

**CARLISLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**LEADERSHIP COUNCIL**  
**December 18, 2017**  
**OPEN SESSION MINUTES**

Our Mission: “Inviting all to become disciples of Jesus Christ serving Carlisle and beyond.”

Present: Jeff Barnes, Christina Benson, Jeff Boley, Ron Chipriano, Debbi Goeltsch, Mira Hewlett, Kerm Leitner, Stephanie Peffer and Bill Yufer. Absent: Tracy Sands and Jim VanZandt. Guests: Wayne Henderson, John Seaton, Roger Woods, and Marian Gible (Recording Secretary).

I. The meeting was called to order at 6:16pm by Kerm Leitner, chair.

II. Devotions and opening prayer were led by Pastor Mira.

III. Moments with Pastor Mira:

- A. The church had a busy month. The “Silent Night Worship Service” went well with 39 attending.
- B. Christmas Eve schedule includes 5 services:
  - 1. 4:00pm Communion in the Sanctuary
  - 2. 5:30pm Family Service in the Sanctuary
  - 3. 7:00pm Contemporary Service in the MPR
  - 4. 7:00pm Service at Claremont
  - 5. 10:00pm Candlelight Service in the Sanctuary
- C. Pastor Mira thanked Kathy Charette for being a big help in finalizing the 2018 budget.

IV. Announcements

- A. Today’s Executive Session Action:
  - 1. Following a motion by Jeff Barnes and a second by Bill Yufer, the Leadership Council unanimously approved the Building Committee’s recommendation for Phase I of the building program.
  - 2. Following the recommendation by Kerm Leitner and a second by Ron Chipriano, the Leadership Council unanimously approved the resolution to allocate the 2018 housing allowance to Reverend Mira Hewlett.
  - 3. Following the recommendation by Kerm Leitner and a second by Ron Chipriano, the Leadership Council unanimously approved the standard pastor’s cable, internet and cell phone services for Reverend James VanZandt and Reverend Mira Hewlett for 2018.
  - 4. Pastor Mira made a presentation on Religious Fund Raising based on her courses.
- B. Kerm commended Pastor Jim and Pastor Mira in advance for their decision to conduct all regular morning services on Christmas Eve morning and maintain all of our Christmas Eve services in the evening. That’s seven services between 8:15am and 11:00pm led by Pastors Jim and Mira. A number of churches in the area have cut back on either the morning services or the evening services or both. Let’s keep them in prayer this week.
- C. Last week Kerm wrote a thank-you note to a couple who had made a generous donation of \$100 to each of this year’s 11 alternative gifts areas. They honored the Leadership Council and the pastors with this gift for the third consecutive year.

- D. Several months ago, Charles Reynolds requested to start a prayer ministry at Samaritan Fellowship. Initially, the request was rejected by the Samaritan Fellowship's Board. On December 2, the proposal was revisited and approved a trial period of eight weeks to offer this prayer ministry to those who come to Samaritan Fellowship seeking help.
- E. Kerm has asked Pastor Mira to conduct devotions at the January 15 Leadership Council meeting using an activity which was done with the very first Leadership Council.
- F. The Building Committee will conduct an Information Session on January 14 at 9:45am in the Sanctuary and 11:00am in the MPR.
- G. Kerm thanked Bill Yufer and Tracy Sands (in absentia) for their service to Leadership Council with their terms expiring on December 31.

#### V. Financial Report

- A. Kathy Charette, Jeff Harpel and Kevin Stafford met earlier in the day to review the most up-to-date budget figures for 2017. A real unknown for CUMC is having Christmas Eve on a Sunday and what affect that will have on our 2017 receipts.
- B. Following a motion by Kerm Leitner and a second by Jeff Barnes, the Leadership Council unanimously approved the Finance Team's recommendation to pay up to \$28,951 additionally towards our Shares of Ministry for 2017, when our operating revenue exceeds operating expenses by \$6,000 at the end of year. We will retain \$6,000 in our operating budget to pay any additional bills that have not been received by December 31, 2017.

#### VI. Old Business

- A. During the temporary license suspension, LLLC has been diligently training their staff.
- B. The money thought to be repaid by the State to LLLC will not happen, as that grant money runs out in February. Therefore, LLLC has decided not to tap into the McCullough Fund, and the LLLC staff has been notified of this.
- C. The staff Christmas party was very nice, and Kerm received many good comments. The 2018 Christmas party will be scheduled for either December 1 or 8.
- D. Following a motion by Kerm Leitner and a second by Ron Chipriano, the Leadership Council unanimously approved the following new church van drivers: Christina Benson, Cheryl Hale and Brandon Kerschner.

#### VII. New Business

- A. Following a motion by Kerm Leitner and a second by Jeff Barnes, the Leadership Council unanimously approved two changes to the Harassment Policy in the Employee Policy Manual.
- B. Jeff Barnes nominated Kerm Leitner for chairperson, Ron Chipriano for vice-chair, and Wayne Henderson for secretary. The election of officers will occur at the January 15, 2018 meeting.
- C. Guidelines need to be established for appointing a vacant Leadership Council seat. Kerm appointed a committee consisting of Jeff Barnes, Kerm Leitner and Ron Chipriano to meet and bring back to the Leadership Council guidelines for vacancies.
- D. The Personnel Manual needs to be updated. Kerm Leitner appointed Stephanie Peffer, Wayne Henderson and Kerm Leitner to bring recommended changes to the Leadership Council. Bill Bunt and Gary Ankabrandt have offered to help update the manual beginning in January.

#### VIII. Around the Table

- A. Jeff Boley noted that Rich Charette will be retiring in the spring and recommended the Leadership Council begin thinking about getting a replacement.

- B. Chris Benson announced the Winter/Spring GROW Adult classes are ready and will be in the December 31 bulletin. Online signups are available. Pastors Jim and Mira will be conducting four Lent options.
- C. Bill Yufer thanked everyone at this his last Leadership Council meeting and noted he gave his SERVE book to Ron Chipriano.
- D. Stephanie Peffer thanked everyone for allowing her children to stay in the room during tonight's meeting.
- E. Ron Chipriano reported Members-To-Members has had only two businesses sign up. Ron encouraged people to sign up for this.

IX. Open Session adjourned at 7:08pm with prayer by Pastor Mira.

**Next Meeting: Monday, January 15, 2018 – Executive Session, 5:00pm and Open Session at approximately 5:45pm.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Marian Gibble, Recording Secretary