

Our Vision: To be a thriving body of Christ by being His hands, feet, and voice in the World.

**Strategic Action Leadership Team (SALT)
First Quarter 2018 Quarterly Review
January – February – March**

Senior Pastor:

Last year our Leadership team spent a great deal of time working on our vision and mission statements along with our core values. A key word continued to be at the center of our conversations... **thriving**. Our vision is what we “aspire to be”. I am pleased to share that we continue **to be a thriving** congregation bringing forth new ministries and new hope to our community. A few indications that our church continues to be nourished and nurtured by your generous support is our average worship attendance is up 10% compared to this same time last year. Our worship during Passion Week was excellent, highlighted by unbelievable music. Our commitment to missions and outreach continues to be a priority as we are seeking out new ways to best serve our community. We continue to feed the poor, visit those who are in prison, and build affordable homes for those who are in need. Our giving continues to be in line with budget needs. I have shared that it takes \$32 per person per week to meet our budget needs. This benchmark for giving has proven to be helpful in increasing our congregation’s financial giving commitment. Looking forward, I am hopeful to create a culture of “invitation”. How can we be intentionally “fishing” for people so that more people can come to Christ? As I recall, Jesus caused nets to be full, lives to be changed, and a church to thrive. Let’s go fish. The surrounding bodies of water are thriving.

POC: Pastor Harold (352) 750-4529

Chair’s Report:

The Strategic Action Leadership Team (SALT) approved the new Vision, Mission and Values proposed by the Vision Team. Communications began in January with messages from the pulpit, brochures detailing the new language, and a meeting (the LEAD Conference) to allow leaders to align their responsibilities accordingly. In concert with that, SALT created new Strategic Goals and Objectives for 2018.

POC: Chuck Mallue (352) 391-9755

Ministry Team Report: Summerhill

- Connect Small Groups hosted a Meet and Greet which resulted in 44 new requests for placement into a small group. Currently, there are a total of 458 people connected in a small group with: 20 Men’s small groups; 15 Mixed/Couples groups; 1 Singles group; and two new groups were added to make 18 Women’s small groups.
- Connectional Ministry has added 57 new members this quarter. Discover New Covenant was held every weekend. The Network Class and Discipleship Path, two Member Path classes, were conducted. Follow-up letters continue being sent to first time visitors.
- Congregational Care will soon be starting a new ministry, “Healing Care”, a ministry combining group counseling with the power of the Holy Spirit for healing emotions and past wounds to grow closer to Christ. “Live Well to Finish Well” was a small event. The Alzheimer’s Support Ministry continues to thrive.
- Discipleship is planning new courses, including an Apologetics class in the fall/winter, and a “Suddenly Single” seminar to help the adjustments that come with recent loss of a partner. Women’s Community Bible study had 170 participants this year. Emmaus Walks for men and women were held in March at the LEC.
- 90 men attended the Men’s Ministry Annual Spring Retreat. Make-up Retreat Sessions are planned for May. Leadership is working to make sure that ongoing activities align with core values. Bud Yoakum has replaced Ralph Hartke as the “point man” for Men’s Small Groups. Handy Fellas Ministry built thirty-six twin headboards for the Beds & Blankets outreach ministry.
- Outreach ministries continue to flourish with the construction of the 28th Helping Hands home for a family of six currently under construction. The Wildwood Food Pantry entered into a partnership with the Wildwood Family Resource Center to provide emergency food for families in crisis; 30 Families received food the first month. NCUMC sent a volunteer team of 11 for a Week at Sager Brown UMCOR Depot in Louisiana. Beds and Blankets has served 44 children and teens, providing twin beds, bunkbeds, and toddler beds, along with complete bedding sets and Christian books. From the Seeds of Hope concert at New Covenant, \$2,616 and 1,612 pounds of food were collected.
- Women’s Ministry sold out their “Gatherings” this quarter, with 280 ladies attending each month. Each month a specific mission gave a presentation followed by a love offering: \$1,397.20 was given to the Congo Partnership; \$688.75 was given to the Prayer Shawls Ministry; and \$1,187.97 was given to the Wildwood Middle High School Music Program. Women’s Bible Study completed a 7-week study, *Jeremiah: Daring to Hope in an Unstable World*, with 60 women registered, 84% attendance and 100% retention. MOAMI (“Moving On Always Master Inspired”) conducted their 2018 class program, January 11-March 22, with 65 women completing the program.
- Worship provided wonderful special music, liturgical colors, ushers, greeters, and other needs for the Lenten Season.
- The Youth Ministry hosted 30 Hours of Famine which raised \$3,300 for hungry children & families and the Souper Bowl of Caring. They also helped the Church in collecting \$3,800 for The Wildwood Soup Kitchen.

