrumental in growing our Youth Group program. As the relationships with youth have grown, Dillon has deepened the program's impact and involved the youth in the leadership of the youth program as well. The continuation of the program over the summer enhanced the impact of connecting with other youth groups and events.

WILDLY IMPORTANT GOAL (WIG)

The Iowa Annual Conference adopted a Wildly Important Goal (WIG) for every church to develop an intentional process/pathway for making disciples of Jesus Christ by the end of the year 2020. This process is to help fulfill the Great Commission in Matthew 28.

*Which best describes where your church is in developing a pathway? (From the Stride by Ken Willard)

☐ Unsure- We do not know how to get started and we need help.

☐ Preparation Phase- We are praying about it, recommitting to our mission & Vision, getting clarity on the reality of our current situation, and have formed (or are forming) a team.

☒ Implementation Phase- Means you have a team working on developing a pathway. You know the key elements of a pathway. You are working on how to communicate the pathway, and are preparing to launch your pathway.

☒ Sustaining Phase- Your leaders are making decisions based on the mission, vision, and pathway, and you are marking and celebrating movement, you are revising, renewing and refreshing the pathway.

If you have a pathway, please describe it.

A faith journey is about the wondering, exploring and growing as a disciple of Jesus Christ. Throughout our lives we continue to take steps along the way, moving in directions that ultimately lead us closer to being holy and more like Jesus.

Here at UMC MV, our Discipleship Pathway provides opportunities, direction and resources to help anyone discover and grow in faith according to our calling to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our pathway consists of five focus areas: Worship, Grow, Give, Serve, and Share. Take some time to look each over, consider where you are today and where you might like to go.

What is working well and what are you learning?

Life Groups are perhaps the most compelling and successful example of our implementation of a Discipleship Pathway. We have a handful of these ongoing, now in their second or third year and connecting the church family like never before. They are preferred and desired, some are more study-based and explorative and others are just sharing life. All have grown to support one another through some very challenging times.

Like so many aspects of church culture today, we are learning that opportunities such as Discipleship Pathway are easily "out of sight, out of mind". There is good participation in general in some of these offerings but if not presented to the congregation on a continual basis, we easily get to a state of wonder what it really is or what one might do.

Additionally, we do not suffer from the lack of opportunities, rather there is hesitation in the midst of the current climate of our congregation to either become more involved or to value the commitment of more time to the practice of faith.

What is your next step?

The updated Discipleship Pathway brochure has been given to the congregation and all plans are in place to accept participation. The brochure was released this fall in the church bulletin for two weeks and we now enter a phase of continued encouragement to the congregation to get engaged. Personal invitations as well as persistence from the pulpit are needed in order to make a significant impact.

What do you need from conference and/or district leaders?

Awareness of area and even state-wide implementation stories that we can learn from and share back our experiences. Evidence from the publicity of the United Methodist Church through the conference for promoting that this exists throughout and is a specific focus. Training opportunities (sessions) with other churches in the district on implementing, maintaining and evolving the pathway.

Our congregation has been highly involved in the conflicts of the present church climate and evidencing a “wait and see” approach. Now positioned in the midst of another waiting period for the global church process to determine options for the foreseeable future, the conference and district leaders could assist us with content that attends to the need for more education on critical aspects of these cultural issues both within the church and within society. Specifically, the church has expressed desire for deeper understanding and engagement of the LGBTQIA+ community, which would align with the recent vote and also offer growth opportunities for both faith and hospitality.

Discerning God’s Preferred Future

Based on your current reality, what is God asking of your congregation at this time?

To continue to worship in community with one another even with disagreement on theological levels and while waiting for the transition of the UMC Global church into whatever is facing the organization in the future.

Discerning between God’s preferred future and the church’s uncertainty about the near-term future is very much a challenge. We are in the midst of a deep and passionate social and theological issue that cannot be ignored. At the same time, connected as the Methodist Church, we are in no position to advance in a definitive direction without choosing to sacrifice our sense of community. Patience in the midst of this time and grace are the two elements of practicing our faith to be focused on now more than ever.

Deciding Next Steps

What are your goals for the next year to help you accomplish what God is asking of you?

Growing Faith

Growing one's faith includes being in the Word, praying, connecting with the church in new ways, and connecting with others in the church on a similar journey.

We acknowledge that the history of this church and the practice of Christianity is based on growing faith. The challenge goal is that for each person, each entity, and each organization growing faith means first assessing where faith is, what is "its" state and from there, how is "its" direction defined. Knowing that the future of the church, conference and the global church is ambiguous and in process of discernment and negotiation, growing faith means we each must set aside this fact and respond to the Holy Spirit drawing us to intimacy.

Growing Welcome

Growing one's welcome entails including the "other"; caring to put on radical hospitality; and becoming a church that cares to eliminate any and all barriers to God's unconditional love.

Growing Service

Growing service is putting one's attention to activities within and outside the church walls that extend God's plan for the world. In order to accomplish this, we must be freed to share our gifts, talents, time and energy in new ways.

