

**CARLISLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
LEADERSHIP COUNCIL
March 19, 2018
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, Wayne Henderson, Mira Hewlett, Kerm Leitner, Stephanie Peffer, Jim VanZandt and Roger Woods. Absent: None. Guests: John Seaton and Marian Gibble (Recording Secretary).

- I. The meeting was called to order at 5:55pm by Kerm Leitner, chair.
- II. Devotions were led by Stephanie Peffer during the Executive Session.
- III. Moments with the Pastors:
 - A. Pastor Jim:
 1. Holy Week is coming up with lots planned. Everything is moving forward.
 - B. Pastor Mira:
 1. Cards were made available for Leadership Council to thank those helping in their pillars and also to the members of the Building Committee and the Digital Organ Select Committee.
 2. Following a motion by Jeff Barnes and a second by Ron Chipriano, the Leadership Council unanimously approved adding the following persons to the church’s list of certified van drivers: (a) Heather Weiser, (b) Pam Reynolds and (c) Dave Hatch.
 3. Plans are continuing with mission trips: Florida in April and Puerto Rico in June. VIM has signed up 8 people who have never participated in mission trips before.
- IV. Announcements:
 - A. During the Executive Session of today’s meeting, we received many excellent reports from Jeff Barnes regarding progress of the Building Committee, updates from Pastor Mira regarding the Capital Campaign and G.I.V.E., and updates from Stephanie Peffer regarding personnel.
 - B. Kerm Leitner thanked Gary and Vonnie Heishman for storing rent-free the former Allison Church’s Mohler organ and Walker digital upgrades since the church was sold to Dickinson College. Jeff Barnes noted that the Heishmans have also agreed to store rent-free office furniture recently purchased from a Harrisburg law firm until the Spring Garden Campus facility has been completed. This will be stored at the former Book of the Month Club facility. The Heishmans will be receiving a letter from the Leadership Council.
 - C. Kerm Leitner thanked Jeff and Sue Barnes for again providing CUMC rent-free their property at 801 Belvedere Street for uses by various groups at what we now call the CUMC Annex. The Barnes’ will also be receiving a letter from the Leadership Council.
 - D. Kerm Leitner thanked Pastor Jim for freeing up Pastor Mira so that Kerm and Mira could function as co-directors of the Little Lights Learning Center (LLLC) following the resignation of the acting director and until the arrival on March 19 of the new director Natasha Yearsley. They were co-directors for a period of three weeks. Natasha and her husband, David, and their

two children have been attending CUMC, and she's been singing in the 8:15 choir since January.

V. Financial Report, Wayne Henderson reporting

- A. Wayne distributed financial reports for February and noted giving was \$4,667 under budget.
- B. Wayne also noted attendance was down during February.

VI. Old Business

- A. Following a motion by Stephanie Peffer and a second by Wayne Henderson, the Leadership Council approved several revisions to the CUMC Personnel Manual with the effective date of March 19, 2018 (retroactive to January 1, 2018).
- B. A month ago LLLC had no director, no acting director and no assistant director. Following those resignations, several teachers also resigned, and we lost several students. Pastor Mira and Kerm Leitner agreed to assume the leadership role in place of those positions. During that time they hired a committed director, Natasha Yearsley, who is a member of our church. To date, they are still looking for one full-time and one part-time position. Pastor Mira and Kerm made a number of administrative changes and created the new position of administrative assistant held by Linda Rohm. Pastor Mira encouraged the Leadership Council members to speak to and encourage LLLC teachers and Natasha.
- C. Kerm Leitner reported at the Church Hall Meeting on February 11 that there are two homeless camps on our property at SGC. Kerm and the Carlisle Police have since visited the camps and served both camps with trespass notices. The first camp was more primitive and was cluttered with litter. At the second camp, the homeless campers had more substantial structures, with tents and opened boxes used as patios. The campers were duly notified by Corporal VanVolkenburg (with body cameras to record the notifications) to remove themselves from the premises within 10 days, subject to arrest if they stayed after 10 days.
- D. A vote by CUMC members on the final budget of the new building at SGC will be taken on May 13, 2018. Leadership Council will conduct the vote by giving each member a ballot with a Yes or No response at the end of each worship service. Stephanie reviewed the process and distributed to the Leadership Council members' assignments for conducting the vote.

VII. New Business

- A. On June 3 Leadership Council will lead worship services, and Pastor Iva O'Brien will be the guest speaker at all three services.
- B. The Leadership Council discussed cultivating a neighborly relationship with those living adjacent to SGC. Kathy Charette will be coordinating these activities to reach out to our new neighbors in her roles as Director of Welcoming Ministries and leading a subcommittee of the G.I.V.E. Team. Kathy Charette asked Erin Fleet to have youth distribute flyers telling the neighbors about upcoming activities. Kathy will be the contact person.

VIII. Around the Table

- A. Christina Benson reported:
 - 1. Women of Faith & Friendship are hosting a dinner on May 22 and will be inviting women from Safe Harbor and area churches to attend.
 - 2. Mindful Women will be hosting a Women's Retreat in April (27-29).
- B. Ron Chipriano reported he talked with Pastor Mira whether there is anything she and Chip can do to help the leaders of SERVE. A meeting is being planned for the fall.

- C. Debbi Goeltsch reported:
 - 1. She plans to introduce herself to all her committee leaders.
 - 2. Craft Day is this month.
 - 3. Yoga Class will begin in April.
- D. Pastor Mira reported:
 - 1. Rich Charette is working on the Haiti initiative.
 - 2. Book Groups are adding leaders.
- E. Pastor Jim noted that Pastor Mira suggested he look at the new sign about Easter at the Meeting House church. He suggested Leadership Council members look at it and perhaps we could do something similar at SGC.
- F. Jeff Boley thanked Kerm and the pastors for their time and help in all they do.
- G. Roger Woods noted there were good ideas about kicking off the fall Adult GROW offerings.
- H. Jeff Barnes reported:
 - 1. The church needs to be mindful of federal laws pertaining to religious freedom; they may be helpful if SMT pushes us too far on ordinances, etc.
 - 2. One issue where the federal law may help us is if South Middleton Township tries to require us to replace the single lane bridge south of the quarry on Spring Garden Street. Our research indicates that only 8% of our people would make use of that road.
 - 3. Jeff met with CAEDC, who said they will maintain control of the community campus moving forward. Three organizations have made a firm commitment to the campus to the south of SGC, and a fourth is very close to a commitment.
 - 4. He reminded CAEDC that we wish to tie-in to the community campus road network from our parking lot for our future permanent second egress from our property.
 - 5. We received our 2018 tax bill--\$68.70. It is so low because the property is under Clean & Green at present, but this will be changing in the future.
 - 6. Jeff thanked Kerm and Pastor Mira for their service to Little Lights and presented them with the LC's traveling "Gold Star Award", and Kerm immediately gave it to Pastor Mira for safekeeping.

IX. Open Session adjourned at 7:00pm with prayer by Pastor Mira.

Next Meeting: Monday, April 16, 2018 – Executive Session, 5:00pm and Open Session at approximately 5:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Marian Gibble, Recording Secretary