

**Dixboro UMC Leadership Council Meeting Notes
From Thursday, November 7, 7:00 to 8:30 PM**

In Attendance:

Reverend Cathy, Pastor Jeanne, Reverend Mary, Barbara Scheffer, Kenn Scheffer, Charles Engle, Mary Turfe, Brent Howlett, Jayne Worthy-Howlett, Harold Tuckett, Mary Ellen Miller, Marilyn Pobanz, Randy Hucks, Patty Burns, and Carl Johns

Missing:

Youth member as Garret has left for Michigan State and a new youth has not yet joined.

Opening Prayer – Randy Hucks led us in prayer of thanksgiving and request for guidance and protection.

Approval of Minutes of September 17, 2019

- Corrections: Jayne and Patty were missing from the missing list at 9/17/19 meeting.

Business:

- 1. Feedback on annual Church Conference held at Friendship UMC in Canton, October 20, 2019**
 - a. All written materials presented were approved with the correction to Rev. Hagley's compensation for attending Michigan Annual Conference. See Finance report.**

Randy approved the correction and Rev. Mary needs to fill out paper work.
 - b. Recommended new configuration of Leadership Council. (see handout)**
 - c. Consider alternative methods of notifications of Leadership (Council) Team meetings so all members of congregation able to attend as they wish. They are not voting members but can be heard in discussions.**
 - d. Need to remind all members of congregation that all Leadership Council members, as well as rest of church team leaders are nominated and voted approved at the annual Church Conference. All congregation members invited to Church Conference and have opportunity to vote. This should be put in minutes as one way of reminding congregation.**

Rev. Mary- The book they are using was recommended by VCI, but VCI did not approve of the configuration.

Pastor Jeanne- Idea is to keep the group small.– idea is to streamline the process of making decisions. VCI providing suggestions and a model to think about, we do not have to change the group.

Harold – the Book of Discipline requires one member from each group, plus other ministries. Harold wants more ministry focus and vision. Emphasis is on two committees that are important but not visionary.

Pastor Jeanne –Rev Cathy – Need to be more visioning and high level as opposed to minutia. Having fewer people and fewer meetings would be good.

Rev Mary – How do we fit into the vision, all parts have a place. Review chapter 7 of simple governance and think about it.

Pastor Jeanne – Governance board: if something needs doing a task force is created to solve problem and then dissolved when not needed. For ex ample, a small group was formed to plan and implement the Bishop potluck. The council should function at high level to plan the future – not talk about fixing the water softener.

Barb – there is concern about altering a functioning group and the recommendations may not solve the problem. Table the concern for now and think about how we can be effective. Meetings can be structured with limitations on time and discussions.

Admin board meetings of the past could be long and too detailed.

Patty Burns – suggests that when needed committees meet to discuss joint issues.

Pastor Jeanne - Homework – chapter 7 – read about it, pray about it, look at VCI – we do not have to be the same as everyone else. Who do we want to be?

We can adapt instead of adopt.

Membership of this council - We were all nominated and approved at a church conference in order to be here.

2. Trustee's Report-Kenn Water testing

Issue of excess coliform bacteria in the water, last time Tom Knutilla took water there was excess coliform bacteria in the water. The water softener resin is contaminated, the well is clean. Ken got three quotes - one recommended an ozone system, county does not want ozone system. Second quote American aqua – whole new system plus UV - \$8,297 dollars. Colligan – they are going to replace resin and add a UV light for \$2,200. Carl and Kenn took last three tests and they passed using water that had not gone through the tanks. UV lamp is expensive and needs replacement – testing should be easier - \$200 for lamp every 6 months to a year.

3. Finance Report- Randy

a. Change in budget to fix amount to Rev. Hagley for attending Annual Conference- completed

b. Budget updates provided

Randy –. We are waiting for end of year checks to pay for apportionments and missions as usual. We have paid out 5k out of 7k for missions. Our revenue is 2/3 of what it should be with only a few weeks left in the year. Apportionments 23-24k to the nationwide or worldwide church.

Pastor Jeanne – Budget – we quit calling it a budget instead call it ministry.

c. Request from the Senior Luncheon planners for a budget item. Requesting \$500. Will submit a proposal with rationale.

Senior luncheon needs a budget as they have been paying out of their own pockets. Suggested using some of the Nurture Team money. Wait for their proposal and then make a decision. Perhaps a special collection or fund raising event could help here.

d. Stewardship plans- Jeanne, Mary, Randy

Email should have come and / or mail to people containing the commitment card. We are doing “ Earn, Save, Give” sermon focus starting this Sunday 11/10/2019. Rev Mary - We are going through Mail Chimp for the email blasts (it is free) so messages might look different as they come through everyone's email.

Randy does not have to make pancakes because there is a potluck.

Barb - Choir fund raising is needed to buy music. Memorial fund used to pay for music. There is a music budget – but intern money has been over spent. Zach's intern wants to have a bowling night and silent auction of baskets. SPRC is meeting with Zach to discuss.

Christmas plans!

Question has come up - when are the services? One at 6 and one at 8? – what does it entail. Who comes to the services? Twenty musicians perform at both. Attendance of 70 at one and 80 at the other and 20 performers – so 130 people. Do we want two services or one service?

Dwindling numbers of attendees has been catalyst for change.

Nativity on Christmas Eve – Pastor Jeanne uses adults and children in her nativity.

Church capacity 140 people fit comfortably – 170 is upper limit.

Decision to move to one service at 7 pm. Noted that the non-church folks tend to the 11 o'clock service. Mary Ellen suggests some form of advertising service to travelers or Easter/Christmas Christians.

4. Planning for upcoming year:

a. Next activities with VCI

i. Vision setting dates (Saturday, Nov. 2, 9:30 – 12:00; and Sunday, Nov. 24, 12:00 -2:30, 2019

ii. Goal setting date: January 18, 2020 9:30 – noon.

iii. Updates on VCI work- Harold

b. Recommendations regarding future of “CHIMES”

Natalie was doing this and she is busy. The last chimes was just information. Pastor J – thinks just send to Kathleen to send out. Patty- we have a facebook page that can be used to disseminate information. Rev Mary putting scripture out on facebook and folks like it. We are under-utilizing social media.

Harold thinks newsletter is important for church shopping and staying in touch.

Pastor Jeanne – thinks information can be on website.

Barb – need a website team or coordinator to help communicate.

Natalie – great job on the newsletters! Randy thinks Ian Little would be good but he is in college. Need skills such as marketing and communication – perhaps an intern. Put this on agenda for next meeting – see how it fits in with our developing vision.

c. Status of adding websites to keep abreast of the “Way Forward” activities in Michigan?

Looking into additional websites

d. Plans for “Getting To Know You” events in homes in fall. Joint planning with SPRC-Handout-Barbara

Draft of getting to know you events – Beck Horvath – 10 people lined up for 7 to 8:30, and then Dec 4 with Patty Burns and Dec 10 with Patty Fagner. Move into next year to bring in more folks – Barb using the directory to pull in more people than just those who signed up.

5. Agenda for next meeting, January 9, 2020:

6. Closing reading/prayer-

Mary Turfe – closing prayer – Thanksgiving, asking for forgiveness and help from the Holy Spirit to guide and sustain us.