

FROM THE PASTOR

Charge Conference Books Now Available.

Some of you just read that headline and thought, “Great, but what is a “Charge Conference Book” and why do I want one?” I’m so glad you asked. Charge Conference is the Annual Meeting of the local church that organizes the life of the church for the coming year. The “Charge Conference Book” is the written report of those actions so that the whole congregation can know about these foundational decisions that order our life together for 2021.

Why might you want a Charge Conference Book? The Charge Conference Book contains the Lay Leadership List. The Leadership List is a summary of everyone who has agreed to serve on the various committees of the church that keep our ministries running. If you want to get involved, have a question or concern about anything we do as the church, the Leadership List tells you the best person to talk to. Those of you who agreed to serve on those committees can use the list to see who else is serving with you so you can work together. Some of you may need this list to remind yourself which committee you are on and how long your commitment will last.

The Charge Conference book also contains a report from each member of our major administrative committees. These reports give you an overview of all that has been accomplished that you may not be aware of. Over time, these reports become a history of the church.

Financial Information is also included in the Charge Conference Books. Some of these reports are “snapshot reports” required by the district office. Giving records of the church are confidential. Spending and accounting records are “public” and can be reviewed by any member of the congregation. If you have any questions or concerns about the financial health or management of the church, please speak to Pastor Melissa or Lee Bush. Many people work together year-round to assure that we are faithful stewards of all God entrusts to us.

Bainbridge FUMC has three lay speakers: Karen Forrester, Hortencia Guzman, and Judith Maxwell. These three women have completed extra training that allows them to serve not only our church, but also churches in our area. The Charge Conference Book affirms and celebrates this certification and renews it each year.

Now, you are thinking, “Where do I get one of these wonderful books?” You can view the Charge Conference Book here:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1V9I9ILC83JyV4BBnvohRvFduRO1nK4_D/view?usp=sharing

If you’d like a print copy, we have a few in the office and can make more. Just request one from Ruth.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Melisa