

Minutes of the Discernment Committee - FUMC West Point, MS
6p.m. Thursday, July 13, 2023

Present were Norma Atkins, Tommy Bryan, Chuck Carson, Jeff Hairston, LaDonna Helveston, Tracey Holcombe, Brooks Tinsley, Shannon Wallace, Dr. Darian Duckworth.

Dr. Darian opened the meeting with mediation and prayer.

“Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name...”

Philippians 2:5-9 (NSRV)

July 6th meeting minutes are noted as approved via email. Minutes have been posted to discernment page.

Old Business

Congregational Survey

Surveys will continue to be collected until noon July 16th. The discernment committee will meet following July 16th worship service to compile results. Total number of surveys mailed and returned will be posted to site as well as percentages for each answer.

New Business

Q&A

The discernment committee received one congregational question this past week. The question and response were reviewed and noted in committee notes.

Other Business

Dr. Darian’s Congregational Call to Daily Prayer began July 12th with information shared via newsletter and discernment page. Intentional Time of Quiet Reflection and Scriptural Study set by discernment committee begins July 20th. The church sanctuary will be open to the congregation daily July 20-27th. Tentative times are 11am-1pm and 4-6pm week days. Saturday 11am – 1pm. The sanctuary will also remain open following Sunday worship with tentative close at 6pm. Dr. Darian will coordinate with church office staff, and final times will be announced to the congregation.

Next Steps

- Continued research around next steps and congregational questions.
- Compilation and Reporting of Survey Results
- Review and Discussion of any notes and comments submitted via surveys responses.

The meeting closed in prayer.

Lord Jesus, soften my heart.

Holy Spirit, soften the heart of our church.

Heavenly Father, mold, and make our hearts after your will.

Amen.

Next meeting will be held 6p.m. July 20, 2023.