



16 June 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Minutes from NGCUMM Executive Committee Meeting (16 June 2020)

1. **PURPOSE:** The purpose of this memorandum is to record the minutes from the North Georgia Conference United Methodist Men Executive Committee's meeting, which convened on 16 June 2020.
2. **WELCOME & DEVOTION:** The meeting of the Executive Committee of the North Georgia Conference United Methodist Men met for its June 2020 meeting on 16 June 2020, via ZOOM. At 6:30PM, President Louis Johnson called the meeting to order and welcomed the attendees and thanked them for their participation. At the outset, he asked Jack Williams to offer prayer to commence the meeting. Theodore Moye was scheduled to give the devotion for the evening, but he was not in attendance. Given this fact, President Louis led the devotion, using Ephesians 6: 18-20 as his words of reflection. He said we should pray in the spirit in all occasions and that we should keep on praying. He asked that we pray for him and that he would prayer for us. His bottom line was that we should all be ambassadors, making known fearlessly the mystery of the gospel.

3. **ATTENDANCE:** The following individuals were in attendance on the call:

LOUIS JOHNSON	CARY LOESING	JACQUES WILLIAMS	JOHN HOLLEY
IKE MOORE	CHRIS KARABINOS	LEON JOUOLMON	BEN GREEN
JERRY STILLABOWER	ODELL HORNE	JOHN HEATH	JEFF CARSON
TODD PIERSON	TODD WALKER		

4. **REPORTS:**

-- **Approval of the Agenda:** Next, President Louis asked for the pleasure of the Committee as it related to the approval of the agenda. Ben Green moved that the agenda be adopted. Cary Loesing seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous for the adoption of the agenda.

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--**Approval of the Minutes from the 19 May 2020 Meeting:** At this juncture, President Louis called on John Holley to present the minutes from the previous meeting for the body's consideration. John indicated that he had emailed the minutes to the members of the Committee prior to the meeting but was available to read the minutes if that was the desire of the body. It was the consensus of the Committee that the minutes had been received and that it was not necessary for the minutes to be read to the group. Only John Heath had not received the minutes. John Holley indicated he would email a copy to John Heath. After this discussion, Chris Karabinos moved that the minutes be approved. Leon Jourolmon seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous for the approval of the minutes.

--**Financial Report:** Leon Jourolmon, the Treasurer, gave the following report:

(a) The balance in our **Credit Union Checking account**, as of 31 May 2020 was **\$3,387.71**. In our **Credit Union Savings Account**, for the same period, was **\$13,623.48**. The balance in the **Credit Union Share Account** was **\$240.75**. The **total balance**, including all accounts, is **\$17,251.94**. Leon reported that this balance had been reconciled with the bank.

(b) At this point, there was a discussion on the fact that we have been **overpaying our rent** at the Children's Home for our office space and that Tammy Norton (from the Children's Home) asked if we would consider donating the overpayment to Wellroot. President Louis thought we were paying \$600.00 per month, but Leon indicated that we were only paying \$500.00. Based on the current contract, the amount we should be paying is \$375.00; so we have been overpaying by \$125.00. Leon wanted to know the effective date of the contract, and President Louis responded that the contract was signed in August 2019, with an effective date of 1 September 2019. Leon wanted to know if the President wanted him to communicate with Tammy about the refund or if President Louis would be taking the action. President Louis indicated he would handle the action. Leon informed him that he had not paid the rent for June 2020. President Louis voiced a need to have the Treasurer to have a monthly report with more details and not just account balances. Leon indicated that he had a detail report and that he will send to President Louis and John Holley.

(c) Leon informed the group that he had received a call from Eric Owens, and he is moving to Texas and will no longer be in the area. Eric will notify his clients to no longer send money to our account. To give the Committee a feel for the magnitude of the workload we were doing for Eric, he shared that in the last 11 months he has written 51 checks. 27 of those checks were for Eric's ministry. This means that in a year we only write about 20 checks. With the light workload, our job to secure a Treasurer may become easier.

