

# Stewardship Meeting

2/6/19 at 7pm

Attended: Jim Phillips, Steve Briggs, Melinda Lilley, Pastor Laura (Absent: Joe Lee, Hal Prow)

- I. Change of Fiscal Year
  - A. Reasons for changing from calendar year happened
    1. More consistent with preschool
    2. Different schedule for fundraising
  - B. If we propose moving back, we'd have a 6 month campaign in spring and a 12 month campaign in fall.
    1. Last time we did a 6 month campaign we didn't do stewardship moments in worship
    2. End of year reports are such a challenge and people get very confused.
- II. Budget process
  - A. Budget is made with pledges
  - B. Identified giving is up but also some pledged have been paid in full early
  - C. We may need to do some education around what pledges mean and how they affect the church program.
    1. They affect what we do and how we do it.
    2. Testimonials are important, but recently the numbers haven't been mentioned in the testimonials.
    3. Some people don't have a sense of how big the budget is, how many pledging units there are, what the min and max pledges are, to meet our budget, the average pledge has to be this much, broken down by age group, possibly.
    4. Whether to do this education piece in spring or in fall is a question.
    5. Electronic givers still need to do a pledge card, whether or not increase in giving amount, and giver needs to update the automatic withdrawal.
      - a. Melinda will check with Wendi on whether Breeze offers benefits over VANCO moving forward
      - b. Could be about transaction fees or monthly fee for housing webpage
  - D. Budget requested from committee chairs- do it big picture and ask for two numbers and some goals by March 31.
    1. One for July-December 2019
    2. One for January -December 2020
    3. What are the upcoming goals over the next several years? Where have we fallen short in recent years? What are your hopes?
    4. Melinda will send email that she used to request these to Jim so he can edit and send out. She will also send Jim the spreadsheet for keeping track.
    5. Jim will add Geri Martinsen and Peter Narmita and Dave Sanford and Jill Swanson to last year's list, removing Marie and Colleen.
- III. Brainstorming – ideas to use in spring and/or fall
  - A. Testimonies
    1. In email with prayer, what church means to them, how they give back, with picture of family,

- a. gets other people involved that don't speak in church
      - b. separate email, not regular weekly one
    - 2. In worship
  - B. Capitol Campaign
    - 1. e.g. Pay off mortgage
    - 2. e.g. Repair roof
    - 3. Kitchen loan- we still need to pay off \$16,000
      - a. Jim's Gift a Hood campaign at Christmas did result in a few new gifts
      - b. Can we not put the kitchen on the pledge card? Can we use the building fund reserve to pay the rest of the kitchen? There is \$46,000 there and that would require about a third of what is there. This would allow us to emphasize other things more that would potentially inspire more giving. This would also allow Wendi not to try to reconcile old Kitchen pledges with new ones.
      - c. Jim will talk to Rich Detering about the possibility of "writing it off" and paying off the loan with money from holding account.
      - d. We also may want to talk to CLT about designating any roll-over at year end to replenish the building holding account.
  - C. Tying in with sermon series- in May the sermon series would be Uprising
    - 1. Explain what the funds are used for
    - 2. Focus on mission work
    - 3. What is the church doing?
  - D. Mailings
    - 1. Letter
    - 2. Graphics
  - E. Would be nice to even do a three-year plan with committee chairs
  - F. Look at pledging at current rates for 6 months, then increasing for the following 12 months.
  - G. Deferred maintenance
    - 1. Sprinkler system
    - 2. Internet connectivity
    - 3. Fire alarm system that only dials 7 digit numbers and needs to be upgraded
- IV. Plan to put before CLT on 2/11
- A. Letter to congregation explaining change of fiscal year immediately after CLT makes decision. Letter to be distributed in enews and bulletin starting 2/14, ideally.
    - 1. Transition from July-June to Jan-Dec fiscal year and why we are switching back
      - a. Hasn't worked out as well as anticipated
      - b. To address confusion
      - c. We're doing this for you
    - 2. Two drives coming up: one in May, one in October
    - 3. Melinda will write the letter, then sign it from The Stewardship Committee and list our names (Jim, Steve, Melinda, Laura, Hal, and Joe).
  - B. Mini-Stewardship April 28-May 19
    - 1. Theme: Identity- Who are we? (going along with identity theme in Brad's uprising series)

2. Celebration Sunday 5/19 before Memorial Day
  3. Stewardship letter- goes out around May 3 with pledge cards
    - a. Pastor hand write note on letter with top 20-25 givers
    - b. Personalized notes on letters to others by others from stewardship, not the pastor
    - c. Fun stamp or sticker on outside of envelopes (faces or eyes or "the future")?
    - d. Who is writing the letter? Who is inspired?
  - C. Regular finance updates June-October with some or all of these:
    1. Monthly stewardship moments in worship
    2. Newsletter "Did you know?"
      - a. Utility average monthly
      - b. Water bill
      - c. Youth project will cost...
    3. We won't keep asking for more all the time
    4. Weekly giving numbers in bulletin
    5. enews ytd giving and expenditures
  - D. Full Stewardship October Theme: Identity- Who are we becoming?
- V. When to meet again?
- A. Jim and Hal will get together in the next few days.
  - B. We'll all meet together on March 10 at noon at church.
  - C. Melinda will send a reminder.