

Joint Ministry Leadership Team Meeting August 6, 2013 6:30 – 8:30pm

Present: Jill McBee (chair), Roger Blashfield, Donna Fitch, Bob White, Jean Sheppard, Sharon Pantely, Cindy Murahashi, Pastor Andy Wendle, Mari Matthias (recorder)

Absent: George Pantely

Observers: Vicki Wartalski, Rose Miller, Dottie Gilbertson, Randy Church, Melody Church

Jill convened meeting at 6:35. Bob led a devotion about joy.

FOLLOW UP TO PREVIOUS MEETING

Approved the minutes of previous meeting (7/18).

Handling of offerings: Donna reported that the two counting teams met and designed a better process. Procedure will be written out before 1st of Sept.

Governance Workshop: 38 people attended. Jill acknowledged coordination of the workshop, ie invitations, food, etc. JMLT members reflected on content – that a governing structure should be flat and simple, be structured around Responsibility, Authority and Accountability, and should promote innovation instead of blame and shame. And that people can “vote with their feet.”

STATE OF THE CHURCH AND JMLT FUNCTIONING:

1. When Andy leaves on 8/18, we will have pulpit preachers for a few weeks, then a Lutheran interim pastor by mid Sept who will likely stay until end of June 2014. At that point a Methodist pastor will be appointed with some form of congregational input/approval.
2. Currently arranged JMLT meeting dates: Thursdays 8/22, 9/5, 9/19
Proposed additional dates: Thursdays 10/3, 10/10, 10/17, 10/24, Tues 10/29
Potlucks: Wed 10/9, Sun 10/13

CONTINUING THE STEPS ON OUR PROCESS MAP

How We Will Work Together (Covenant of Communications): Brief statement of how we are going to behave in meetings and expectations of behavior for any event such as town halls. Cindy and Donna prepared a list of ideas. We discussed, edited and adopted. Cindy will get final copy to Andy Wade for the record book in the office. This will be published in the newsletter and bulletin on Sunday 8/11.

Joint Ministry Leadership Team Statement on Communication- DRAFT-In faithful witness to God's unfailing and unending love we are accountable to our expectations for each other. We will show loving as we:

Pray regularly for each other

Pray regularly for our fruitfulness

Attend meetings unless ill or have an unavoidable conflict.

The Lord watch between you & me when we are absent from one another. Genesis 31:49

Be learning as we

Participate in each meeting by openly sharing honest thoughts, questions, and insights.

Share in the tasks set forth to our Leadership Team and complete specific tasks assigned.

Recognize we are all responsible for success.

For it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for God's good pleasure. Philippians 2:13

Considerately living as we

Recognize everyone is trying his/her best to help this church serve God faithfully and well.

Confront behaviors perceived as non-productive, disruptive, or destructive without dishonoring anyone.

Speak using "I statements", ask questions to clarify understanding and check assumptions.

Remember - understanding is more important than fixing.

As you have read, the Lord himself will go before you, God will not leave you or forget you. Do not be afraid and do not worry. Deuteronomy 31:8

We are servants of God and stewards of God's Holy Church. In the hands of each other we are in the hands of God.

What We Believe (Guiding Principles and Convictions): One God, One humanity, One mission. Jill presented a draft, we all discussed, edited and adopted it. She will get the final to Andy Wade for publication: newsletter and bulletin 8/11, as well as record book in office.

Principles and Convictions of your Joint Ministry Leadership Team

The JMLT was appointed to produce a Covenant of Union embracing common fundamental beliefs in God, humanity and mission. We are striving to create a governance structure that empowers innovation so our church may grow in Christian mission. We accept the responsibility, authority, and accountability of this task. We seek to celebrate the traditions and principles of our two uniting churches. We believe all worshipping members of our congregation are in ministry and are bound to seek and accept their individual callings and in so doing, are supportive of this joint venture. We believe we are the fingertips of God and must reach out beyond ourselves.

Homework: Jill gave all a copy of the structure description of McMinnville Cooperative Ministries. We are all to review it before next meeting and come w/notes and additions. A place to start.

CURRENT CHURCH BUSINESS

Tasks for SPRC (Staff Parish Relations Committee): Farewells and welcoming – Cindy will ask them to arrange a sending for Pastor Andy and his family on 8/18, including a potluck dinner. She will also task them with the care of the interim pastoral preaching and the care of our office staff. They will address these issues at their meeting next week.

Financial accountability and practices until the CU is in place: The financial situation will be fluctuating over the next few months and possibly a few years. Therefore we can't get worried about budgets, but do need to keep careful records and follow procedures.

State of committees/ministries: Worship Service committee raised a question about the coffee hour organization. It isn't clear who is responsible. This has always been a problem and especially during this period of transition. In the past Jennifer has made a sign-up sheet and it gets passed around. We suggested it function the same way and that if no one signs up, then we don't have it. Dottie suggested that we delegate needs to the council chairs, Vicki and Gigi. A list of currently functioning committees were received.

Forming a Nominations Committee: At workshop Steve Ross talked about strengthening the lay by having an elected body whose mission would be to follow up on matching ministries with persons called/willing to serve. There is a need to form this committee immediately, before we will be done with crafting the Covenant of Union as the congregation will at that point need to elect its council members. It was raised that a job description would be needed before tasking people on this. Perhaps call it Development of Leadership or something else. We made it a goal to have members of this group arranged by end of October and training arranged for them.

Other urgent needs:

1. Visitors, visitation – who is responsible for this during this transition time? Sharon suggested Myrin to spearhead as he is strong at approaching and welcoming visitors. She will talk with him about forming a team willing to pick up this ministry.
2. Pastor Andy raised concern of recently joined members. They often leave if pastor leaves. Donna will get list of recently joined members and task each member to contact a member or family for some kind of small group fellowship situation/individual contacts.
3. Fish coordination – Linden has been doing this for both Asbury and ORLC, which means two weeks a month. It also requires attending some FISH meetings. She has August arranged. Melody Church volunteered to assume this liaison job between our congregation & FISH. Sharon directed her to talk to Betty Yenne. Also to call Linden and go to distribution times next week. She agreed.
4. Facilities minister – Craig Terry currently oversees facilities issues, repair, lawn mowing etc.
5. For accountability, Roger suggested we ask for reports from facilities, financials, SPCS, etc. Perhaps invite Craig for a report of current state of affairs. Vicki stated Craig has reported that everything is working and well cared for at this time. Jean raised concern with the financial deficit and incorrect statements. Has not had an active stewardship team in past ten years. Cindy will ask people to bring reports to the 9/19 meeting.

Next meeting will be 8/22. Jill will be absent and Cindy will chair. Donna stated appreciation to Pastor Andy for his leadership, affirmed by all. Bob ended with prayer.

Adjourned at 8:40pm.