(d) He reported that he was struggling to access the Paypal account, which he knows has \$48.75 ready to come to our account. He will try again on tomorrow to access the account.

(e) Odell Horne informed the Treasurer that he plans to spend the rest of the Young Men's

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Ministry's money before the end of the month.

--Election Transition Activity Results/Appointments/Confirmation of 2020 – 2022 Leadership Team:

(a) John Holley indicated that the Leadership Team for 2020-2022 is as reflected below :

Conference President - **Odell Horne**

Vice President, Conference Affairs and Administration- **Jerry Stillabower**

Vice President, Membership, Organization and Chartering – **Jeff Carson**

Secretary - **John Holley**

Treasurer - **Leon Jourolmon (will remain until replacement is found)**

Young(er) Men's Ministries - (**Rev. Geoff Beakley...Action incomplete**)

Director of Communications – **Joshua Washington**

Director of Missions – (**Still open**)

Director of Leadership Development – **Louis Johnson**

Prayer Advocate – **Rev. Eric Powell**

Hunger Advocate – **Howard Evans – Incumbent**

Scouting Ministries – **Chris Karabinos – Incumbent**

Director Spiritual Development – **Jacques "Jack" Williams – Incumbent**

Director Prison Ministry – **John Heath – Incumbent**

(b) President Louis said he wanted to insure that we had completed the planning for a smooth transition and installation of the Leadership Team. Cary commented that probably the best way to transfer documents would be through Google drive on our website. Chris Karabinos said although his church, Peachtree Road UMC, had not opened for worship, it is available if we desire to do a live installation ceremony. Prior to the pandemic, Odell shared that Impact Church wanted to host the *installation ceremony*. It appeared that President-Elect Odell may be leaning toward a virtual ceremony, before our regular meeting next month. Ike and Joshua are already working the Communications transition. Louis and Odell are using a checklist to facilitate the presidential transition.

Ministry Area Highlights:

(a) SCOUTING REPORT: Chris Karabinos gave the scouting report and thanked Jerry Stillabower for filling in during his absence last month. At the outset, he shared that he has the patches and shirts for the participants in the Scouting Academy. These items will be distributed on Saturday. Based on the success of the SRA, the National BSA Religious Relations Committee is organizing a Virtual Scout Training Week, from June 29 – July 5th. The Girl Scouts are also looking to host their own virtual academy sometime over the next year, also because of the success of our SRA. He reported that there was a virtual meeting tonight to plan for the Bishop's Scout Luncheon, to be held at Peachtree Road UMC, on

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September 12, 2020. We already have 12 people registered. At this point, President Louis thanked Chris and his team for their outstanding work with the Scouts. He said they have made us proud.

(b) YOUNG(ER) MEN’S MINISTRY: President Louis called on Odell Horne to update the Committee on the current status of the Younger Men’s Ministry. Odell shared that he had been conducting virtual meeting but has not done much since our last meeting. He reported that his last training was on November 2, 2019. He is now looking at virtual training for the future.

(c) PRISON MINISTRIES: John Heath, the Director of this Ministry, reported that we are pretty well locked down because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Nobody is visiting at this juncture. He is looking forward to getting back out in the field. He reported that the South Carolina Board has approved a new training document which we will go with. They are looking to go out to halfway houses and to expand to other prisons. He is looking forward to go to SC and FL when he can have some meaningful interchange.

(d) SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT: Jack Williams, the Director of Spiritual Development, was pleased that the UMM Magazine was being shared online. He commented on the article by Bishop James Swanson, relating to the fact that the Bishop said that the question he was asking was about “being” and not about “doing”. He shared that Rick Vance stressed that our mission is to coach men to thrive through Christ. In regard to Radical Mentoring, there are two groups scheduled to start in January 2021. Additionally, Class Meetings are getting more emphasis. Formalized training is scheduled for August 21.

--Training and Education Opportunities: President Louis reported on this activity and indicated we will have virtual and in-person opportunities as we look at our training.