We direct each committee to set measurable goals within these three areas of focus. When giving updates in council they can say how they are focusing their energies on each of these three areas. We also will speak these areas of focus to all within the church so that each of us may recognize their relationship to our Discipleship Pathway.

Pastor Goals 2020

- As the appointed Pastor here at the United Methodist Church of Mount Vernon, we find ourselves in a moment of precipice. It is a difficult and challenging time, as well as a time that offers great opportunity. We are in the middle of many conversations around our theology and practice of our faith in conversation regarding the LGBTQ+ community. I stand with a different theological interpretation than does the majority of the congregation. Following a vote the church took to disagree with the traditional plan, I continue to hear disagreement on what one's personal vote meant differing from another's. The spectrum of belief in this conversation is vast. We are in a pivotal moment with great opportunity to grow in our personal discipleship, our generosity, and our

kindness at a difficult juncture. Therefore, it is important at this time to listen to the voices around me, to help each individual along with the community of faith find what their specific theological perspective is, and to find a way to move forward. I am planning to work with our council to develop continued opportunities to converse among one another, along with the community to find our voice, so that when the global church makes a plan for the best way forward, the congregation is ready to jump on the appropriate ship. This conversation is delicate, both in nature of the subject, as well as in the possibility of becoming distracted from the primary purpose we have before us of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

- We, as the UMCMV launched a discipleship pathway a year ago. Although it was launched and opportunities were put before the congregation, the pamphlet was not well understood. One of my goals for this year is to continue to keep this in front of people, and continue to offer opportunities that will help this community grow in areas in which the Lord is leading them. A measurable goal in this area is: by October of 2020, the congregation should be able to speak clearly about what the pathway is and why we have it.
- One of the great visions I have is to fill this congregation with college students. There is a great opportunity with Cornell College next door. My husband and I have been hosting college students in our home (the parsonage) for two years. We have a small group for dinner and games, and good conversation. I have sensed a call to offer prayer on campus and have taken a parishioner with me to offer prayer. We've had students sit and pray with us. This offers an opportunity to grow in relationship, and offer love without asking for anything in return. In addition I offer to those I pray for, our college nights at the parsonage. This includes a home cooked meal, and some time in a home and off of campus. This seems to currently be a personal ministry my husband and I are involved in. One of my goals for this year, is to include additional members of the church, and to enrich the ministry by growing in both number and discipleship. One of the ways we are doing this is to invite students to church activities that are comfortable to attend. We brought two students with us to Bass Farms when we had a potluck and fun night in early October. We are inviting students to the Spaghetti dinner at the end of October, and we will encourage and engage members of our congregation in their lives as well. More fruit will most certainly come with more connections.
- In addition to these ministry goals, I have additional SPRC goals around staffing. This includes supporting, and upholding the staff and programs that need some extra tender love, and care right now.

Board of Trustees Report for 2019

Please note that all questions marked with an asterisk (*) are required fields

Name and Email of person submitting this report on behalf of the Trustees

First Name	Last Name	Email
Alison	Dix	alisondix@umcmv.com

Church

Mount Vernon, The UM Church Mount Vernon IA

District

East Central

Church building and land value

10,047,989

Amount of insurance coverage on Church Building & Name of Insurance provider

10,047,989
Grinnell Mutual Insurance

Church furnishings value

766,000

Amount of insurance coverage on Church Furnishings & Name of Insurance Provider

766,000
Grinnell Mutual Insurance

Parsonage and land value

If no parsonage is owned by the church, please enter 0.

571,431

Amount of insurance coverage on Parsonage & Name of Insurance provider

If no parsonage is owned by the church, please enter 0.

571,431

Grinnell Mutual Insurance

Value of other church property

0

Indebtedness on any church property

0

Location of legal papers

Bank Lock Box

Name and address of the custodian of the legal papers

Mount Vernon Bank & Trust, 206 First St. SW, Mount Vernon, IA 52314

Date of incorporation of church

12/2/1936

Have you filed the biennial report with the Secretary of State?

No

Date biennial report filed with the Secretary of State for nonprofit corporations?

The Secretary of State's phone number is 515-281-5204 or their website is: <https://sos.iowa.gov> (<https://sos.iowa.gov>)

Is a nonprofit required to file a Biennial Report with the Secretary of State? The answer is yes. All nonprofit corporations organized within the State of Iowa or authorized to do business within the State of Iowa must file a Biennial Report with the Secretary of State between January 1 and April 1 of each odd-numbered year. Each corporation's registered agent will receive a Biennial Report notice in early January. There is no fee for filing a Nonprofit Corporation Biennial Report. (From Secretary of State Website, FAQ for non-profits)

We filed to have it reinstated, but first had to file for a change with the Iowa Department of Revenue on the name listed for our Federal ID # to match the name of our corporation. We will then reapply for reinstatement when that change happens.

