

MUMC LEADERSHIP BOARD MINUTES
VIDEOCONFERENCE MAY 17, 2020, 4 – 6 P.M.
Secretary: Barb

ATTENDANCE: Andy Brian, Jim Peich, Stephanie Lendt, Phil Estes, Mike Clement, Jeff Haupt, Chuck Healy, Susanne Mertens, Tara Sintek, Joe Strohm, Barb Zenser, Beth Hunyar

- Devotional /prayer (Joe)
- Concerns: Difficult decision of cancellation of Youth activities, prayers for Kevin's healing, prayers in support of local businesses
- Minutes were approved as amended.

CHURCH IN PANDEMIC (ANDY)

Andy and MUMC staff have been working on the Pandemic Plan for Ministry and Mission. This overview's link was published in the Tuesday and Friday eblasts to the congregants.

It will also be added to the website. Andy and the staff will continue to revise this plan as needed. The decisions will be based on data and the overriding question "What's the right thing to do?" Safety will be the priority.

Phase 2 Not everything will go to PHASE 2 at the same time. Protocol may vacillate back and forth between phases as needed. We will probably be in Phase 2 for the foreseeable future until trends turn downward. Phase 4 will implement total accessibility to building but is not anticipated until fall or beyond.

The good news is that we have all discovered that Church doesn't rely on being together. We have learned to connect in other ways through ONLINE ministry, etc. As a result, we will need to reevaluate our metrics for determining church success/fruitfulness. The Leadership Board emphasized that the more information that can be shared with the congregation, the better it is for the church. An active participation of and communication with lay people is important for the way forward.

Also, Andy and the board discussed networking with those congregations in Jefferson Co who are opening buildings. However, churches with smaller congregations are not comparable to MUMC's situation.

Generosity: (See FINANCE UPDATE report)

Congregational Care: (See PASTORAL CARE below)

Ministries: Ministries are continuing across the board to be creative in engaging folks. There will be themed opportunities and curriculum. Coordination for unified announcements for VBS and Youth is ongoing. WIN teams are engaged and re-evaluating metrics for goals and turning focus to visioning for future.

SPRC UPDATE (JOE & ANDY)

The staff was dismissed while Andy presented his responses on the SPRC Evaluation. He left and the board discussed his responses. Upon conclusion, Andy returned to the meeting, and Joe, as chair of Staff Parish, shared the board's conclusions. The board agreed with all of Andy's report. A minor adjustment suggested for the section on Goals of Next Year was to prioritize the pandemic plan first, then salary equity for the staff and thirdly, the conference issues. Also, the board acknowledged that Andy has established an excellent working relationship with the staff. Therefore, the board recommended he now focus on consulting and involving the Leadership Board and lay leaders into the decision-making processes. The leadership board had a resounding endorsement to the Superintendent to keep Andy at Manchester UMC. The staff returned for the rest of the meeting.

FINANCE UPDATE (CHUCK & PHIL)

Chuck reported that as of April, revenues and expenses align. Pledges are at 46% of commitments so MUMC is tracking ahead. However, it is important to keep in mind that some members have paid their pledges early. Also, there are concerns regarding the impending economy and how a downturn will impact our future revenues.

Phil shared copies of the financial reports. He noted that the operation contributions are ahead of last year, but not the growth we need. MUMC finances are covered for the next two months. However, without the SBA Loan, we currently would be having difficulties meeting obligations. The finance team did due diligence to make sure that MUMC qualified for the grant/loan application. They are confident that MUMC's expenditures will qualify for total forgiveness of a significant portion of monies or have a very low interest charge of 1 %.

Generosity Campaign: Due to the above report and possible short fall, an early Generosity Campaign is a possibility. A generous donor has made an offer of seed money for such a campaign.

Endowment fund:

The funds include \$11,000 for trustee use and \$11,000 for programming

Proposals:

- a) automatic faucets in bathrooms, etc. for disease control,
- b) improvement of media equipment for Fellowship Hall to benefit social distancing
- c) repairs to flat roof over the administration building (See below in TRUSTEE UPDATE)

TRUSTEE UPDATE (TARA & PHIL)

Phil discussed the Trustee portion of the endowment distribution to the Leadership Board, \$11,027 plus \$7,888, could go toward the repair of the flat roof over the administration building. Current low bid for such repair is \$18,000 so no additional funds would be needed.

PROGRAM UPDATE (JIM)

Jim reported the following information about programs, ministry and missions:

- Able to donate hundreds of Food 4 Kids items to Parkway School District
- Able to fund 1 week of food for LifeWise. 1,100 people fed in the Peabody neighborhood.
- Coordinated announcements of VBS, Youth and Preschool summer cancellations. All are planning alternate and creative non-contact programming.
- 9 people took the vows of membership this afternoon via Zoom and we will be sharing that during worship.
- Continuing to offer small group curriculum based on sermons. Groups continuing to meet online using zoom.
- Had a heartwarming send off for Lori Borger as a staff. Recounted her roles since she started 25+ years ago, read letters we wrote and then mailed them.
- Phil Estes and Jim are partnering on protocols for staff in order to comply with St. Louis County orders as well as best practices from other churches and organizations.
 - Mike Clement stated that MUMC is partnering with City of Manchester for a food drive to benefit Circle of Concern
 - MUMC continues to deliver toilet paper as it continues its commitment to Circle of Concern
 - Tuition for last quarter's Circle of Friends' was returned to families. Approximately 33% choose to donate the money to the program.

PASTORAL CARE (STEPAHNIE)

Stephanie reported that usually the Visitation Care Team personally visited 40 to 60 people, but now they are making contacts via phone calls. The majority of these pastoral care volunteers are former or current Stephen Ministry team members.

Stephanie also expressed concern for the homebound members so she is going to initiate calls to homebound church members also. Becky suggested that Stephanie contact the social services of the various senior/nursing facilities to see how MUMC could connect with their residing MUMC members.

JUNE AND JULY MEETING TOPICS:

DETERMINE LB LEADERS FOR 2021 (MIKE)

Also, be thinking of additional topics and needs for the June and July meetings.

Stephanie closed us in prayer

Meeting adjourned at 6:17 pm.

Next meeting: Sunday, June 14 (Secretary-Joe; Opening-Tara)