

Rush United Methodist Church  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
September 7, 2020

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

Guests: Dick Wallace, Barb and Paul Kingsley, Bill Darron, Britta Stambaugh, Leon Perkins, John Kessler, Gary Prok, Steve and Kellianne Williams, Bill Stambaugh,

This is the first Trustee meeting under the leadership of Pastor Todd Goddard who spoke at this meeting about the culture of leadership: love, learning and leaning.

Love:

Attendees shared news about family and friends and offered prayers.

Learning:

1. We all work together for Christ. In Pastor Todd's 1 1/2 years at this church he concludes there are too many meetings which last too long and there is too much lost talent. We aren't reaching church members and getting them to volunteer their talents.
2. The Building and Ground Committee has taken over much of what the Board of Trustees (BOT) had done years ago. The BOT hasn't been functional for many years.
3. Pastor Todd referenced the Book of Discipline to outline how the BOT functions. The following are some of the points he covered:
  - A. Every year at the Church Conference elects anywhere from 3 to 9 people to be on the Board of Trustees (BOT) to serve for a period of 3 years. The BOT must have a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and Secretary.
  - B. The officers maintain the Corporation and Bank Accounts.
  - C. BOT carries out the directions of the Church Conference.
  - D. BOT meets at least one time per year.
  - E. A majority of Trustees at a meeting is considered a quorum.
  - F. BOT is a partner with the minister for all property and assets of the church. The minister can override the BOT even if all members agree on an issue and the minister doesn't.
  - G. The pastor is in charge of worship.
  - H. All forms of insurance involving the church, parsonage and personnel must be reviewed annually.
    - I. BOT is in charge of making sure the parsonage is inspected yearly and must correct any deficiencies.
  - J. Bequests are received by the BOT after the Church Conference.
  - K. BOT must have an annual audit to access any limitations of accessibility to handicapped people using the church.
  - L. Finance, BOT and SPRC all answer to the Leadership Committee.

4. General Operating Procedures for the Finance Committee
  - A. RUMC has developed its own document for handling finances to achieve the church's priorities and establish and maintain the congregations trust:
    1. excellence in worship
    2. support individuals, children and families
    3. support mission and outreach
  - B. Finance creates the budget, Leadership reviews and O.K.'s the budget (or makes changes to it) and then it may go to Church Conference.
  - C. there are budgeted and extra budget expenses. BOT handles extra budgeted expenses which are generally purchases and labor for capital projects.
  - D. The Rush UMC created the following guidelines for approval off funds:
    1. Pastor for amounts no greater than \$100
    2. Finance Committee \$100 - \$5,000
    3. Leadership \$5,000 to \$10,000
    4. Church Conference - anything over \$10,000
  - E. Two BOT must sign the contract(s). These procedures are created to insure trust of the congregation.
  - F. The Finance Committee requires 3 bids on projects. The bids need to be competitive, comparative and time limited to insure that all bids are for the same specifications which eliminates conflicts of interest.
  - G. Finance has to know all about a project before the contract is signed. Promise Land must have approval from the Finance Committee as well as steps E through G above..
5. Supervision of property of our church. Pastor Todd invites everyone to fill out the e-mail for to tell what they are interested in volunteering for at the church and parsonage.

To update all those attending this meeting concerning projects at the church, John Kessler has agreed to head up the roof, parking lot lighting and repairs issues. A major obstacle will be getting materials and labor for the roof in a timely fashion. The parking lot repairs should be done by next week if the weather is good.

The question of why litigation against the insurance company for roof repairs has been stopped was brought up. Pastor Todd said that he was required to submit a summary of the church's actions in the last 22 months to the conference chancellor and bishop. After consulting with the District Superintendent and consulting with attorneys, it is felt the likelihood of success is very poor. Bill Stambaugh suggested that we repair the roof and continue investigating the possibility of litigation.

Submitted by:

Cindy Wallace