Name of your registered agent

Alison Dix

Bequests

Please include the amount of funds, charge conference date at which they were accepted, and the designation for all bequests, estate funds, grants, gifts, donations, and legacies (not memorial funds) given to the local church.

None

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Energy Audits

What was the date of the last energy audit of church-owned properties (i.e. church building, parsonages, educational units, etc)?

None

What steps have been taken since then to make the buildings more energy efficient?

*Parsonage

Does Your Church have a Parsonage?

Yes

If yes, please answer the following questions.

Parsonage Address

312 1st St. SW, Mount Vernon, IA 52314

Who lives in the Parsonage?

Senior/Lead Pastor

Parsonage currently used for

Is the Parsonage Handicap Accessible?

Yes

What provisions were made this past year to make your parsonage fully accessible?

Updates to the ramp deck to make it safe, upkeep

What is the last date of the radon test for the parsonage?

According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - A radon test is recommended every 2 years. For more information go to: <https://www.epa.gov/radon> (<https://www.epa.gov/radon>)

If there is no parsonage, please indicate that.

2015

What were the results?

Under limit

Was mitigation required and what action was taken?

17

What was the date of the last parsonage inspection?

An Annual Parsonage Inspection form is due in the District Office by November 1st. One Inspection form for each parsonage owned by the church/charge. Please **DO NOT** include copies in your charge conference packets.

8/21/2019

***Church**

Is Your Church Handicap Accessible?

Yes

What provisions were made this past year to make your church fully accessible?

What plans were made for in the coming year?

What is the last date of the radon test for the church building?

According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - A radon test is recommended every 2 years. For more information go to: <https://www.epa.gov/radon>

11/24/18

What were the results?

1.8 for both rooms. Only the Preschool south side rooms were tested

Was mitigation required and what action was taken?

No

Safe Sanctuary Policy

What date was your Safe Sanctuary Policy approved or updated?

Our current Safe Sanctuary Policy is dated 9-29-2016 (last update). The original policy is dated 8-15-2012. There were also revisions in 2013 and 2015. A group met to review Policy in September 2019 & submitted it to the SPRC. They plan to do in 2020

Have you submitted a copy of your current policy to the District Office?

Yes

Amount of sexual misconduct insurance coverage carried by the local church & name of Insurance Provider

500,000 Grinnell Mutual Insurance

18

Historian Report for 2019

Name of person submitting this report:

First Name: Kay

Last Name: Graber

Phone: 319-535-1085

E-Mail: kgraber12@gmail.com

Leadership Position:

Church Historian

Name of Church:

United Methodist Church of Mount Vernon

304 First Street SW

Mount Vernon IA 52314-1045

District:

East Central District

When was your church founded?

1840

When was your present church built?

1900 (our third building)

Where are all your church records kept?

- Metal cabinet in balcony classroom, 5th floor elevator stop
- Closet next to Danforth classroom, 5th floor elevator stop
- Hallway at north end of Fellowship Hall
- Church Office Computers and Metal Fire Safe in Church Office
(Only the Metal Fire Safe in the Church Office is fireproof).

Membership Books

- Membership books stored in church office in a fireproof safe.
- We have never merged with any other church; therefore, our Membership lists cover from our local church membership in 1840 to the present.
- From 2009 to present, membership lists also entered online with protective plan.

Church History

Up to what date do you have a written or electronic history of your church?

From 1841 to 1966 for published comprehensive church history, plus history of the organ and church music up to 2014.

What are your plans for updating your church history?

Once we have completed our goals to catalogue what we have in terms of documentation, information, and oral history available, we can begin to expand our written history. We have many boxes of minutes of meetings, campaigns, dedications and program booklets, etc. that will be available for doing so.

Pastors

Do you have a list of pastors who have served your church? Yes, attached

Photos of all former pastors framed with dates of service are posted in hallway

2019 Special Observances or Significant Events

As of April of this year, we think we have located all the known sites of documents and have realized that they are not "pure" in terms of dates covered or content. By that I mean that minutes, financial reports, etc. of any particular year are now scattered among the sites even though originally they were in order. This has happened no doubt because of an immediate need to find a certain set of records. As there has been work by the Trustees in various parts of the church, files have been moved albeit temporarily but with no plan for permanent storage or even permanent containers. Right now it is an overwhelming multi-year task, involving some additional funding for protection and permanency. Our work will continue for several years.

As of June, 1990, I have been submitting brief "Did You Know?" columns to our monthly church newsletter, beginning with the Circuit Riders in eastern Iowa. These columns highlight a progression of time in the history of Iowa Methodism and the life of our church congregation, beginning in 1834. They are meant to be written in a style that will entice readers. Copies of the articles are attached.

In addition, the archives became important to the Church Council during the development of a statement regarding the vote on the national LGBTQ Methodist issues and the Church Discipline. We found verification among our documents that our church had in 1995-98 adopted and advertised a welcoming statement for all and in addition had publicly welcomed a young gay man into membership during a worship service.

