

Leadership Team Meeting Minutes

Ghent UMC May 23, 2021

These minutes are a draft only; they will be submitted for review and approval at the next meeting.

Reports

The following reports were distributed via email to the Leadership team to review prior to the meeting:

- May 19, 2021 Pastor's report
- Two quotes for additional Audio Visual equipment from Voight Enterprises and Sweetwater
- April 11, 2021 Meeting minutes
- April 2021 Spending Plan summary report
- Apr. 31, 2021 Balance sheet
- May 23, 2021 Homeless Task Force report
- May 23, 2021 Open Table report
- May 23, 2021 Missions report
- May 23, 2021 Music report
- May 23, 2021 Preschool report

Call to Order

A Leadership Team meeting of Ghent UMC was held on May 23, 2021 in the sanctuary following the worship service. It was presided over by Gary Bonnewell, with Lisa King serving as recording secretary.

Attendees

Leadership Team

Gary Bonnewell	Melanie Cramer	Russ Evett	Peter Griffin
Faye Joseph	Steve Loomis	Rev. Melody Tanner	

Other present

Nellwyn Beamon	Lisa King	Ann Robertson
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Team members not present

Linda Riennerth	Steve Vegh	Bill Whitehurst
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Devotional and Prayer

Gary Bonnewell shared a brief devotional.

Pastor's Report

Pastor Melody reiterated as in her report that if we accept the Voigt quote, they can come to the church to configure the equipment, whereas Sweetwater only provides the equipment but not the service.

Melody said that after they move, we can feel free to call them with A/V questions.

Melody said that Rev. _____ has offered to help with Pastoral care coverage during Melody's vacation starting June 7. Melody is still trying to find more help.

Lastly, Melody said she will work with Lisa King during the upcoming week to write a guidelines draft to reflect the relaxation of state Covid regulations. The draft will be submitted to the Ghent UMC Post-Covid Reentry Team (PRG) for review as soon as possible.

Melody Tanner then excused herself from the meeting.

Approval of minutes

Approval or disapproval of April 11, 2021 Meeting minutes will be completed at the next Leadership team meeting.

Reports and Old/New Business

Stakeholders Report

- Gary Bonnewell reported that the Stakeholders group which began due to conference grant requirements will continue to meet as an executive committee once our new pastor, Rev. Ryan Schaeffer, is working at Ghent UMC. They will make decisions that need to be made quickly. Long-term decisions will be made by the Leadership team.
- Gary said the stakeholders met with Rev. Ryan and his wife _____. Ryan asked which areas he should help the church with first. The stakeholders gave him the goal of healing in the short-term from the pandemic and any other struggles of faith, and growth of the congregation in the long-term. To reach the goal of healing, Rev. Ryan will touch base with those in the congregation, including those who are homebound. Gary said that Ryan will be contacting the church staff as well. To reach the goal of congregational growth, he will engage with people to encourage them into leadership roles and/or investment outside of Sunday worship.
- Gary said that they asked Rev. Ryan to engage with preschool families by meeting regularly with Ann Robertson, preschool director, beginning in the fall, being present at times for pickups or drop offs, and holding weekly children's chapel.
- Gary reported that Ryan will be working Tuesday through Thursday, and Saturday to Sunday. His days off will be Mondays and Fridays. He will hold office hours approximately twice per week.
- Melanie Cramer reported that _____ will not be asked to do anything, rather she prefers to help when she can with what she is interested in.
- Lastly, it was reported that Rev. Ryan is enthusiastic and easy to talk with.

Messy Church Melanie Cramer reported that we will have a low-key Carnival in July with hot dogs in the parking lot. We will use many of the games that we purchased at the last Carnival. The date will be announced.

Educational Opportunity Faye Joseph reported that she can provide training, along with _____ from the district, to help individuals and congregations to recover from toxicity in the church. She said that our church has a loving culture, but there is a need to sometimes help leaders and laity who have experienced this in other congregations or the district.

Property Steve Loomis said we are working through the list of parsonage repairs.

Finance Peter Griffin reported that we have applied for a second PPP loan. Peter also said that we need to set the budget and pay for the moving expenses of the new pastor. The moving truck may cost \$9,000 to \$11,000. The rate is based on 16,000 pounds of items and use of gas. Packing cartons may cost an additional \$500. A motion was made by Russ to approve the moving budget and expenses of the new pastor per the Virginia Annual Conference guidelines. Faye seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Lastly, Peter reported that the income from use of the building is down.

Mission Faye Joseph said that she is interested in doing a clothing drive during the next year. Also, she said that the homeless task force for Ghent faith communities has grown to 11 churches. After the June meeting, we may

meet every 2-3 months. The task force is watching for God and helping the homeless. Lastly, Faye talked about the food box idea that is in the Mission report.

Music Nellwyn Beamon presented the information from her music report re: the organ. No motions were made to approve the \$10,000 needed for servicing the organ as it was proposed by Gary Bonnewell that we wait until September to make financial decisions of this amount.

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These minutes are respectfully submitted by Lisa King, Recording Secretary.