



LEADERSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 10, 2021-7:30 PM

FINAL

Present: Pr. Micah, Pr. Neal, Scott Dahlquist, Augie Schauer, Karen Nilsen, Anne Romstad, David Thompson, Cheryl Lundsgaard, Deb Heinecke, Ed Morrow, Leslie Lien, Mara Lien, and Jean Kass

Devotions

Scott Dahlquist called the Zoom meeting to order at 7:32pm. Cheryl Lundsgaard led Devotions.

Open Forum

Laurie Franklin raised a concern regarding Sanctuary Sunday Worship: just because we can now worship indoors doesn't mean we should. She advocated for outdoor worship.

Review the Agenda

- Annie Romstad made the motion to approve the June Leadership Board Meeting Agenda as is. Cheryl seconded. The motion was passed.

Review Minutes

- Karen Nilsen made the motion to approve the May Leadership Board Meeting Minutes as is. Augie Schauer seconded. The motion was passed.

Review Treasurer's Report

- Augie reported that the financial report still was positive, without including the Endowment fund.
- A question was raised about what percentage of contributions were made electronically versus physical checks. Pre-pandemic, 62% was via envelopes, 19.12% was electronic, and 18.88% was from IRA's. During the pandemic, 61.92% was via envelopes, 28.58% was electronic, and 9.5% was from IRA's.
- Annie made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Ed Morrow seconded. The motion was passed.

Pastor/Staff/Commissioner Reports

- Discussion of Wednesday middle school youth activities
 - Pastor Neal said that the Wednesday Middle School Afterschool Activity is a joint effort between the Boys and Girls Club and Richfield's Lutheran collaboration churches (Woodlake, House of Prayer, and Oak Grove).
 - There will be a Wednesday meal as part of the budget. The plans are to invite students to stay for the meal (inviting their families as well). The students will also be invited to stick around for the Youth Group meeting.
 - Funding will come from Woodlake (Woodlake 2020 Outreach budget/Endowment) and House of Prayer. Annie speculated that there might be some funding from Loaves and Fishes.
 - Scott said we could probably find the money somewhere in the budget if we wanted to purchase pizza for dinner on Wednesday nights.
 - David Thompson suggested that this project might be a nice overlap with the Justice and Service commission.
 - Augie mentioned that youth have a requirement for service hours that might be helpful to the program.

- Worship and Music
 - Deb Heineke pointed out the sound system solution should encompass Fellowship Hall as well as the Sanctuary, and that the visual screen should be addressed separately.
- Properties
 - Ed said there are big issues with the air conditioning units that might require repairs costing between \$7k-\$10k. Augie said to get quotes from Koch Mechanical. Karen said she would relay information to Linda about the A/C repair work recently done for Nilsen's.

New Business

- In-Person Worship
 - OUTDOOR SUMMER SERVICES
 - The popular outdoor summer services have not been offered since 2019 when they frequently were rained out. Currently, there is no available staff to set out chairs for the outdoor services.
 - Cheryl said people could bring and set up their own camp chairs for outdoor services. Jean agreed that a "bring your own chair" policy for outdoor services would probably not be that big a deal for most people.
 - Pastor Neal said that the PPT (Pandemic Preparedness Team) recognized that outside is clearly safer than inside. Also, with small children, his family is more comfortable with outside.
 - Deb requested that services be actual "Outdoor" services rather than "Parking Lot" services since the latter were so much more work to set up, particularly for Joshua.
 - Scott said that the Leadership Board doesn't need to vote on anything about this, but to leave it up to Deb and the staff.
 - SANCTUARY SERVICES
 - Annie noted that people were excited to be worshipping in the sanctuary again. Worshipping in the sanctuary felt like "going home." However, more pews need to be opened so people were not sitting so close.
 - There were some sound issues when Pastor Micah wore a facemask when speaking.
 - Dave said they were unable to attend, and wanted to make sure that the online services would be continuing for those who were likewise unable to worship in person.
 - Augie thanked everyone who helped make the sanctuary service possible. The first service was maxed out on space, but attendance may fall after the initial excitement. Mara said she and her mom were not able to attend, but she like the idea.
 - Karen said that inside wasn't the same since there was no singing, versus outside services. Ed asked about the cost of masks which are specifically designed for singing. The costs range from \$20-\$60.
 - Karen wondered about allowing children into the service since they are not yet able to be vaccinated.
 - Augie asked if Fellowship Hall was wired for sound to broadcast the service. The Narthex is not. Ed suggested checking to make sure which rooms were wired for sound.
- Equipment Upgrades
 - Augie said that there was a need for big tickets items: a camera system and a new sound system. (Plus the A/C repairs.) Pastor Micah noted that he receives comments every Sunday about problems with the sound system. There was discussion about replacement instead of trying to band-aid an inadequate system.
 - Deb said that the sound system issue should be addressed separately from the visual screen idea since the sanctuary doesn't have a great space for screens with its high ceiling. Also,

needs for Fellowship Hall sound system/screens should be included since there are plans to make more use that space in the future.

- Pastor Micah said the total costs could be \$150k. Karen asked whether there could be a fund raiser for it. Deb said that financing would be available for the purchase.
- Pastoral Review
 - The next review is in the September/October time frame. However, until the Mission and Vision establishes clear expectations, there can't be a quality review process.
 - Cheryl sent review forms prior to the Leadership Board meeting in order to remind board members to consider what should be included. Augie pointed out that board members should draw on what is heard from the congregation throughout the year, not waiting until the last minute. Annie said the review forms were a reminder and guide for what to listen for.
- Mission and Vision
 - Pastor Micah said we are narrowing in on the Vision and Mission statements. The Vision is "Who do we want to be" and the Mission is "How do we get there." He reviewed the Leadership Board votes on the potential statements from the last meeting.
 - There was general agreement that the statements were on the right track, but needed input from a broader audience to fine-tune the message. It needs to be shopped around, not just from the congregation, but from outside of the congregation and the fringes of the congregation. We want it to be something people are excited about.
 - Pastor Micah said the next step will be to share it with the congregation, perhaps in the July Messenger or a special adult forum to get feedback.
- Letter to House of Prayer regarding Pastoral changes
 - Pastor Micah had drafted a letter to send to the House of Prayer congregation about how Woodlake offers support during their transition. Cheryl asked if it was intended as an offer to share Pastors. Pastor Micah said no, but it was intended to let House of Prayer know that we're here if they need us. We want to continue the shared ministry to have.
 - It was agreed that the Pastors should sign the letter, with the expressed support of the Leadership Board.

Old Business

Adjourn and Closing Prayer

- Leslie made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ed seconded the meeting which adjourned at 9:47pm. Pastor Neal led the closing prayer.

Upcoming Messenger Article (Due July 15th)

- Jean Kass