

Rush United Methodist Church
Leadership Meeting Notes
November 14, 2020

Present: Pastor Todd, Erin Bills, Tonya Hunt, Lynda Wanzenreid, Geoff Furman, Lynn Kessler, Chris Chamot, Jim Comstock, Cindy Wallace

Guest John Kessler

The meeting was opened with a prayer and Joys and Concerns.

Holy Life:

John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist Church, spoke about "Christian Perfection" which he defined as "The pure love of God and man." Each member of the Leadership Committee shared thoughts on his/her own spiritual beliefs.

John Kessler's Property Report: (see attached document)

- John spoke about alarms from the back doors going off. The doors will eventually need replacement as they do not unlock when the fire alarm goes off, which is a fire hazard. A certified company is coming on 11/16/2020 to recommend what to do.
- We have a heating problem as three thermostats need to be replaced and one heat pump may need to be replaced eventually.
- John wants approval for auditing the cards, fobs and keys. Chris says we already have a list of the people who have fobs/cards. The Leadership Committee agreed to let John go ahead.

Upcoming Annual Conference:

- All documents needed for the conference have been posted to the church website: clergy compensation, nominations of personnel, audit, minutes from the last Church Conference Meeting. The Leadership Committee had no objections to the list of people who are up for nomination. Erin suggested having packets of the information available at the church by Wednesday, November 16, 2020 for people who don't have the internet.
- Pastor Todd reviewed the details of how the meeting will be run on Zoom. NY State guidelines require in person voting but, because of COVID restrictions, voting will be by thumbs up or down. Jim Comstock will present the audit report.

Special Church Conference:

- Endowment Fund rules state at least 20 people must be present to vote on borrowing money to replace the roof.
- Three different methods for financing the project have been considered.
 1. borrowing from a commercial bank
 2. United Methodist Development Fund
 3. loan from the Endowment Fund
 - A. 15 year loan
 - B. Repay monthly + prime interest rate

Finance:

- The Finance Committee met to approve \$2,500 to complete door security system.
- The roofing project was discussed.
- We will pay an additional \$17,000 to bring our contribution to pay our apportionments up to 50% of our assessment.
- Our new budget will be very lean. It can be approved by the Leadership Committee at the next meeting.
- Britta recommends using Quick Books instead of our current program.

- A Capital Finance program will be starting in 2021.

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Reopening Questions:

- It is recommended that the people wanting to attend Sunday services RSVP in advance although we won't turn people away unless the sanctuary is full.
- Tanya reported there is a problem with the audio when streaming the service. Chris said that audio issues are generated at the sound board and talked about reasons this happens. He also reported that people who do the slides are rotated so that they don't have to be in church every Sunday.
- Providing we can get enough people to volunteer to help at each service and we get everything in order, we will try to hold two services, even if we have to use less technology to stream them.
- We are aiming for a start date of November 29th.
- Christmas Eve services will be held at 7PM and 11PM and will be live streamed.
- Rush-Henrietta Continuing Education has asked about reopening their fitness class in the dining room. After discussion Cindy made a motion to tell Continuing Education that they can't meet in the January semester but we will reconsider for the spring semester. Lynda seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Other Items:

- Britta Stambaugh has resigned as Treasurer starting in January. Chris suggested we post the job. It pays \$1,040 per year. Lynn and Pastor Todd will post the job.
- Pastor Todd will be on vacation from January 4-10.

Notes submitted by:

Cindy Wallace