POC: Summerhill: Ron Huisman (352) 430-2716

Ministry Team Report: Lake Deaton

The following points summarize Lake Deaton’s ministries:

Our Mission: To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the World.

Our Vision: To be a thriving body of Christ by being His hands, feet, and voice in the World.

- 59 attendees at Rock Solid Men's Conference at Summerhill campus
- 78 attendees at Women's Conference at Summerhill campus
- ZOE International – made 3-year commitment to support orphans in India
- Church picnic at Lake Okahumpka park was a success
- Participation in Faith Formation classes continued to increase
- Providing shoes, clothes, and food for Wildwood Middle High School track team
- Startup of Wildcat Booster Club in 2Q18
- Construction of new church is underway and is on schedule for late 2018 move in

POC: Kerry Hughes (225) 281-1858

Staff Parish Relations Team:

The 2018 SPRT meets monthly under the facilitation of new Chair Don Buckey. At each meeting, we have opening and closing prayers, a devotion, review the NCUMC Mission, Vision, and Core Values, a Staff Update, and Pastor Reports. Team members signed a Team Covenant. The SPRT reference materials we use are the Book of Discipline, UMC Guidelines Pastor-Parish Relations, NCUMC Organizational Chart, NCUMC Human Resources Policies Handbook, NCUMC Employee Data Sheets, and the staff members booklet with pictures and responsibilities. Responsibilities are in place for Meeting Minutes, Devotions, Clergy Assessments, Staff Appreciation Events, Christmas Love Offering, Christmas Staff Luncheon/Service Awards and the Suggestion Box.

POC: Don Buckey (919) 662-6360

Servant Leadership Development Team:

We had a very successful LEAD Conference on February 7. We had 114 attendees. The focus was on our new values and goals and how each ministry would support them. Our monthly SLDT Committee meetings have begun. Our focus is identifying new leaders and shadows for chair positions that expire in 2018 and 2019. Our goal is to identify the most qualified individuals for every open position.

POC: Arba Thomas (352) 750-9221

Finance Team: At the end of April 2018, our Operating Income was under budget by \$15,070 and our expenses were below budget by \$195,144 resulting in a Net Income of \$290,550. Our current loan balance at Summerhill is \$3,839,487 and the construction at Lake Deaton is well underway. Your faithful financial support of NCUMC is appreciated as we continue to be the Hands, Feet and Voice of Jesus Christ in this community. Please pray about your financial commitment to your church in order that we may continue to be a financially-healthy church.

POC: Gene Wicklander (352) 750-9915

Trustees Chair: The main focus is to oversee and maintain all church property. We continue to maintain the facilities well within the approved budget. The Trustees have worked closely with our Risk Management Committee to address and improve safety and security for NCUMC and Bargains & Blessings.

POC: Bob Koehling (352) 304-0144

Summerhill Lay Leader:

Our committees continue to effectively work towards our vision of being the Hands, Feet and Voice of Jesus in our world. New Covenant continues with positive trends in attendance growth, inspiring worship services, and wonderful concerts. Both Harold and Jim continue to provide meaningful and timely messages through their weekly sermon messages and constantly remind us that God continues to work in our lives and helps all of us in our Christian journey.

POC: Bob Becker (352) 430-0522

Lake Deaton Pastor and Lay Leader:

The Lake Deaton campus continues to thrive as a result of our focused radical hospitality and outreach. There has been an amazing amount of progress in the construction of the Lake Deaton Campus. All the interior walls have been raised and there is now a roof over the Worship Center! Plans are well underway for our move from Eisenhower Recreation Center to our new facilities. This building will serve as a bridge between New Covenant UMC and our surrounding communities. We enjoyed a fabulous Easter celebration and continue to see steady growth in the number of regular attendees. On Easter Sunday our total congregants numbered more than 700! We are working toward building a Congregational Care Minister program which will benefit all congregants. We will soon be seeking individuals who may feel called to serve as a Congregational Care Minister! We recently supported the Wildwood Elementary School PTO by donating numerous prize baskets for their Chili & Bingo fundraiser. It was a fun night and a very worthy cause. Our Small Groups continue to multiply in numbers. Small Groups are the key to our campus remaining "small" as we continue to grow. We are thankful for all those who have offered their homes and time to host and facilitate these groups. We ask for your continued prayers and support as we widen our outreach through various ministries.

POC: Pastor Jim Divine (352) 750-4529 and Mike Herzberg (352) 693-5639

Our Mission: To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the World.