

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY – SEPTEMBER 2020

The Leadership Council met for our regular meeting via Zoom teleconference on September 16. A summary of discussions and actions are highlighted below.

Financial Report: The financial report was presented. Pledges are strong; Wider Mission is losing ground. Plate and facilities revenue are down. Casa De Bambini is paying half rent, \$1100/month. This report does not yet take into account the PPP loan of \$45,000 (until it is forgiven) or the \$23,000 from reserves that was included in our planning last fall to balance the 2020 budget. Outreach Committee has been holding off spending their allotted funds for now.

Budget Committee Update: The budget committee is making an initial review of budget numbers. By the end of the month forms will be distributed for committee chairs to work on the next year's budget requests. They will be asked to consider our churches mission and values in the budget requests.

Council Meeting Attendance: There was discussion about church members attending council meetings. In person meetings have always been open to members. Our current teleconferencing meetings have not addressed church member participation. It was agreed that a policy will be written and reviewed at the October meeting.

Conestoga Huts: Peggy Porter, Outreach Committee member, gave a presentation on Conestoga Huts, an inexpensive and durable shelter option for the houseless and requested Council endorse a plan to pursue the concept. The idea is to build two huts with window and locking door, each to fit in a parking space at our church. The cost is approximately \$1000/hut. The hope is that Catholic charities would oversee the vetting of individuals eligible for inhabiting the huts. After discussion, Council voted to endorse the concept.

Our Conference's Wider Mission (OCWM): Conference Leadership has asked what our OCWM contribution to the wider settings of the church will be for 2021. For 2020, we pledged \$12K to OCWM. The conference is asking all members to increase their giving this year. Council endorsed pledging the same amount as last year for now with the intent of increasing the pledge amount if giving exceeds our 2021 budget.

Gratitude & Generosity Team Update: The G&G Team has prepared pledge packets and have delivered them to Council and Staff members. A drive through Blessing/ Pledge Packet Pickup will be held October 4 in the church parking lot.

Marketing Team Update: The Marketing Team has created 3 sub-groups - Design and Graphics; Process; and PR and Social Media.

Safe Return Task Force: The Task Force hosted seven listening circles. The Task Force is in the process of reviewing the listening circle comments and will be providing feedback to the congregation soon.

Ministry Staff Update:

- Pastor Lacey – Wilderness Kits have been made and delivered to all Youth. The first Zoom youth group meeting for the year was held. Peggy Porter is going to lead a book study for adults on “So You Want to Talk About Race”. Lacey and Larell Fineren will lead a safe church session on October 3 for all who work with children and youth.
- Pastor Rachel – Lots of home visits and phone calls. Congregational Life team is offering several opportunities for connection such as game night, bingo, book study, blessing of the animals, wine tasting, soul friends phone calls, and a spirit walk around the church campus.
- Pastor Ben – Leading Kindred group in-person prayerful gatherings and organizing annual performance reviews. Ben has been involved in pastoral care, leading Sunday worship – working out the technology that allows our on-line worship to occur, and training others. Also working with the men’s group about a book study.

Facilities: The repainting of Fellowship Hall is complete.

Worship and Arts: Copies of sermons are being mailed to approximately 20 people each week.

The congregation is invited to discuss these items as well as any other issues, concerns, ideas or appreciations to any of the Council Members. The Council Members are:

Michael Ott – Moderator

Kathy Bell – Council Officer for Personnel

John Henel – Council Officer for Finances

Larry Stallings – Council Officer for Facilities

Joyce Cox – Council Member for Outreach

Larell Fineren – Council Member for Faith Formation

Bobbie Johanson – Council Member for Care and Fellowship

Linda Roa – Council Member for Worship and Arts