Preservation and Recognition of Historical Documents and Objects: (2018-2020)

- Catalog existing documents and objects, including descriptors and location;
- Begin a campaign to fund digitization of appropriate collections of photos and documents;
- Systematically identify visible items, pieces of art and history, furniture, etc. throughout the church buildings, internally and externally, with appropriate informational signage;
- Publish a brochure with photos and background of the visible historical items in our church building and on the grounds for guests, new members and current members;
- Create a children's coloring book with line drawings of historical furniture, stained glass windows, photos, etc. with questions and answers to be used by the Sunday School
- Update the current written church history to the present time.

Copies Forwarded to Archivist:

- List of Pastors and years of service
- We have no closed churches in our past, so have no membership books from closed churches.

List of Pastors and Years of Service:

1849-1850	L. C. Woodford	1985-1992	William H. Steward
1850-1853	George E. Bowman	1985-1990	David Glenn-Burns (Ass't)
1853-1854	George Clifford	1990-1991	Marsha Acord (Ass't)
1854-1855	Joel B. Taylor	1992-1999	Norman L. Knight
1855-1856	J.C. Ayers	1999-2011	Frank D. Seydel
1856-1857	A.B. Kendig	2008-2016	Becky High (Ass't)
1857-1858	S. N. Holmes	2011-2015	William B. Daylong
1858-1859	J. T. Coleman	2015-2016	Heecheon Jean
1859-1861	Elias Skinner	2016-2018	Mark Johnson (Ass't)
1861-1862	A. N. Smith	2016-	Joy Mitchell
1862-1865	George Clifford		
1865-1867	R. Norton		
1867-1868	E. W. Jeffries		
1868-1870	Julius Stevens		
1870-1873	T. C. Holmes		
1873-1876	R. W. Peebles		
1876-1879	R. D. Parsons		
1879-1881	W. H. Smith		
1881-1884	J. H. Rhea		
1884-1886	T. B. Cherrington		
1886-1850	S.W. Heald		
1890-1893	R. F. Hurlburt		
1893-1897	H. O. Pratt		
1897-1900	H. C. Stuntz		
1900-1901	Thom. Nicholson		
1901	Solon Branson		
1901-1903	O. B. Waite		
1903-1906	W. H. Troy.		
1906-1909	H. M. Billingsly		
1909-1913	W. L. Alexander		
1913-1923	W. C. Keeler		
1923-1927	S. E. Ellis		
1927-1932	H. C. Culver		
1932-1936	T. E. Gough		
1936-1940	Lloyd Gustafson		
1940-1944	W Glenn Rowley		
1945-1950	Howard H. Palmer		
1941-1954	Morton B. Green		
1955-1957	Hugh B. Fouke		
1958-1963	Rollin G. Oswald		
1964-1972	Charles Q. Wallace		
1972-1980	R. Thomas Stewart		
1978-1981	Marilyn Buchanan (Ass't. Pastor)		
1980-1983	Wayne Wasta		
1983-1985	J. A. Leatherman		

Circuit Rider for May, 2019

DID YOU KNOW?....

Methodism in Iowa goes back to 1834. At that time, 80% of the state was groves and prairie. Ten years before, through a treaty with the Black Hawk Indians, this territory was opened up for settlement.

There was a rush of immigrants coming across the Mississippi River and a trail marked from Dubuque to Iowa City, one settlement to another. This trail came through Mount Vernon and crossed the river at Ivanhoe.

In 1834, the first Methodist Society and Sunday School in Iowa was formed in Dubuque. "Iowa" became a territory in ~~1838~~ 1838 and in 1839 Iowa City became the capitol of the territory called "Iowa".

In 1846, Iowa became a state. At that time, the major controversy was over what states would be "free" and what states would be "slave". By a plurality of only 544 votes, Iowa became a "free" state. This was before the Civil War in 1865.

The trail through this part of the state became the avenue for the Circuit Riders who brought the word of God to the faithful, stopping at various "stations" along the way.

(Stay tuned in the next "Circuit Rider" to learn more about this vibrant history of Mount Vernon and Methodism).

----Kay Graber, MVUMC Historian

Circuit Rider for June, 2019

DID YOU KNOW?....

John Wesley is known as the founder of the Methodist Church but he really didn't spend much time in America. As a little boy growing up in a Church of England family, he nearly lost his life in a fire in his home, being "saved" only by jumping out his second-floor bedroom window. To him, it was a message that he was to use this miracle to bring people the word of God.

After his education at Oxford, he began preaching outside the coal mines and on street corners to reach those whose lives were needy and empty of hope. It was a different sort of message than the one offered by the Church of England.

Soon he learned about the "heathen natives" in the new settlements in America and felt a call to go there to spread the word of Jesus Christ. He had difficulty finding the money to make the trip but eventually in 1735, he married a wealthy widow and she funded the trip for him and his brother Charles to the American colonies. Unfortunately, the American Indians were not very receptive to his message.

