

Rush United Methodist Church
Leadership Committee Meeting Notes
May 8, 2021

Submitted by Geoffrey Furman sitting in for Cindy Wallace.

Present: Tanya Hunt, Geoffrey Furman, Patti Weaver, Lynda Wanzenried, Jan Corey, Pastor Todd Goddard, Lyn Kessler

Not Present: Erin Bills, Cindy Wallace

Joys and Concerns and Opening Prayer

Communication with Leadership

It was discussed whether the congregation knows how to contact leadership.

Names of the Leadership team are in *His Faithful Followers*, *Rush Tidings*, and Sunday bulletins. Geoffrey Furman to investigate whether contact information is available. Geoffrey Furman to provide a *Rush Tidings* with Leadership contact information.

Side discussion about encouraging people to come back to in-person worship.

Geoffrey Furman to look into the creating a survey for the congregation. Tanya Hunt expressed interest. Pastor Todd suggested consulting Erin Bills (SPRC)
Pastor Todd is reluctant to do surveys too frequently. Questions need to be worded carefully.

Side discussion about 1 vs 2 Sunday services

- Some members of the congregation are concerned that we don't know everyone and one service will help fellowship.
- The genre of music is often a deciding factor for choosing the service and an issue when having 1 service
- Time of service is often a deciding factor for choosing the service.
- Pastor Todd shared data that indicates a significant drop in attendance when going to a single service.

Covid Guidelines

Pastor Todd has heard new COVID guidelines may be issued before the end of the month (May). Leadership to meet as soon as possible to respond to new guidelines.

Seating and Reservations at Worship

Motion by Geoffrey Furman to eliminate the reservation system
Seconded by Tanya Hunt
All in favor

We will provide worship attenders with cards to be left on the pews for cleaning.

Lynda Wanzenried to design cards to be printed and cut out.

Tanya Hunt to let Joyce Smith know that the reservation system is ended.

COVID guidelines limit seating capacity to 40 persons. Be prepared to have chairs in the foyer if we exceed capacity.

Informal Discussion of The Church Meeting

DS Vonda Fossitt maintained clear agenda and ran the meeting well.

Wonderful healing and apologies.

Many different reactions from the congregation

Side discussion on COVID cleaning. Lyn Kessler said Kerina is well informed and cleans after all church events.

Todd keeps DS Vonda Fossitt informed and up to date on all events.
We all need to be more loving and sensitive of others.

Graduation Scholarship

Tanya Hunt asked if we are offering the Graduating Senior scholarship this year.
Traditionally \$1000 from the endowment fund.
Voted for.

Restarting Fellowship Missions

With a potential for new COVID guidelines this month Pastor Todd would like to make sure we are ready to start up again in June if guidelines permit. Notify responsible persons to begin planning. The following was discussed:

- Coffee/ Cookies. Todd to discuss with Barb who issues the cookie list.
- 2nd Sunday Lunch. Lyn Kessler to speak will Bill Stambaugh.
- 4th Wednesday Promiseland Families and Church picnic. Todd to speak with Kellianne.

There were discussion about how to package or serve food. Pending new guidelines

Heritage Christian Services Day Program

Todd let the leadership team know that he recently gave a tour of the facility to HCS and that interest has renewed in establishing the day program. Soon it will be time to restart discussions.

Before the pandemic Rush Church was nearly ready to begin hosting a day program for HCS. The program would consist of the following:

- 3-4 staff
- Maximum 10 developmentally disabled adults
- 9a-3p weekdays
- Volunteer work: gardens, custodial, repairs, community outreach, bible study, lunches
- Use of the coffee/ lounge area
- Small conference room for personal belongings and a file cabinet.
- Possible monthly payment but not substantial.

Youth Leader Position

Pastor Todd had previously proposed an opportunity for placing a targeted job req on indeed.com. Cost was approximately \$400 for 14 days. Funds for this are not in the budget. The decision was made to wait.

Job postings have been made to several local schools and religious organizations. No responses have been received.

The job posting can be found on the Rush UMC website.

It was discussed whether to ask Alethea Coulter if she would be interested in the position. This would need to be a decision in conjunction with parents and youth. Decided to wait.

Judy Blachowicz Retirement Party

Sunday, June 20

Invitations to go out 3rd week of May

Judy has requested people to bring donations of food for

Next Meeting

Saturday, June 12 8:30am. Tentatively in person instead of Zoom