

Congregational Meeting 06-05-22 (via Zoom)

Agenda

1. Opening (Jodi Beyeler, Facilitator) Opened with a quote from Cole Arthur Riley's book *This Here Flesh*.

Discernment

2. Presentation of Congregational Pastoral Review (CPR Committee – Lois Kaufmann) – Handout: [Executive Summary](#)

- o The purpose of the review was to reflect on the strengths and to listen for concerns. We also reflect on ourselves and how we are doing as a congregation.
- o Work was structured based on the work of the previous review in 2015. We adapted questions to reflect the unique time period of Covid. Of note, all the feedback & survey happened during the time when we were not meeting in person, so it's a definite reflection of that time period.
- o In responses we were looking for affirmations, concerns & wonderings. Definition of concerns vs wonderings: A concern is something that "rose to the top" d/t being mentioned multiple times. The wonderings were worth putting into writing, but they weren't mentioned multiple times.
- o Recommendations will be left in the hands of the LG. There are some recommendations for the congregation as well. Those are on the final page of the report.
- o Questions? None.
- o Responses:
 - Someone commented that our current model of multiple pastors doesn't always work well for churches, but our pastors are willing to collaborate, and the congregation is very supportive of this model.
 - One person expressed thanks to the committee for their good work and the honesty of the report. This report will help point us in the direction of where we are going as a congregation.
 - Several others voiced their agreement.
 - Randy Roth thanked the committee for the work & many hours put into this Committee & review process.

3. First Reading of Reparations Proposal (Karl Shelly, for the Reparations Task Force) - Handouts: [Proposal](#); [FAQ](#)

- o Karl read the proposal out loud. The FAQ document was developed out of people's questions.
- o Open question time about the proposal. Clarifying questions?
 - Someone voiced some concerns re: the future of the 2% fund. Concerned that we are pitting two good things against each other. Karl responded: The attempt is not to "not do one and do the other"

instead.” The intent of the proposal is to continue with 2% giving and move it into being part of the budget.

- One person expressed concerns about being able to meet the budget if all of 2% is added, considering that right now we have a mortgage that isn't paid off. Do we have what it takes? Where is the money going to come from?
- One person asked, “What happens if we do a third basket instead? Was that considered?”
- Another person wondered if the organizations that traditionally benefited from the 2% fund would be listed as line items in the budget? Karl responded that there are a variety of ways this could be done. The proposal does not try to spell that out.
- One person wondered if the task force considered reparations needed outside of the U.S?
- Someone asked for clarification on the Solidarity Ministry Team that was mentioned in Section V. Karl responded that the proposal does not cover advocacy work, only restitutorial payments. A Solidarity Ministry Team is an example of how advocacy work could be done alongside reparations.

Then attendees were put into breakout rooms to discuss 2 questions:

1. What is your response to the proposal?
2. What kinds of changes would make this better?

A [Google doc](#) was made available to record comments from breakout groups..

4. Affirmation of Slate of Committees & Positions Fall 2022 (Naomi Chapman, outgoing chair of Leader Selection Committee) - Handout: [Committees & Positions 2022-2023](#), [LG Learning Observer Job Description](#)

- o Naomi expressed gratitude for the experience of being on the committee and working with those on the committee. Scott introduced the LG Learning Observer Job Description. He explained this came about because Small group Crisalida encouraged Ben Sywulka to learn from LG group. In return, he could provide some feedback based on all his years of consulting work. This could be a mutually beneficial relationship. This would be one way to receive some outside input that was recommended in the pastoral review. Jodi noted that on the Committees & Positions slate: the dark red areas are yet to be finalized, the turquoise are new roles, bright pink is the LG Learning observer role.
- o Questions? None.
- o Jodi invited us to affirm the individuals who have said yes to these roles.

5. [2021 State of the Congregation Report](#) (Leadership Group – Leon Bauman)

- o The chat was opened so that all could comment and reflect on the year, if they wished.
- o Leon summarized the congregational report.

6. Closing Prayer: Scott Coulter (Pastor)

7. Meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm.

Minutes submitted by Becky Overholt