After a short time, he returned somewhat bitterly to England and continued his ministry there, but not before he persuaded other preachers to also spread the Word in the colonies. One of the most eloquent of those preachers was George Whitefield (sometimes written as "Whitfield"). Whitefield was very handsome, personable, and a great preacher. He easily spread the Word, encouraging others to follow in his footsteps. Thus, the American Circuit Rider movement began.

The new state of Iowa was a prime place for the success of the Circuit Riders. "Stations", which were small one-room wooden cabins with a rope bed, a fireplace, and a small amount of supplies were placed all along the newly created road from Dubuque to Ivanhoe to Iowa City. The Circuit Riders were extremely welcome, not only as bearers of the Word but also as a link with civilization.

(Next month, we'll begin the saga of Methodist worship in actual church buildings and the beginnings of the town of "Pinhook", later to become Mount Vernon.)

---Kay Graber, MVUMC Historian

Circuit Rider for July, 2019

DID YOU KNOW?....

In 1847, a new leader, with a familiar name to us even now, appeared on the scene. Elder Rev. George Bowman (of Bowman Hall on the Cornell campus) was appointed to the Mount Vernon circuit.

In 1850, he had the idea of joining all the small congregations in the Linn Grove Circuit Rider district, including what is now Mount Vernon, into one Methodist congregation. According to the Centennial History of Mount Vernon, one day he resigned his "eldership" to become the pastor of the Linn Grove Circuit and was seen hauling a load of brick from the brickyard. When asked what he was doing, he replied, "I'm building a church."

He had quietly been collecting money from friends throughout the East, and soon a building 40 by 50 feet, without a spire, was erected and dedicated, free of debt. The church had two front doors, one for the women and one for the men; there were two aisles and four sections of seats.

Other Methodists gave fervently for the furnishings, sacrificing portions of their receipts from the sale of their crops. Conrad Kepler (another known name: Kepler State Park) paid the \$150 for all the pine lumber needed for the church.

This brick church was on the site of the current Main Street Community Center (former MV High School). Behind the church was the cemetery (the football field). The church immediately experienced a great revival.

By 1860, the building was too small for its growing congregation. The congregation sold the church to the school board who used it as a high school for many years. They purchased two lots three blocks west of the original brick church and built a new brick church.

(Next month: "The New England Meeting House")

Circuit Rider, August, 2019

DID YOU KNOW?....

By the late 1850's, there had been a great revival of religion in Mount Vernon and "the town was cleared of gamblers and liquor." The population of the town was rapidly increasing.

The Centennial History of Mount Vernon notes *"There was an evident increase in refinement and Christian graces throughout the community. A Methodist Sunday school was organized and called the Evergreen Sunday School because it continued for twelve months of the year."*

Much of this growth was attributed to Rev. A. B. Kendig, originally one of the Circuit Riders. He was gifted with great eloquence and "learned sermons", bringing in 70 new members. Apparently, his reputation was widespread because he eventually became one of the greatest pastors in Boston history!

The brick church at the east end of town was now too small for its congregation and it was sold to the school board. In 1860, the Methodists purchased two lots three blocks west of the original church but still on the Main Street of town. Church leaders still wanted to have a vital presence in the community but to be closer to the emerging new college and seminary.

By 1865, a new brick church was ready for worship. This church, 40 X 70 feet with two stories and an imposing spire sat on the west side of the alley between the two lots. The cost was \$7800, including the lots, and the contractor was William Brackett. Its seating capacity was 550 persons.

The new furnishings and inside décor were completed in 1867 and paid for by the Ladies Aid Society who raised its cost of \$892.18. A parsonage was built in 1874 on the lot east of the church. It is also noted that two of the parishioners assumed over \$1,000 of unpaid obligations (a hefty sum in those days!) on the church property.

Next month will be a description of this new church which reminded all of a New England meeting house, including a library of several hundred volumes and carved walnut stairways from the balconies to the main floor.

----Kay Graber, MVUMC Historian

(For the September Circuit Rider....)

DID YOU KNOW?....

The lot had been purchased. A new church was needed to accommodate the tremendous church growth in the 1850's. All Cornell students were required to attend. By 1865, the Methodists' new brick church (on the very grounds where our current church stands) was ready for worship.

By all standards, it was a gorgeous piece of architecture. The contractor was William Brackett (of Brackett House). Two imposing front doors faced First Street and opened into a spacious hall. On either side was a beautiful winding stairway with carved walnut railings which led to the auditorium on the second floor which could seat 550 persons.

A gallery on the north end was built for the choir. To the Minister's left in front of the auditorium was the "Amen" corner where a group of particularly devout parishioners was instructed to support the preacher with appropriate "amens" at critical moments in the sermons! The leader of the Amen parishioners wore a black wig.

There were three aisles in the church, carpeted in red, and the walls were frescoed, also predominantly in red. Behind the pulpit there was painted a "firmament" (gold stars on a wall of blue). Light came in through high Gothic windows of frosted glass etched with tiny stars. On the raised platform in the front, there were two armchairs, a walnut settee, a table, a lecturn and a Mason and Hamblin pump organ. The auditorium seats were low and narrow, hitting people in the middle of the back. Hinged along the wall were drop seats for an overflow crowd.

