

Rush United Methodist Church
Leadership Committee Meeting Notes
April 18, 2020

Present: Tanya Hunt, Geoff Furman, Cindy Wallace, Lynn Lessler, Jim Comstock, Pastor Todd Goddard, Erin Billis, Linda Wanzenried

Absent: Chris Chamot

Meeting called to order by Tonya Hunt and a prayer was said by Pastor Todd.

Discussion of Learning Article sent to us by Pastor Todd:

- Most churches are going on line during the pandemic, which sparked a conversation that it might be because of spiritual curiosity. This led to a review of our RUMC attendance on YouTube and live broadcasts, both of which have increased.

Finance Committee:

- Jim said giving is at least steady while special offerings are up (Africa, PromiseLand Jerusalem Fund)
- Paperwork completed for the small business grant/loan and we are waiting to hear back.
- We're still paying the church's bills!
- Our online giving setup has no place to designate special places: PromiseLand, Jerusalem Fund. Pastor Todd will look into this.
- RUMC holds a significant liability if we lay off any employees. Since years ago a decision was made to not pay unemployment insurance, the church would have to pay 100% of laid off employee's unemployment benefits for 39 weeks. Jim said that he will have the Finance Committee look into this.
- As a fundraiser. Pastor Todd will shave his head if \$5,000 is raised. Half of the money would go to support PromiseLand and the other half to support the church.

Discussion of How COVID-19 is Effecting Our Church:

- There will be no in church attendance until the first Sunday after the lock down has ended if we meet the State's criteria. As of now, Phase I of the state's reopening doesn't allow churches to open.
- Rush Tidings and the Web page provide diversity, variety and frequency to channel information to our congregation.
- Pastor Todd thanks all the people in the church who are sewing masks and asks them to please keep on sewing them. Erin will check with Barb Kingsley to make sure everyone is covered.

SPRC

- Nothing at this time.

Worship

- Pastor Todd recommended tabling the work on results of the Town Hall Meeting until after the pandemic. Agreed to by consensus of the Leadership Committee.
- Bill Darron is developing tools to make volunteers successful in operating the audio/

video equipment for the church. Several people have joined the team.

- The new sound board is very complicated and people have reported audio problems with online viewing. Pastor Todd will check into it.
- Padric Collins will fill in for Pastor Todd on July 5th as Pastor Todd is taking a vacation day.

Building and Grounds

- O'Connell Electric has scheduled our parking lot lighting project for the end of May.
- There is no movement on the roof project. We are still waiting for arbitration to be completed. The pandemic is making it difficult for the involved parties to meet.
- A new web page is being designed by Bill Darron. It should reflect our values after the pandemic.

Mission/Outreach

- This year's Guatemalan trip has been cancelled. Hopefully the mission group will be able to go in 2021. Container ships with supplies are still being sent to Guatemala and the contents will be stored.
- There will be a Special Offering Sunday on which people can support which ever causes they choose. Date to be announced.
- Two fundraising event are being postponed until after the pandemic: the sale of RUMC tee shirts and a sale of handmade woodworked items.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE WILL BE HELD ON
SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2020

Notes submitted by:

Cindy Wallace