

Minutes of the Leadership Council
July 21, 2021

Present: Pastor Ben, Pastor Rachel, Robert Curtis, Tom Terry, John Henel, Kathy Bell, Linda Roa, Joyce Cox, Kathy Matthies, Larell Fineren and Chris Chang Weeks.
Pastor Lacey was absent

Due to the "Shelter in Place" order for protection from the COVID-19 virus, we met online via Zoom.

The meeting was called to order by Moderator, Robert Curtis.
Pastor Ben opened with a prayer.

Bob asked the council members to review and agree the agenda topics and times. This was done and no changes were made, so we proceeded with the meeting.

Check -In & Connect: Bob provided us with the topic "What is something going on in your life?" We broke up into small groups and shared our thoughts.

Approval of Minutes: M/P Kathy Bell to accept the June 16, 2021 minutes.

Financial Report: John reported that we ended June with a positive net result of \$9,593. Local ministry pledges and other gifts are doing well, exceeding 100% of expectations. Wider Mission Pledges continue to come in at 92%. On the good news front, Facilities are picking up. Nursery School is paying full rent and Rotary has started meeting again to mention a couple key items. All Revenue is at 104% of budget. Expenses are right on target at 110% of budget. We also have FICA credits pending.

Anti-Racism Updates: Larell reported that she has been attending a Zoom course put on by JustFaith Ministries called Faith & Racial Healing: Embracing Truth. Her intention is to take some of the articles and videos from the 8 week program and use them in a 3-4 week Zoom discussion group. This program shows how the Christian faith has been tied to the systemic racism we're struggling under and gives encouragement in ways churches can break that relationship now.

Budget Overview: Pastor Ben talked about the Leadership Council's responsibilities as the elected leaders for the stewardship of the church. He went through a timeline of the process that comes before the approval of the yearly budget. Starting next month, each member should start thinking of what their financial priorities are in their areas for the 2022 budget. John has sent out some notes on Church financials and the Council is asked to go over the notes and be ready to discuss them at next month's meeting. The goal is for all to better understand the church's total financial picture.

Debrief Retreat: Bob and Pastor Ben led a discussion about moving forward with all the ideas from the Leadership Retreat. Identifying ideas and topics, and making sure they are handed over to the appropriate group to get started. Some of the topics are:

- Hospitality Committee
- Membership Engagement
- O&A - Education, Pride Parade & Reaching Out and OWL for adults.

LC Decision Making and Proposal Process: Bob and Pastor Ben led a discussion about what our work as a Leadership Council involves:

- What belongs on our agenda?
- How do we make better use of our time?
- What research needs to happen to make a decision?
- Bigger decisions take more info, more people and more time.

The goal is to review and update the decision-making process for LC. There was discussion about working together to be less anxious about making decisions on proposals brought to the Council.

Safe Church Policy: Larell and the committee have presented a tentative Safe Church policy for the Council's approval. There were only a few questions and suggestions by the group. Some of the wording was changed and suggestions for clarification on who will have permission to pick up children after activities. The policy goal is to provide a safe and secure environment for our children, youth and vulnerable adults at The Community Church, and to protect them from sexual, physical, and emotional abuse while participating in Community Church activities. After the feedback from Council, Larell will get the final draft to the Council for a vote to approve at the August meeting.

Highlights or Quick Updates:

- Kathy Bell reported that the Recycle Kiosk project is still in process.
- Kathy Matthies reported that a downsized version of the Apple Pie sale will happen on Aug 14 & 15. The main goal is to see how the new machine for peeling/coring/slicing machine does. The pies will be sold out of MH that weekend. Since Camp Caz has been sold, the destination of the proceeds will be decided at a later date.
- Joyce reported that the Conestoga Huts are on the agenda of the Sebastopol Planning Commission Zoom meeting on Tuesday July 27th at 6:00 pm.
- John reported that the wi-fi configuration has been done and is functioning now with great results.

August Meeting: It was decided that the August meeting will be held in person in the Media room barring any further reinstated virus restrictions.

Kathy Bell closed the meeting with a prayer
The meeting was adjourned by Robert

Respectfully submitted,
Denelle Tognozzi, Clerk