On the first floor, there were two small classrooms and a lecture room. A large furnace at each end of the room provided heat. There was no kitchen but large dinners were served in the lecture room. There was also a library of a few hundred volumes.

Surrounding the church outside was a wrought iron fence which curved gracefully toward the front doors. The church was topped with a grand 60-foot tower.

Memories of the grand brick church included pastors who became so excited during their sermons that they leaped with enthusiasm over the altar rail. There was much shouting during revival meetings. One choir member was known for the caricatures he drew of congregational members he could see below. Mrs. Adelaide Ebersole (of the Ebersole Clinic which is now The Perfect Blend) had the record of 43 years as a Sunday School teacher.

---Kay Graber
UMCMV Historian

For the October 2019 MVUMC Circuit Rider:

DID YOU KNOW.....

Last month we offered a word picture of the imposing MVUMC Brick Church built in 1865 on our current site. Its capacity was 550 persons. By the 1890's, the membership had grown considerably (Cornell students were required to attend church services on Sunday!), so once again a Building Committee was appointed "to accommodate attendance for the next 50 years".

First, the Building Committee recommended tearing down the current Brick Church and building on the existing site. The congregation found an interesting way to decide how much should be spent on the new building. Each member wrote on a folded piece of paper the amount they thought should be spent on a new church. No amount less than \$1,500 or more than \$45,000 was accepted. The average amount was \$25,000 which was immediately accepted as a goal.

A new 11-member committee was formed to oversee the building of the new church. They visited numerous churches in the area and selected the stone Methodist Church in Marshalltown as the model. It cost \$30,000 to build but the congregation voted to go ahead. The old lumber and brick was salvaged from the Brick Church, and the brick was used for the cornerstones of the sanctuary. (This brick is still a cornerstone on the outside of the church). Stone from the Mt. Vernon quarry (our east city park) was used for the foundation and the upper stone came from Stone City.

The finished stone church (which is still our church today) was dedicated on June 3, 1900, at a cost of \$36,588.10. The Ladies Aid Society raised nearly \$4,000 of that amount and provided dishes, silver and kitchen equipment. The "auditorium" seated 650 and the Sunday School rooms were at the south end of the building (where the Common Ground is now). There was a sliding door between the auditorium and the Sunday School rooms which could add an additional space for 400 persons. The dedication in 1900 was attended by 1,200 persons!

----Kay Graber
MVUMC Church Historian

Charge Conference Report

Church Membership Report for 2019

United Methodist Church of Mount Vernon, Mount Vernon, IA

Members Received

Kameron Brand	Confirmation
Michael Briesemeister	Confirmation
Rainey Brown	Profession of Faith
Ike Claussen-Tubbs	Confirmation
Caleb Dausener	Confirmation
Asher Eichhorn	Confirmation
Dillon Fawcett	Profession of Faith
Emily Fawcett	Profession of Faith
Mundo Guardado	Profession of Faith
Kennedy Hunter	Confirmation
Nolan Jackson	Confirmation
Jackson Jaspers	Confirmation
Cohen Kamaus	Confirmation
Benjamin Merlak	Confirmation
Benjamin Nydegger	Confirmation
Dee Pata	Profession of Faith
Judith Pim	Transfer of Membership
Owen Rushford	Confirmation
Jesse Schwiebert	Confirmation
Ethan Stanerson	Confirmation
Teresa Stewart	Profession of Faith

Members Removed

Mrs. Bev Behrens	Death December 29, 2018
Lori Cranston	O – Transfer to another denomination
Madi Cranston	O – Transfer to another denomination
Marissa Cranston	O – Transfer to another denomination
Mike Cranston	O – Transfer to another denomination
Mr. William Deskin	Death December 27, 2018
Ms. Bonnie Moore	Death August 4, 2019
Mrs. Bonnie Stoll	Death July 16, 2019
Mr. Warren Stoner	Death April 23, 2019

2020 Pastoral Support Form

Effective Date: 1/1/2020

Last Name: Mitchell First Name: Joy Middle Initial:

Charge: United Methodist Church of Mount Vernon

Pastor's Conference Relationship: Elder

Pastor's Total Appointment Status: Full time

Pastor's Housing: Pastor lives in a parsonage or other housing provided by the church

Pastor's Pension: No, Pension Not Waived

	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5
Church Name	UMCMV				
Church Number	568304				

Church Total

Church Percentage of Compensation	100%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
1. Cash Compensation (Annual)	59,019.00	\$59,019.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2. Housing Compensation/Allowance		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
3. Travel Expenses (reimbursed at IRS rate)	59,019.00	\$59,019.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
4. Continuing Education	1,700.00	\$1,700.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
5. Annual Conference Attendance	700.00	\$700.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
6. Other Reimbursed Expenses	500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Non-Travel Expenses (lines 4-6)	530.00	\$530.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	1,730.00	\$1,730.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Church's Appointment Fee for Health Insurance	16,716.00	\$16,716.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Church's Share of Pastor's Pension	11,066.06	\$11,066.06	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Total Compensation Package for Pastor	90,231.06	\$ 90,231	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
7. Housing Exclusion (For tax purposes only)	15,000.00				

