

Dixboro UMC Leadership Council Meeting
Tuesday September 17, 2019 7:00 – 8:00 pm in parish parlor

In Attendance:

Barbara Scheffer, Kenn Scheffer, Charles Engle,
Mary Turfe, Brent Howlett, Carl Johns, Harold Tuckett,
Reverend Mary, Mary Ellen Miller

Not present:
Marilyn Pobanz
Kathy Freeman
Garret has left for Michigan State
Pastor Jeanne
Randy Hucks

Meeting Notes:

Opening prayer led by Rev. Mary invoking God's gifts for clarity of mind and guidance for focusing and discerning his will.

Minutes from July 25, 2019 meeting approved

Business

1. Mary Ellen Miller introduced as a new secretary.
2. Dates for future meetings were determined based on schedules of those present:
 - a. Nov. 7, 2019
 - b. Jan. 9, 2020
 - c. Mar 5, 2020
 - d. Apr 9, 2020
 - e. June 4, 2020
3. Discuss important deadlines for Leadership Council
 - a. Vote on 9/29/19 for clergy salaries at 11:30-11:45 in the parlor, the community is welcome to attend in order to listen. Only Leadership Council members vote.
 - b. Church conference on 10/20/19 at the Canton Friendship at 2 pm. (In bulletin) Barb needs to fill out forms for the 2019 profile of the church. Kathleen wants the forms by Oct 1. District superintendent will meet with churches at one location rather than traveling as our District is large with many churches.
 - c. In December a vote on staff compensation for Zach Belsky, Tammy Bargo, Penny Wheeler and Kathleen Hucks will occur.
4. Kenn's trustee report
 - a. Parsonage maintenance - caught up for the time being. There is always more work including:
 - i. dry wall in basement
 - ii. electrical work in basement
 - iii. basement flooring, and
 - iv. exterior siding washing
 - b. Church maintenance:
 - i. cleaning is needed
 - ii. Water testing volunteer needed to collect and transport water samples to the county water lab on Zeeb road on a quarterly basis.
 - iii. Annual inspection by county health department
 - iv. VCI recommendations have a lot of potential for future planning– replace windows, paint the 1949 addition, clean entrances (Carol Burnet cleaned one), new signs would be nice to improve hospitality.
 - v. Carl got a quote to paint school house, Kenn's contact did not put in a quote
 - c. DIVAs are planning to clean the woman's restrooms and update the décor! Would be nice to improve accessibility of bathrooms for the disabled.
 - d. Carpets and Rugs need repair/replacement in some areas. Youth room has some spare new carpet squares that could be used. Rev. Mary loves new rugs at the north and east entrances.
5. Finance report news
 - a. Randy is not here so Barb shared financial information from the Finance Committee meeting on 9/15

- b. Church is in the black, but only week to week
 - c. Apportionments will be sent at end of year as usual.
 - d. Summer is slow for collection plates
 - e. General fund currently has \$800
 - f. November will include stewardship sermons and letter to congregation re: pledges
 - g. Roberta King suggested in the Finance mtg idea of replacing collection plates with pot in the Narthex for folks to drop off offering before the service
 - h. \$5,000 needed for upcoming expenses. This amount will be borrowed from trustees and returned when funds available.
6. Planning for upcoming year
- a. Pastor meeting the congregation in "Getting to know you" meetings that will be hosted in parishioner homes for ~6-8 people. There will be signups – paper and electronic
 - b. Keep people "in the loop" - People like meeting notes and feedback
 - i. Semi-annual town hall meetings
 - 1. Plan for a town hall meeting after a Sunday service to let people know what is going on.
 - ii. Quarterly Chimes articles
 - c. Next activities for VCI
 - i. Harold reports on upcoming Visioning Workshop on Saturday September 21, 2019. Discuss alternative language – Congregational Vibrancy may be a better term. Discussion at the end of meeting suggested snacks for visioning workshops.
 - d. Website to communicate "Way Forward" activities and news
 - i. Rev. Mary has plans to add links to website to help interested individuals be updated.
 - ii. MI connect, highlight stories from MI United Methodist Church
 - e. Barb reports that Roberta King has noted a growing number of senior parishioners requiring assistance. Parish nurse would be nice, but no funds for such a position at the moment. A nurture committee could take on this task and provide assistance such as meals (perhaps DIVA casseroles) would be helpful.
 - f. Holiday Event – December 14, 2019!
 - i. Christmas tree lighting on the green
 - ii. Santa in the school house (General store santa possible) and DUMW (with lots of help) Cookie walk in the church fellowship hall
 - g. Heritage District Conference on October 12, 2019 from 10-3 pm at Marshall UMC
 - i. Church 20/20 workshops
 - ii. Rev Mary working on checking in and will be there
 - iii. Key note by Bishop Baird
 - iv. Share ideas with community churches
 - v. Include a URL in bulletin
 - h. Lay servants news from Harold: Tues evenings Pastor Jeanne and Harold will host a lay servants class from 6-8 pm on preaching
 - i. Committee Membership list needs to be obtained from Kathleen and terms are for 3 years.
7. Specific Agenda items for November 7, 2019 meeting include:
- a. Harold updating on visioning workshops.
 - b. Brent will talk about the church conference
 - c. Supporting stewardship, there will be sermons on 11/10 and 11/17 with consecration (pledges) on the 24th.
8. Mary T leads closing prayer of praise and request for God's presence and blessings as we begin a new Fall season.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ellen Miller