

Core Leadership Meeting, February 20, 2017

In attendance: Holy Spirit, Katie Olleman, Colleen Olleman, Rich Detering, Linda Detering, Robbin Price, Dorothy Beeman, Jen Hoerber, Patty Ferguson, David Lutz, Janice Zahn, Christian Hampson, Joe Lee, Jean Harris, Steve Rummel

Old Business

Eastgate Men's Shelter: Janice said that some questions had arisen about what federal funding conditions might apply to the living space Imagine Housing is planning above the proposed shelter. It's unclear whether the City understands what funding conditions there might be. The city will be putting out a report on its research on the shelter at the end of this month, and Janice recommends we wait until we know what the city's conclusions are before we send a letter. We agreed to table action on this issue until the report is out and we can respond to it.

Sanctuary Hardware and Software Upgrade: Bill has it all up and running and is now just working on a bit of clean up (getting image files transferred from the old PC, for example). Thank you, Bill Ferguson for your hard work getting this done!

Aldersgate Request for Part-Time Pastor, Associate Pastor & Youth Support Person: Brad has been investigating the possibility the District Superintendent suggested of our sharing an associate pastor with Kennydale Methodist. Brad has some concerns and will be talking to the District Superintendent about them. We can't take any action until after their conversation, so we tabled this item until next month.

Homelessness Task Force: Janice is looking for someone to co-chair this group with her. She'll be checking in with the list of people who expressed interest in this group last fall.

Faith Action Network: It was unclear if someone was doing the paperwork involved in getting Aldersgate officially listed as a church organization member (as opposed to an individual member) of FAN. Dorothy said she thought Brad was doing it; Janice offered to help him if he needs anything.

Janice also has a connection with Ronald UMC, which is doing some great outreach with their Ronald Commons. Among other things, they've developed road signs in multiple languages that say, "Whoever you are, you're welcome here." She suggested that we might want some signs for Aldersgate.

Deborah Circle has been collecting supplies to donate to Ronald's mission efforts.

Second Service Music Director: Hanae (pronounced Hahnah) has accepted the position of Second Service Music Director and will start at Chancel Choir rehearsal this Wednesday. Dorothy relayed Brad's message that this is a perfect example of One Board Governance: a small group searched for candidates and interviewed

Hanae, who was then interviewed by the choir and Brad. Then Core Leadership gave their approval by email consensus.

Pam Johnson who has been acting as our interim bell director was formally offered the position last December and started as the official bell director in January. Patty pointed out that this was not generally known, and that it should be. David offered to get something in the newsletter about both hires this week, and we will plan to formally welcome them in church on the first Sunday in March (since next Sunday is Camp Sunday). It was suggested that they be invited to come a bit early on that Sunday, so that they can be introduced at the end of the first service as well as during second service. (And someone mentioned cake. I don't know who makes cake happen. Do we have a cake fairy?)

One Board Governance: The plan is to explain One Board Governance at the March Common Table, but it was immediately clear that Core Leadership is still not sure what this structure would look like at Aldersgate. Frustration was expressed over how current committees, including Trustees and Staff Parish Relations, would be affected by the change. After some lively discussion about the challenges we face, Joe, Robbin, and Christian volunteered to take Brad's description from prior discussions and turn it into a concrete organizational chart tailored to our needs. It will list different general duties associated with different groups and will clarify what decisions would need to be brought to Core Leadership for approval and what decisions could be handled by other groups. The goal is to have a draft of this document ready for the rest of Core Leadership to consider by March 5, with the hope of presenting it to the congregation at Common Table on March 13.

Action Item (Joe, Robbin, and Christian): *One-Board Governance organization chart will be created and sent to the rest of CL by March 5 for comment and edits.*

New Business

Retreat SMART Goals & their Measures: Joe encouraged us to keep measurable goals in mind as we move forward. How will we measure our success with numbers that matter? Someone mentioned that Sunday school attendance is increasing, and that we might consider putting this in the newsletter. Colleen pointed out that churches used to publish Sunday school attendance in their bulletins every week. Everything old is new again.

Katie asked if we could publish a list of Core Leadership members with the minutes each month. I will attach the list along with these minutes. Christian suggested setting up an alias for Core Leadership on our website. It was suggested that I could ask Adam Stuenkel or Bill Ferguson about how to do this, and I will look into it.

Mission Sunday Task Force: There are several things to consider for Mission Sunday on April 23: finding a variety of mission opportunities to offer, having enough indoor alternatives in case of rain, getting t-shirts made and ordered for those who want them, promoting the event, deciding if food will be provided, and creating the following week's return and celebration. Jen and Christian will work on

developing the list of missions, with help from Jean and Janice, and Joe and Robbin will work on getting t-shirts made. Colleen and Patty will work on the April 30th celebration.

Volunteer Appreciation Sunday: Jen suggested we postpone Volunteer Appreciation Sunday until September, when things are not as hectic as they are in June. Everyone agreed that we would do this.

Common Table: Colleen asked if we are planning to bring back the meal as part of Common Table, and we all agreed that this was a good idea, especially if we want to make it easier for folks to come on a weeknight. Colleen and Patty plan to offer a soup supper, and Dorothy offered to help if they need it. Joe and Brad will moderate the event. The next Common Table will be on Monday, March 13, with dinner at 5:30 and the meeting at 6:30. Joe will send a draft announcement to Core Leadership within the next few days and it will then go out to the congregation. On the agenda will be One-Board Governance, Mission Sunday, and any issues members of the congregation choose to submit.

Stewardship Drive: Brad needs four people to speak during the four weeks of our Stewardship drive in March. Let Brad know if you are willing.

Bulletin Change: Since it was getting late, and we have several things happening at the moment, we tabled this for a later meeting.

Car Donation: Christian's offer to donate a car to the church was tabled until the trustees could discuss it.

Reconciling Congregation: We tabled this due to lack of time, but Joe asks that we pray about it. Patty will share some information she has from Queer Theology, and Joe will send a survey.

At this point, we closed the meeting and Jean led us in prayer.

Next Meetings: Common Table (5:30 dinner, 6:30 meeting), Monday, March 13
Core Leadership, 7:00 pm, Monday, March 20

Summary of Action Items:

Joe, Christian, and Robbin will work on a One-Governance organizational chart, presenting it to the rest of Core Leadership by March 5 for edits and comments.

Joe and Robbin will work on getting T-shirts lined up for Mission Sunday. Jen and Christian will work on developing a list of mission opportunities, with input from Jean and Janice. Colleen and Patty will work on the celebration to be held the following week.

These minutes humbly submitted by Robbin Price. Errors and omissions are mine, and corrections are welcome.