

The First Church of Christ "Old North" in Marblehead, Inc.

Minutes of the Leadership Board – August 19, 2021

Old North Church Vision Statement

Old North Church is an inclusive Christian Community called to bring to life God's Love and grace by sharing the gospel for this time and place; extending the hospitality Christ showed; embodying God's love and compassion to those in need; and growing together in our understanding and experience of the Holy Spirit at work in our midst.

Leadership Board

The Leadership Board shall set polity and facilitate the execution of congregational priorities for the church. It shepherds the ongoing visioning process and makes decisions and takes action within the stated vision and approved budget that are outside the scope of a single ministry. It listens with faith and facilitates communications and coordination within and between ministries, the entire congregation and the wider community. It conducts ongoing strategic planning for the church. It may task ad hoc teams with specific action in support of its responsibilities. Sub Committees: PPR, Nominating.

The meeting was called to order via ZOOM by Betsey Halbert at 7pm. Attending were: Dennis Calhoun, Lindsay Popperson, Janet Doyle, Betsey Halbert, Maria van Kalken, Meg Arbo, Karen Kilty, Blair Lord and Nicole Guerin (guest) Lindsay led us in an opening prayer. The July minutes were accepted as submitted.

Blair Lord presented a financial report that held no surprises at the half way point of the year. Currently we are right on track with the budget in part due to the PPP funds received for a second time.

We are going forward with potential planning for a capital campaign by having Jill White, our regional congregational church consultant, here on September 27 – 29 interviewing various people. Dennis, Betsey, Karen, Maria and Lindsay will choose representing the different facets of our congregation. She will then meet with the Leadership Board on Wednesday, September 29th to give us her opinion as to whether this would be a good time for a capital campaign based on interest she garnered from her interviews. If we choose to go forward it would most likely be a 14 week campaign lead by a leadership team. Names were suggested for this leadership team of people with campaign/financial backgrounds and Dennis and Lindsay will follow up to see if there would be strong group to carry this campaign to fruition.

There was an ongoing discussion surrounding the regathering in the sanctuary. A meeting was held the first week in August with several doctors who are members of our congregation. The main point was that the virus has taken a different direction with the Delta variant. The peak could be at the end of September here based on countries that have already peaked. Last year we were able to meet outdoors until the second week of November. The possibility of meeting in person in the sanctuary in masks while social distancing was discussed. There are still a lot of issues to have decisions made for before we are ready to meet in person. There needs to be clear and concise signage of protocol we want followed. Sunday September 12th is the first Sunday we are thinking of gathering in the sanctuary, masks on, windows open, no singing and socially distanced. Currently we are planning on continuing the 8am service at the lighthouse until the weather dictates otherwise.

Lindsay Popperson will be contacting people who might form an ad hoc audio visual subcommittee to see where we should/could take the UTube/live streaming services going forward.

Under new business, Christine Arren fell recently and severely injured her ankle. She is home from rehab but not very happy. We all wish her a complete recovery.

The Leadership Board will meet on Thursday September 9th for our regular meeting.

The Leadership Board will also meet on Wednesday September 29th with Jill White.

Dennis closed our meeting with a prayer. With no further business, we adjourned at 8:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Doyle, Clerk