

Core Leadership Minutes, October 15, 2018

In Attendance: Melinda Lilley, Jean Harris, Linda Detering, Rich Detering, Peter Narmita, Jim Phillips, Jen Hoerber, Patty Ferguson, Laura Baumgartner, Robbin Price, Dorothy Beeman

Brad and Joe were unable to attend tonight, so Rich led the meeting and helped keep us on track. Thanks, Rich!

As we were checking in, Linda reported on the success of the rummage sale. We made around \$2000.00, which is significantly less than last year, but we didn't have as many big, expensive items as last year, or as much stuff generally. The Newport High School Wrestling Team helped haul leftovers to Goodwill. Thank you wrestlers! And kudos to Linda and the many folks who helped with this large and labor-intensive event.

At this point, Laura opened the meeting with prayer.

Update on Key Personnel: The search for the 2nd service Music Director is ongoing. We've interviewed two candidates and have two more to interview. (NOTE: Make that one more, since after the meeting I found an email from one who had gotten another position.—R] We will give two finalists a chance to work with the choir and meet with the pastoral staff. We hope to have a new person in place by December 1, to allow him or her to prepare to start at the beginning of January.

We have one applicant for the Facilities Manager position so far. That search is also continuing.

The change in Laura's appointment from half time to quarter time is now official. She is still tying up some loose ends that are taking a bit of extra time. She expects her schedule will settle down over the next couple of weeks.

New Printer/Copier: The new printer/copier is to be delivered tomorrow (October 16). Peter will be working with staff to make sure that every computer connects to the new machine, including the computer in the sanctuary.

Kitchen Fundraiser on November 3: Melinda is working hard to get the word out about this event, and Peter and Malia are getting everything organized. Cooking demonstrations will start with a mocktail session in the narthex, followed by demonstrations of appetizers, pasta, a veal or eggplant dish, and Italian piecaken (which I suspect will need to be seen to be believed). Those who pay for the premium seats at the event will get to taste all the goodies (reserve your spot now, folks!). Malia will be selling Pampered Chef cooking supplies and is donating her commission to the church.

For those who can't attend, Melinda will send out a link to purchase Pampered Chef products online; it will be possible to purchase online and have part of the money go to the church.

Our thanks to Malia, Peter, and Melinda for all their work on this. Not only will it make some money to help pay off the kitchen, but it will make use of our lovely kitchen and make folks aware of the need to pay it off, which we expect to do by next spring.

Jim suggested that everyone can come get new pots and pans, and then save their old ones for the rummage sale next year. An excellent plan!

Finance Report: We all welcomed Jim Phillips who is now acting as the Finance Team Leader on Core Leadership. (Melinda will be officially starting her new position as Communications Leader in January.)

Jim sent out an email with our September budget report, which included numbers for July through September, our first quarter. Since we have a new financial secretary, we're in an adjustment period as Jim and Melinda help Jill learn the ropes of church finance. They're all working hard to make sure everything is clear and accurate; if anyone sees anything that doesn't look right, let Jim know.

Jim also said that numbers are available for July and August individually. If anyone needs to see these figures, Jim is happy to provide them.

Tech Team Status: Dave Sanford and Peter Narmita are working on improving the technology at the church to better serve our needs. We're moving from using our server, which isn't terribly secure, to a cloud-based Google platform specific to Aldersgate. Peter has built an admin site that Core Leadership can use to access documents we need while keeping those documents secure. (I call it the Leadership Cloud.) Instead of downloading documents and emailing them to people, we can now share links to the documents we need that will only work for those with permission to see those documents. This also has the advantage that we can access those documents from any device with an internet connection. Peter will provide more information on this as we go along. We'll be allowed to share calendars, too, if we need to.

Wendi and Peter will be acting as administrators of the church's information (Keepers of the Cloud), and will be able to give permissions to folks as need arises. Rich asked if we could disconnect permissions when someone leaves a leadership position, and Peter said, yes. We all thanked Peter for his hard work on this.

