

Leadership Group Minutes
December 6, 2022 @ 7:00pm at AMC

Present: Cheryl Shreiner, Stephen Lowe, Ben Good-Elliott, Ben Sywulka, Scott Coulter, Sandy Fribley, Leon Bauman, Anna Yoder Schlabach, Karl Shelly, Eric Yordy, Randy Roth, Becky Overholt (minute-taker)

Absent: Sara Morris (excused)

1. Opening: Randy read an opening written by Sara Morris
2. November 1, 2022 LG meeting minutes – approved as submitted
3. November 20, 2022 Congregational meeting minutes - approved as amended

Discussion/Action

4. Nov. 20 Congregational meeting follow up

-Elder Selection changes: Discussed feedback from congregation. Overall, positive feedback. The feedback was also reviewed by the small group reps meeting. LG decided to change the use of “lot” to a “random draw.” Small groups will process the proposal with instructions to send to Randy or Karl by the end of the year. Then that will be brought back to LG in January.

-Masking policy: Discussed congregational feedback doc. PT has been discussing ways to intentionally include those on Zoom in the worship service. LG discussed several ideas as well. Discussion on having a section that requires masking? Continue to listen to how other congregations are handling this. Scott will send out a one question poll whether having an area designated for masking would feel safer or a good option. Ben GE recommended posting something on Facebook “Third hour” for those who aren’t on the listserv.

5. Next Congregational Meeting – Dec 18 during 2nd hour

-GCMS proposal

-Elder selection process change, second reading

(PT recommends the elder selection proposal be tabled until after small groups discuss)

6. Treasurer’s Report & Discussion of Financial information sharing.

In LG minutes? More often in the A-Line?

Offerings are behind expenditures at this point for the year. We need \$78,000 in the offering to meet the spending plan by the end of the year.

Pledges: the number of people pledging is down. The average pledge size is up significantly.

We are over the “80% of the budget” in pledges. Recommend putting a blurb that we are aware that not everyone was able to increase their pledge. Refer congregants who are feeling financial stress that there is a member’s need fund and a financial advisor at Everence available.

Discussed what financial information needs to be included? Maybe add one more Assemblyline announcement in July.

Addendum: Use of space for fundraiser: LG approved Alma Boyle having a fundraiser from the yoga class with all proceeds going to Center for Healing & Hope and First Light Mission.

7. Pastor-Congregation Review Recommendations

-Are Standing committees necessary for Karl and Scott? It was noted that Karl & Scott have a different relationship with the congregation than Anna & Lora. Assigning them a committee doesn’t necessarily make sense for them in order to continue their work. PT is making more

effort to be visible on Sunday mornings.

-Leadership Group Review (Role & Structure). In January, Scott, Randy, Sara will meet with Ben Sywulka to get feedback from him. Also may do some type of review at the LG retreat in March.

Information/Reporting

8. GCMS Sponsorship update. Scott summarized the GCMS sponsorship proposal. This proposal will be brought to the Dec congregational meeting.

9. Accessibility Audit update: Scott will form a group at the beginning of the year.

10. Sacred Listening update: What is the conference going to do with the information? CDC responded there may be articles written in publications, or story telling; they are looking for themes

11. Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery update: There will be a worship series in Jan/Feb. DDoD has been helping with resources for that. 22 people have expressed interest in this ministry team.

12. Elders Check In

* Tending Healthy Pastor-Congregation Relations webinar report (Randy, Sara, Scott)
Randy encouraged the elders to watch it. Randy may use it somehow in future LG meetings.

*Is there a handbook for small groups that explains the importance of pastoral care in small groups like births, deaths, transitions, member needs? How do needs get met with a congregation this large?

*Maybe a men's group to discuss Dismantling the Patriarchy. Leon has been researching and brainstorming with others about starting a group.

13. Pastors' Reporting

14. Prayer for the Congregation (Scott)

Next Congregational Meeting: Sunday, December 18, 2022 at 11am (Second Hour)

Next Leadership Group Meeting: Tuesday, January 3, 2023 at 7pm

Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm

Approved by Leadership Group 1/3/23