

Minutes from March 10, 2019 meeting

1. Meeting opened with a prayer.
2. Devotion: "The Fearless Methodist Church" by Diana Butler Bass. She will be speaking at our District Conference in Durango on March 30<sup>th</sup>. See attached.
3. Trustees -  
Work on the parsonage is mostly complete and the project came in under budget. There will be an open house sometime in May or June.  
There will be a spring-cleaning day. Details TBA.
4. Finance – Report attached. Projected giving and expenses are on track. The negative balance is from 2018 expenses (parsonage) crossing over with 2019 in Quick books reports.  
There has been money donated to Rosa thru Mancos Valley Resources. For them to pass it on to "Rosa Belongs Here" (RBH), they need a fiscal agent and asked to use the Church ID. Dana has checked with the conference and we would need to be sure that the RBH mission statement would be compatible with our church by-laws and mission. ACTION: Craig will get a copy of the by-laws and review.
5. PPR – No report.
6. WON (worship, Outreach, Nurture)  
Youth group – The current youth group is around 6-8 kids. Most of them are attending church. There is no big mission trip planned but there may be some smaller ones.  
2 services – They are going well. We may combine them for the summer.  
Sanctuary - Rep. Scott Tipton has decided not to sponsor the private bill for Rosa. Representative Diana DeGette will be asked to be a co-sponsor. Senator Bennett's office will be meeting with her next week and they may talk about it then. RBH call to action: Write to Rep. Tipton to let him know you are disappointed with his decision. (But keep Love in your heart)  
Bishop Karen Oliveto will visit and preach on March 24<sup>th</sup>. Philip and Linda Walters have donated the cost of renting a cabin at Willow Tail Springs for her and her wife Robin. There will be one service at 11:00 with a pot luck to follow.  
General conference- discussion held about the recent General Conference. Our district is still committed to full inclusion. The Western Jurisdiction will meet in April.  
  
Other: Discussions about a Gay Youth Group and ways to help the Mancos Food Commodities and/or partner with the grange.
7. Next church meeting will be May 5<sup>th</sup>.
8. Meeting was closed with a prayer

Bernadette Tuthill, Secretary

8:37 AM  
03/10/19  
Accrual Basis

**Mancos United Methodist Church**  
**Statement of Financial Income and Expense**  
**January through February 2019**

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	<u>Unclassified</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
Directed Offerings	5,770.00	5,770.00
Regular Offerings	12,320.54	12,320.54
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>18,090.54</u>	<u>18,090.54</u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	18,090.54	18,090.54
<b>Expense</b>		
Administrative Expense	410.40	410.40
Clergy Expense	14,755.74	14,755.74
External Benevolence	3,670.75	3,670.75
Offerings - Directed	1,396.46	1,396.46
Operations and Maintenance	1,447.42	1,447.42
Payroll Expenses	963.20	963.20
WON Team	956.43	956.43
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>23,600.40</u>	<u>23,600.40</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<u>-5,509.86</u>	<u>-5,509.86</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><u>-5,509.86</u></u>	<u><u>-5,509.86</u></u>

Mancos United Methodist Church

March 10, 2019 meeting

ATTENDANCE

Bernadette Judd

Dana Petersen

Jeanne Ackham Beault

Philip W. Walker

Leif Munkis

Judie King

Sue Paschal

LARRY GRIMES

Helm Ruth Aspaas

Cindy Maki

Craig Paschal

March 2019 D. Butler Bass

**The "Fearless Methodist Church." I like the sound of that.**

A wee reminder to my #UMC friends -- Methodism began as a spiritual movement to renew a decaying institutional church and serve the outcast, the marginalized, and the poor.

It is the WCA [Wesleyan Covenant Association] "traditionalists" who are NOT traditional. They are like 18th century Anglicans (sorry Anglican friends!) who tried to quash a spiritual movement of inclusion and love.

It is the WCA "traditionalists" who are appealing to authority and order and ecclesial control -- like the Anglican bishops who criticized and chastised John Wesley and the early Methodists.

**Early Methodism was messy, based in small groups, empowered women, gave enslaved persons a sense of freedom, and created a vision of justice and liberation.**

Anyone who claims to be a Methodist but who acts like an 18th century Anglican prelate is NOT faithful to Methodist tradition. Anyone who says there are limits to whose hearts get strangely warmed are NOT faithful to Methodist tradition.

**The deepest Methodist identity is that of hearts on fire with love, of risk and rebellion, of holy revolutions, of challenging ecclesial authorities who say "NO," of listening to the voices of the outcast.**

The people who are currently claiming to be "traditional" are really innovators and revisionists. They are turning you into something you aren't.

If you want to open your doors, open the table, love those who society hates, risk all for the sake of mercy, well, then you are real Methodists.

**So remember: John Wesley did not start a church. He wanted to renew a church that had become narrow, moralistic, cold. He wanted to renew it through new hearts, a courageous spirit, community that included the least & the unwanted, and passion for Jesus.**

It was a FEARLESS spiritual movement. FEARLESS. Without courage and risking all for love, there would be no Methodists. Be not afraid. Be traditional! Be fearless. Go forth. Hearts on fire. You are being called back to your roots. The world is your pulpit.

**Don't let anybody -- don't let any rule -- silence you. Wesley didn't.**

The great historian Don Matthews wrote that early American Methodism was "a volatile, alienated, defiant, and charismatic" movement that empowered "those who were demeaned and degraded" with a revolutionary sense of God's liberating love. ("Religion in the Old South," UChiPress)

If you don't know that history, learn it. Methodism only got "nice" when it accommodated to slavery. So, the "traditionalist" Methodism that is taking over your church is complicit with white supremacy & slave-holding.

But there was always another Methodism -- the kind that shook the American South to its core in the 18th century -- the revolutionary, inclusive, heart-centered, Jesus-fired Methodism that scared authorities (mostly white men, according to Matthews).

It is time for colonized Methodism to go away and the real Methodist tradition to get reborn (Methodists like rebirths!). To be the rambunctious rebels against unjust societies and the unholiness of the dominions of this world.

And yes, Methodists once scared people.

ISN'T THAT GREAT?!

And the people they scared the most were white male land -- and slave -- holders. METHODISTS SCARED THE RIGHT PEOPLE

But the powerful got you -- twisted your desire for holy living into niceness and used your longing for a new spiritual order into a polity of conformity to control your raging, risky Methodist hearts.

They scared you with threats of chaos and loss of status and even the possibility of your livelihoods.

And isn't that interesting? Just when Methodists are getting brave again, standing up for those w/o voice, including the excluded, redressing racism and working for women's equality, the heirs to those 19th century white guys basically come back threatening all the same stuff.

Do NOT let them do it again. Fool you once.

**Set history a-right. You've got a real chance here to be the sort of Methodists your founding generation dreamed.**

**The "Fearless Methodist Church". I like the sound of that!**



Diana Butler Bass

Diana Butler Bass is an author, speaker, and independent scholar specializing in American religion and culture.

She holds a Ph.D. in religious studies from Duke University and is the award-winning author of ten books,

She regularly speaks at conferences, consults with religious organizations, leads educational events, and teaches and preaches in a variety of venues in the United States and internationally. Her bylines include *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times Syndicate*, and *The Huffington Post*. She has commented widely on religion, politics, and culture widely in the media including *USA TODAY*, *Time*, *Newsweek*, CBS, CNN, FOX, PBS, NPR, Sirius XM, and CBC.

Diana Butler Bass is the featured speaker for our District Conference on Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> in Durango. To register for that conference, please go to the Mountain Sky Conference website [www.mtnskyumc.org](http://www.mtnskyumc.org)

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