

10/26/17 Minutes -- Strategic Leadership Council

St. John United Church of Christ, Bellevue KY

Meeting duration: 5:40 pm – 8:00 pm

Attending: Steve Howes (chair), Lonnie Fields, Pastor Keith Haithcock, Alan Imberg, Ginnie Kelley, Dale Sexton (interim Treasurer)

Absent: Theo Baldwin

Prayer and Preparation

Steve Howes provided a meditation. All read the St. John Vision and Mission and the SLC Goals statement (from Charter documents):

Strategic Leadership Council Goals... *In the spirit of the above Vision and Mission statements and in order to transform St. John United Church of Christ into a vital, fully alive mission outpost - receptive to the Word of God, moved to action by the Holy Spirit and living the commission of our savior Jesus Christ - the **Strategic Leadership Council** (SLC) establishes the following agenda...*

Consensus Items Approved:

- September Minutes (Ginnie motions to approve; Lonnie seconds; motions carries)
- Agenda for the month with addition of cutting the pews and chair in accessible lobby. (Lonnie motions approve, Ginnie seconds; motion carries)

Replacement Treasurer Search

- MOTION: Steve makes a motion to appoint Dale Sexton as interim treasurer as a voting member until a full time Treasurer is secured. (Ginnie seconds; motion passes)

Administrator's computer replacement

- MOTION: Lonnie moves to increase the amount for a replacement computer (approved for \$500 last SLC meeting) to \$600, due to cost over-run. Discussion ensues about power of computer vs that of Pastor's. Seconded by Dale. Motion passes.

Offering Counting: Change in Procedure

- Mary Ann, Financial Secretary, requested that SLC pass a motion to give clear direction on the composition of the Offering Counting Teams. This change was strongly recommended by Dan Henning, the CPA who has been providing input on our financial procedures.
- MOTION: Lonnie moved, Second by Ginnie, motion carries:
 - As recommended by a CPA reviewing our financial procedures and role, it is important both for the protection of our counters and church, that members of each Offering Counting Team must not be related or from the same household to each other. The SLC directs the Financial Secretary to incorporate this change in the 2018 Offering Counter Schedule.
- ACTION: Steve will meet with Mary Ann to draft or renew the procedures and policy for offering counting.

Chair in accessible lobby

- MOTION: Dale moves to accept gift from Pastor Keith Haithcock; Lonnie seconds; Motion passes

Cutting of Pews

- MOTION: Dale moves to allow us to cut the five pews currently in the fellowship into shorter pews for increased flexibility and mobility (short enough to be transported in the elevator). Discussion ensues. Keith suggests surplus racks/items for future use. Ginnie seconds; motion passes

Pastor's Report

- Debbie Cummings will be on medical leave for approx. 3 months; Linda Schuster will fill in.
- Youth Advisory Board minutes sent by email 24 Oct.
- St John's UCC's (Newport) interim pastor reached out to discuss the Illumination Youth Group and the previous pastor's decision to pull out of this ministry. Steve Howes, Tim Smith, Melissa Stephens, and Sandy Kerlin will accompany Keith to meet with St. John's interim pastor and members.

- Diane Cottingham asked to share with SLC that if air conditioning is not installed in the volunteer's office by next year, she will not be able to volunteer.
- Newcomer's Open House will be held on Tuesday, November 14, 7-9pm at the Pastor's home.

Cub Scout Update

- 12 children are in the troop as of time of writing.
- Troop began meeting 26 October, and will meet every other Thursday.

Financial Reports

- Dale S. presented the Treasurer's Report. Error found in "Current Running Balance". ACTION: Report to be tabled and Dale will send out report and make motion "online".
- Discussion on investment funds and Fall Cabaret fundraiser event.
- Review of income vs MMAP (Mission Ministry Action Plan / Budget) and Stewardship. – Steve Howes led discussion
 - 17/18 pledges currently at \$129,124 (49 pledges) vs \$143,986 (54) in 16/17
 - 16/17 actual income was \$175 thousand
 - After 3 months we are averaging 92% of 16/17 income (projecting to \$160 thousand)
 - MMAP income budget for 17/18 was \$183 thousand, \$8 thousand more than 16/17 actual income
 - MMAP spending budget is \$203 thousand, \$20 thousand more than MMAP budgeted income
 - Based on current income rate we are \$30 thousand to \$40 thousand gap vs. spending

SLC Decisions:

- What is the right message to the congregation?
- What are the recommendations of the SLC?
- How do we grow income in line with spending?
- Are there adjustments the spending planning for 17/18?
- Continuing to live with the gap is a short term option but we need real actions that close the gap?
- What is the message and process to communicate to membership?

MOTION to adjourn by Dale, second by Bill, all approve. Pastor Keith led a closing prayer.

Next meeting is Thursday, November 30 at 5:30pm. Meditation: Ginnie.