Amount received from Conference Support? 7/1/19-6/30/20

Will Conference Support be applied for? 7/1/20-6/30/21

Church responsible for payroll & direct billing: #1 Treasurer

Signatures: Date Treasurer Email Pastor Date

SPRC Chair

Admin Board/Council Chairs

Church #1 Date Church #4 Date

Church #2 Date Church #5 Date

Church #3 Date District Superintendent Date

Presiding Elder Date

(If Applicable)

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Resolution on Church-Owned Parsonage

HOUSING EXCLUSION (the rental/housing allowance that may be excluded from a Clergyperson's gross income in any year for federal income tax purposes) is limited under Internal Revenue Code Section 102(2) and regulations thereunder to the least of: (1) the amount of the rental/housing allowance designated by the Clergyperson's employer or other appropriate body of the Church (such as this Conference in the foregoing resolutions) for such year; (2) the amount actually expended by the Clergyperson to rent or provide a home in such year; or (3) the fair rental value of the home, including furnishings and appurtenances (such as a garage), plus the cost of utilities in such year.

Please note that all questions marked with an asterisk (*) are required fields.

*Church/Charge: Mount Vernon, The UM Church of Mount Vernon

*District: East Central

*Clergy: Joy Mitchell

*Annual Cash Compensation

(Line 1 from Pastoral Support Report-Form I) \$59,019

*Housing Exclusion

(Line 7 from Pastoral Support Report- Form I) \$15,000

Whereas, Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code permits a minister of the gospel to exclude from gross income "the rental value of a home furnished as part of compensation", and any church designed allowance/exclusion paid part of compensation to the extent used for actual expenses incurred in maintaining a church-owned parsonage.

Whereas, the above-named pastor is compensated by the above-named United Methodist Church exclusively for services as a minister of the gospel and will be provided with rent-free use of a parsonage as compensation for services provided to the church in exercise of ministry;

Resolved, that the annual compensation paid to the pastor for the calendar year 2020 shall be the annual cash compensation listed above of which the housing exclusion listed above shall be designed a parsonage exclusion pursuant to Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code.

*Adopted on this day: October 17, 2019

*Charge/Church Conference Secretary Signature

and _____
Date

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Resolution on Accountable Reimbursement Plan

This resolution is required whenever there is a change of Clergy or change to Line 3 or Lines 4-6 on the Pastoral Support Report (Form I) from the prior year.

Please note all questions marked with an asterisk (*) are required fields.

***Church/Charge Name:** Mount Vernon, The UM Church of Mount Vernon

Whereas, the above listed United Methodist Church desires to establish an Accountable Reimbursement Plan pursuant to income tax regulations 1.162-17 and 1.274-5T(f) and **Resolved**, the above listed United Methodist Church hereby establishes an accountable reimbursement plan for the benefit of the pastor for the calendar year ***2020** and all future years unless specifically revoked or superseded.

***Pastor Name:** Joy Mitchell

ADDENDUM

It is important to note that the categories on the worksheet are suggestions for budgeting, not rigid expense categories; the staff person, in consultation with the SPR chair and/or treasurer, or finance committee chair, may shift expenses during the year from one category to another. (FAQ from GCFA)

Can the church increase the funding of the accountable reimbursement policy during the year?

Yes. If the church has additional funds or wants to shift budgeted funds from one account to another, it may do so. (No shifting is allowed from salary to an accountable policy). (FAQ from GCFA)

May a church tell a pastor not to spend funds even if the expense may be a proper business expense?

Yes. The question suggests a conflict between the pastor and the treasurer's or the SPR committee's view of necessary or authorized expenses as they relate to the mission of the church. The best way to resolve most conflicts is to try to understand them, discuss them, and come to some agreement.

For example, it is hoped that most churches would agree that annual conference related committee work and travel are part of each church and pastor's commitment to the connectional system (these would be legitimate business expenses). If a conflict over such conference expenses exists, the DS may be able to facilitate some meeting of minds (or pocketbooks). A difficult problem may arise when the church and the pastor view their mission differently. If the church does not approve of the clergy's involvement in an international mission project and finds it to be outside of the church's mission, the pastor should not submit travel or related expenses for such an activity. These issues should be explored ahead of time with the SPRC to avoid misunderstandings.

PASTORAL SUPPORT REPORT (Form I)

***Travel Expenses (Line 3)** \$1,700

***Total Non-Travel Reimbursed Expenses (Line 4-6)** \$1,730

Resolved, the following terms and conditions shall govern both the church and the pastor:

1. The pastor shall be reimbursed for the expenses deemed ordinary and necessary for the conduct of his/her ministerial office if these conditions are satisfied:
 - a. The expenses are reasonable in amount.
 - b. The pastor documents the date, amount, place, description and business purpose of such expenses with sufficient evidence that would support a federal income tax deduction, including the submission of original receipts for

reimbursement of purchases.