Sue McGrath Leadership Retreat: The retreat is now officially scheduled for Saturday, January 19. We will be sharing the church with SUMYT that day. It was suggested that the retreat meet in Room 22, freeing up the rest of the church for SUMYT. There were questions about sharing the kitchen for lunch, and it was

suggested that the retreat participants could order in sandwiches, while SUMYT used the kitchen. We decided that we shouldn't have any problem sharing the space.

And Speaking of Retreats... We reviewed the ideas that came out of last March's retreat, and talked about what progress we have made on the three areas we felt were our focus: Cultivating a Culture of Inclusion, Fellowship and Discipleship, and Faith with Feet We agreed that we do many things that fit into each category, some of them long-standing commitments, a few that are new.

It was suggested that we post the three categories and the lists we made for each in March on our new Leadership Cloud. This would allow us to reflect on them and comment on where we've made progress, where we still want to improve, and how we are balancing our three priorities. It was also suggested that we post the three priorities at Core Leadership meetings, so that they are part of our thinking as we make decisions.

Peter pointed out that the stewardship moments last spring were powerful, and it might be inspirational to have more congregation faith moments during the holiday season. It was also suggested that the congregation might not be aware of all the groups in the church and what they're accomplishing, such as the Green Team or the CRC.

Someone asked how much next February's Way Forward decision will affect our church. There was some disagreement about this. It was pointed out that depending on what decision is made, there might not be an immediate practical impact, but there is likely to be an emotional one. It was pointed out that we can't really predict how things will unfold.

Someone asked how we as church leaders should prepare for the February decision. It was recommended that we continue showing up at church events to show our support. The following valuable events are coming up:

October 22, 7pm The Way Forward Info Meeting. Find out more about the decision being made in February.

November 3, CRC panel discussion.

Jean also mentioned Kristi's Faces of Felons program on Thursday, October 18, which she encourages all to attend.

It was recommended that we be eyes and ears for people. We need to listen to folks with empathy, and stay accurately informed so that we can share good information when asked. We may also discover actions to take in January at our retreat.

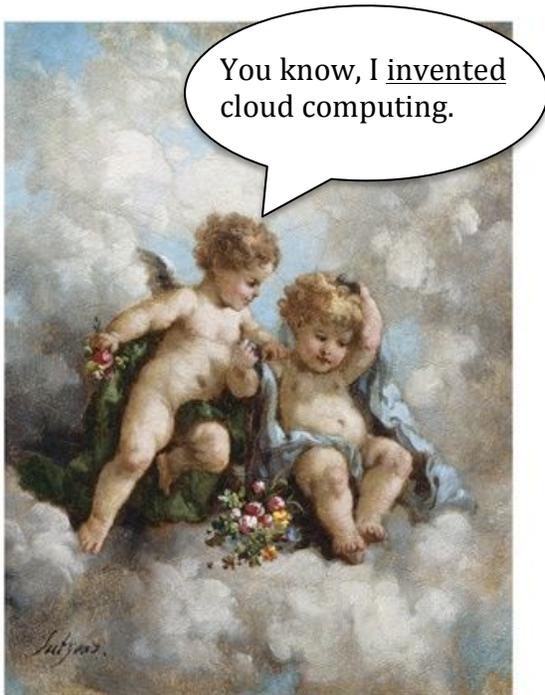
Parenting Forum: Laura said that the parenting event at Bellevue First on Saturday, October 20, has changed. Instead of an all day event for parents, it will be a morning

event to which everyone is invited. There will be two terrific speakers, Dr. Ivan Duran, Superintendent of the Bellevue School District, who will talk about his personal faith journey, and Imam Jamal Rahman, who will talk about the spiritual practices that have helped him in his life. Laura highly recommends the event for anyone who is able to come.

At this point, we joined hands and prayerfully shared words from the meeting that resonated with us. May those words and God's blessings stay with us until we meet again.

These minutes respectfully submitted by Robbin Price. All mistakes and omissions are mine, and corrections are gratefully and cheerfully accepted.

Next Meeting: Monday, November 19, 7pm.



Cherubs in the Clouds by Charles Lutyens
<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/210543351300249116/>