

Joint Ministry Leadership Team Meeting September 5, 2013 6:30 – 8:30 pm

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

Absent:

Observers: Vicki Wartalski, Rose Miller, Dottie Gilbertson, Betty Yenne, Cindy Morris, Rick McBee

Jill convened meeting at 6:35pm. Jill shared a ponderance on New Wine Skins and Minding the Gap. Betty Shalhope spoke about the visual art ministry. This aspect of worship is designed to help us bridge the gap and provide continuity as we move between pastors. Cost is almost \$5k, there is a possibility of a mission grant that would need to be in by end of December.

Reviewed the Communication Statement together, reminding us how we talk to each other.

FOLLOW UP TO PREVIOUS MEETING

- Approved the minutes of previous meeting (8/22).
- Finance – Will receive reports at next meeting. Microphone has been purchased.
- Roger reported on SPPC – Pulpit in Sept
- Counting – Donna said drop box is being installed and counting process is in place.
- Men’s Retreat – Roger reported he is leading men’s retreat talking about Paul.
- Issue of people needing rides to services on Sunday mornings. This will be taken on by the men’s group.

JMLT FUNCTIONS

- Expenses –Give Donna receipts if you have expenses.
- Future meetings:
 - Sept 19 focusing on finance
 - Oct 5 (tentative date) meeting to be called by Steve Ross/new pastor to meet with JMLT (closed) - Draft should be completed, reviewed and approved.
 - Oct 10 brief meeting to process info from the 10/9 listening session
 - Oct 17 brief meeting to process info from the 10/13 listening session
 - Oct 24 JMLT complete the perfected federation document
 - Oct 29 (Tues) JMLT meet with Steve at 7 pm following the Asbury Charge Conference 5 pm
- Audrey has asked that JMLT write letter to congregation to encourage continued participation in the wake of Pastor Andy leaving. Jean also asked that letter include invitation for all to attend/participate in the open JMLT meetings. The team agreed to have Jill draft a letter to the congregation.
- UPCOMING EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS
 - “Learn About Lutherans” with Bishop Dave Wed Sept 11 @ 6.30 pm
 - “Meet the Methodists” with Rev. Steve Ross Wed Sept 18 @ 6.30 pm

Jill has plans to take both speakers to dinner beforehand. Will ask speakers where they’d like to present, sanctuary or fellowship hall.

Still to do – announcements in church, encourage attendance – We eight will split up the directory and call to invite, offer rides. Refreshments? Depends on where it will be. Jill will advise. JMLT attendance commitments: most can attend both. Roy will videotape

OUR CHURCH NAME

Name tells who you are and what you're mission is. A name can be a point of unity moving forward. Roger noticed that most uniting congregations use a new name. We could continue using LAMP, a suggestion from a new member is Potter's Wheel. Also The Garden was suggested. The subtitle to the new name may contain the words Lutheran and Methodist to help explain our origin. We plan to present a name to the congregation together with the draft. We can talk to members about identity and mission.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE/TASK FORCE

By end of Sept we need to appoint 3-5 people as a task force to search for candidates for our next JMLT which will take over immediately when the covenant of union is passed on Nov 17. Who should these task force people be? (denomination, ministry, present responsibilities, senior members') We need a task force of people that will research the best candidates, and encourage them to answer the call to serve. The Nominations Task Force has one function and short time frame. By the time they are appointed we will have our governance structure in place and they will know what kind of people they are looking for. **Homework – come next meeting with specific persons to suggest.**

COVENANT WRITING

Per previous dialogue of Jill with Steve Ross and Jean with Sue Kintner, we are to write a document to tell how decisions are to be made for mission and ministry in our church. We call it what we want: Covenant of Union or By-laws of our Union or Federation Agreement, Whatever. By-laws ARE a covenant and until we are incorporated (when money and property are melded) that's all we need. Both congregations voted to unify as one new congregation, not two parallel but separate congregations so this is our directive.

Governance first: Roger provided a working draft of by-laws drawing from many of our examples. Lots of discussion. We chose to use the Straits doc as a template. In reviewing governance section, we revised and reorganized into three committees (finance, pastor/parish relations and nominating/leadership development) with elected positions and five missions (worship/music, education, buildings/grounds, hospitality, mission) and a task force for short term needs as they arise, none of whom are elected. Revised Membership section. Jean will put it together for further review before next meeting.

Next meeting is scheduled for Thurs Sept 19th – we will start with financial section. We will try to add a closed informal meeting with Steve Ross on Wednesday the 18th. There is some conflict with dates. Jill will contact us with further scheduling.

Jill adjourned meeting at 8:45pm.