- c. The pastor documents miles for reimbursement associated with the conduct of ministry, not including miles driven to and from work once a day – including miles driven, date and business purpose of miles driven (stated generally so as not to compromise confidentiality).
 - d. The pastor provides the documentation of such expenses no less frequently than monthly, however, in no event will an expense be reimbursed if substantiated more than 60 days after the expense is paid or incurred.
2. The church may provide advances to cover anticipated expenses; however, the pastor must provide an accounting for such advances as well as the refunding of any excess amounts to the church treasurer within 90 days from the issuance of any such advance.
 3. In the case of any questions regarding the appropriateness of any expense submitted for reimbursement, the discretion of the Staff-Pastor Parish Relations Chair, subject to the approval of the Staff-Pastor Parish Relations Committee, shall prevail.
 4. No unspent balances in the reimbursement budget shall be paid to the pastor as additional compensation.

*Adopted this day October 17, 2019

*Administrative Council Chair Signature

and _____
Date

*S/PPRC Chair - Signature

and _____
Date

United Methodist Church of Mount Vernon

2020 Leadership & Committees

Church Council

Church Council	2019	2020
Chair	Jim Baty	Kim Guardado
Vice Chair	Kim Guardado	
Lay Leader	Ray Reasland	
Pastor	Pastor Joy Mitchell	Pastor Joy Mitchell
Recording Secretary		
Treasurer	Mike Kragenbrink, Alison Dix	Mike Kragenbrink, Alison Dix
Financial Secretary (2)	Jackie Morrical, Richard Jacob	Jackie Morrical, Richard Jacob
Memorials	Barb Shepley	Barb Shepley
Education	Dee Pata(ended 8/31/2019)	
Missions/ Outreach	Nancy Reasland	
Endowment	Janet Griffith	Janet Griffith
SPRC	Jeff Schmatt	Jeff Schmatt
Generosity	Andrew Morf	
Worship	Karen Stoll	Karen Stoll
Lay members to Annual Conf. (2)	Truman Jordan Weston Mitchell	Truman Jordan Weston Mitchell
Trustees	Jeff Walters	Jeff Walters
Finance	Jay Currie	Jay Currie
Congregational Care	Julie Baty	Julie Baty
At Large 2019/2020	Jennifer Hoffman	Jennifer Hoffman
At Large 2019/2020	Ron Coe	Ron Coe
Church Historian	Kay Graber	Kay Graber
Youth Rep	Ali Ott	

***Board of Trustees	
Chair	Jeff Walters / Kevin Woods
Class of 2019	Sue Pisarik
	Brock Barber
	Jody Stewart
Class of 2020	Loren Nydegger
Class of 2021	Sue Pisarik
	Kevin Woods
	Mundo Guardado
Class of 2022	Tim Legore
Ex-officio: Pastor Joy Mitchell, Kim Guardado, Church Council Chair	

***Staff Parish Relations Committee	
Chair	Jeff Schmatt
Class of 2019	Stephanie Frantz Suzette Kragenbrink Tim Legore (leaving)
Class of 2020	Steph Timm Kim Schwiebert Jeff Schmatt
Class of 2021	Erin Krapfl
	Bill Micheel
Class of 2022	Diane Legore Suzette Kragenbrink
Ex-officio: Pastor Joy Mitchell, TBD - Lay Leader, Truman Jordan & Weston Mitchell - Lay members to annual conference, Kim Guardado, Church Council Chair	

***Finance	
Chair	Jay Currie
Class of 2019	Andrew Morf Weston Mitchell Angie Watson
Class of 2020	Scott Johanningmeier Robbin Rekemeyer Terry Sill
Class of 2021	Rik Smith Jay Currie Donna Jordan
Class of 2022	Angie Watson
Ex-officio: Pastor Joy Mitchell, Kim Guardado, Church Council Chair, TBD Trustee Representative, TBD SPRC Representative, Dick Jacob & Jackie Morrical Financial Secretaries, Mike Kragenbrink & Alison Dix Church Treasurers, TBD Lay Leader, Truman Jordan & Weston Mitchell , Lay members to annual conference	

***Nominations	
Chair	Pastor Joy Mitchell
Class of 2019	
Class of 2020	Diane Legore Ruth Miller
Class of 2021	Shellie Kamaus Sue Pisarik Mike Stewart
Ex-officio: TBD Lay Leader, Kim Guardado Church Council Chair	

*** Endowment Committee	
Chair	Janet Griffith
Class of 2020	Jan White Jackie Wallace
Class of 2021	Truman Jordan Clint Stanerson
Class of 2022	Janet Griffith
Ex-officio:	Pastor Joy Mitchell
	TBD, Memorials Representative, Finance Rep, Church Council Rep