>New Training Approach will be On-Demand, Virtual, and Limited In-Person.

a) **“Understanding Men’s Ministry”** is now recommended for all Ministry Leaders. Schedule for this training is Q1 – January 2021, Q2 - April 2021, Q3 – November 2021.

b) **“Lead Like Jesus”** is scheduled for January 2021 for all Conference leaders (and on demand).

c) **“Amend Together”** is scheduled for February 2021

d) **2021 Monthly Ministry Areas Focus Workshops:**

- >Young(er) Men’s Ministries (January/June)
- > Tools & Technologies (February/July)
- > Spiritual Development (March/August)
- > Prayer Advocacy (April/October)
- > Hunger Advocacy (May/November)

If you have a need for training, reach out and get it scheduled. District Presidents cannot adopt a “hands-off” philosophy when it comes to training. If you need to add something, get on the calendar.

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5. DISTRICT PRESIDENTS REPORTING: At this point in the meeting, President Louis asked the District Presidents in attendance to share what was happening in their Districts. The following is a summary of their comments:

- ✓ **Ben Green:** Ben indicated that he had not done much since our last meeting but has set up his PC Cam. He plans to consider Zoom as a way to keep in touch with his local Presidents. He is looking at the Vision and succession planning. He wants to lock down charters and to encourage local churches to charter. He is putting together a presentation. Their Igniting Faith Rally is scheduled for October 2020.
- ✓ **Todd Pierson:** At the outset, Todd shared that he was still developing his email list and is preparing for a virtual activity. A video went out to his people today. At this time, he needs no help from the Conference.
- ✓ **Todd Walker:** Todd reported that even with the advent of COVID-19 he is still working in the community. One of his churches is doing live sessions. They are using Zoom for small group sessions. The plan is to open up on 28 June. Zoom has really been the saving grace for his District.
- ✓ **Leon Jourolmon:** Leon gave an update on his District and also gave the current status of the North Georgia Annual Conference. He has been in contact with all of his local Presidents. There have been lots of Zoom sessions as he performs his duties as District President. His church is scheduled to open for service on 28 June, with two services, one at 9:30 AM and one at 11:00AM. Reference the Annual Conference, it will be virtual, only on 29 August 2020. There will be two 3-hr sessions and a 4-hr session. There is a question about the effective date of the new proposed 8 District- Conference organization. Previously, it was reported to be July 1.

6. OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST:

- **President Louis shared** that there has been some discussion on having one Igniting Faith Rally. There will be follow-up discussions on the matter. Additionally, he informed the Committee about an initiative at Cascade United Methodist Church, called Men's Focus Week. It is a series of different Zoom meetings. As an example, on Wednesday, the Pastor is featured; on Thursday, it is about intergenerational matters; Friday is the National day; on Saturday, there will be a special guest speaker. Also, President Louis informed the Committee that he had had a conversation with John Holley, who is willing to serve as the Secretary-Treasurer, if we are unable to find a Treasurer. Odell asked that we table the discussion until after 1 July. He thinks he has a person who will serve as Treasurer.
- **President-Elect Odell informed the Committee** that he had had a meeting with District Superintendent Quincy Brown (ADOX). They have an ADOX Newsletter, and we are able to get information in their newsletter, if we desire. This is true for other Districts that have newsletters.

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- **Cary Loesing reported that all builds for Mobility Worldwide** are postponed, with the advent of COVID-19. He is still looking forward to have builds at churches this Fall, as churches reopen. If you want to have builds at your church on Saturdays or evenings, he would like to hear from you.
- **Jeff Carson would like to get** the list of chartered churches in the Conference. The Conference leadership will insure that he receives this.
- The meeting adjourned with Jack Williams offering a closing prayer. The next meeting is scheduled for 21 July 2020, from 6:30-8:00PM, via Zoom.

The minutes were prepared by

John C. Holley

Vice President, Administration & Conference Affairs