

Rush United Methodist Church
Leadership Committee Meeting
June 16, 2022

Present: Jan Corey, Geoff Furman, Pastor Todd Goddard, Cindy Gray, Michelle Prok, Pat Weaver, Steve Williams

Guest: Kellianne Williams

Absent: Erin Bills, Lynda Wanzenried

Meeting was opened by Steve Williams, with joys, concerns, and a prayer from Pastor Todd.

Learning: Pastor Todd reviewed “Effective and Efficient Time Management,” which was also presented to church staff. Discussed what works for us.

Leading:

Status of Existing Ministry Plans

- Quickly reviewed Parsonage Sale update (closing date set for 6/24/22), and the Capital Stewardship Drive. Michelle Prok was thanked for her efforts with the campaign. As of 6/13, \$231,200.00 has been pledged.

New Ministry Action Plans

- “A Way Forward:” Kellianne presented a Ministry Action Plan designed to “discern the direction of RUMC, in anticipation of a denominational schism.” A team of volunteers is consulting with Rev. Ann Kemper to investigate our church becoming a reconciling congregation.
 - Pastor Todd stated that the goal is to educate, not push to change minds.
 - The strategy is to provide a series of educational opportunities for the congregation, about what the Methodist religion is.
 - Pat Weaver asked to join the planning team, and that was agreed.
 - Discussed what a “reconciling ministry” was.
 - Discussed that there are consequences to whichever decision the congregation makes.
 - After some discussion, Leadership voted to allow the group to move forward, with one member opposed.
- Pieter’s Family Life Center Coffee Shop: Pastor Todd presented the plan for PFLC to start and operate a coffee shop on their premises.
 - Rush Church would partner with PFLC and HCS, with the coffee shop serving as a mission opportunity for Rush Church.
 - PFLC and HCS will provide all space, equipment, marketing, insurance, and financial services
 - RUMC would work to provide volunteers to assist with the program.
 - Coffee shop would “provide an opportunity for service, a space for fellowship and devotions, and support HCS international ministries.
 - Concerns were expressed regarding Rush Church current lack of volunteers, and the amount of time Pastor Todd would be expending with the program.
 - Question: is the coffee shop a mission RUMC should embrace?
 - After additional discussion, Leadership voted to adopt the coffee shop as a ministry of the church, with one opposed.

Leadership Team Job Defined: Pat Weaver questioned what the focus of the Leadership team was, as meetings are now quarterly rather than monthly. Pastor Todd explained that Leadership’s job is “Strategy” –

to set the direction for where Rush Church is going. The individual committees (Finance, Board of Trustees, ...) are "Tactical" – they oversee the day-to-day operations of the church.

Finance and Administration:

- Giving is up, expenses are down.
- 2021 Audit is completed.

SPRC:

- E-Na has resigned. She is scheduled to work until the end of August, but will stay until the end of September if necessary.
- Judy Blachowicz is organizing a farewell reception, scheduled for 8/21.
- Currently working to find a replacement. Will be difficult as there is a limited labor pool.
- Discussed Youth Director position. Position was "defunded." Currently no budget for a replacement.

Board of Trustees:

- Boiler is going to need to be replaced. One estimate has been received, but need two more.
- Once estimates have been received, B. of T. will bring proposal to Finance.
- Will need to schedule a church conference to use the contingency funds that are available.
- Rush Fire Marshall did church inspection and there are several items that need to be addressed. Waiting for written confirmation from Fire Marshall before proceeding.
- Pat Weaver expressed concern that the church needs a maintenance person to deal with the ongoing issues. Cindy Gray will work with SPRC to create a job description, and determine a possible salary, then proposal will be presented to Finance for potential addition to next church budget. No money is currently available to fund this position.

Worship:

- Summer worship schedule will begin on 6/26, with one service at 9:30am.

Children, Youth, Families:

- Kathy Kingsley's application to join the PromiseLand Board of Directors was voted on and approved unanimously.

Missions:

- Attempting to start a lunch at Legacy program, but calls and emails not being returned. Michelle Prok will follow up with Legacy staff.

Endowment:

- High School Scholarship application was reviewed, and Leadership voted unanimously to award the scholarship to the applicant.

District:

- Ted Anderson will continue to serve as District Superintendent for the next year.

Motion was made to adjourn, seconded, and approved at 8:52pm.

Notes submitted by:
Cindy Gray