

**CARLISLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
LEADERSHIP COUNCIL  
June 19, 2017  
OPEN SESSION MINUTES**

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

Present: Christina Benson, Jeff Boley, Ron Chipriano, Mira Hewitt, Kerm Leitner, Tracy Sands, Jim VanZandt and Bill Yufer. Absent: Jeff Barnes, Jack Maddox and Stephanie Pepper. Guests: Marian Gibble (Recording Secretary), Sue Baxter, Chris Gregory, Charles Reynolds, Joanne Reynolds and John Seaton.

- I. The meeting was called to order at 5:46pm by Kerm Leitner, chair, following an Executive Session.
- II. Devotions and opening prayer were led by Chris Benson.
- III. Moments with the Pastors
  - A. Pastor Jim deferred to Pastor Mira because of a full agenda for today’s meeting.
  - B. Pastor Mira:
    1. We are printing new church directories to be distributed beginning July 9. The church plans to update the directory annually for the Anniversary Service.
    2. The church ordered 150 new t-shirts in all sizes. Children, youth, and adults could wear these CUMC t-shirts at church-sponsored events to identify our church.
- IV. Announcements
  - A. During Executive Session, the Leadership Council discussed and by consensus approved maintaining the previously announced Capital Campaign II Goal at \$2.8 million dollars.
  - B. On Wednesday, Pastor Jim, Pastor Mira, Kerm Leitner, Ron Chipriano, Kathy Charette and Jeff Barnes visited the Camp Hill United Methodist Church to share with their 40-member Leadership Council how our church handles administration.
  - C. Joanne Reynolds had taken a picture of last year’s Leadership Council and it is now on display in the Library. Joanne agreed to take a picture of the present LC at a later date.
- V. Annual Conference Report, Sue Baxter, Joanne Reynolds and John Seaton reporting
  - A. The Leadership Council received an oral report about this year’s Annual Conference from our delegates: Sue Baxter, Joanne Reynolds and John Seaton. The chair thanked them for serving as CUMC’s lay delegates and for their excellent reports.
    1. Joanne Reynolds reported on findings of a study, “Susquehanna Conference Committee on Same Gender,” consisting of 14 clergy and laypersons. The Committee came up with no plan or agreement but saw the community of spirit and noted “We must look for ways to love one another and show the world how much we love each other through Christ.”

2. Joanne also reported on findings of a commission, “The Commission on a Way Forward,” comprised of 32 persons of diverse background, cultures, and theological understanding, representing nine countries. Rev. Dr. Thomas Salsgiver represents the Susquehanna Conference at this Commission. He stated the Commission asks for our prayers (a) as they meet in Chicago on July 17-21, 2017 and (b) for the called Special Session of the General Conference February 23-26, 2019 in St. Louis, to receive and act upon a report from the Council of Bishops based on the recommendation of this Commission. The Commission on a Way Forward issued the following news release dated April 10, 2017:

- The Commission is looking at new ways to be a global church where many United Methodists view the practice of homosexuality as a sin while others view restrictions on LGBTQI individuals as sinful.
- We are looking at “loosening the connection” in the face of conflict over whether there needs to be a uniformity of practice and belief around LGBTQI people.
- We are looking to thinking about and modeling new behaviors and new forms and structures that will allow for differing expressions of the global church.
- We are leaning toward a simpler structure, believing it is more complicated than it needs to be.

- B. John Seaton thanked LC for the opportunity to represent CUMC at Annual Conference. He noted that CUMC did not pay 100% of Shares of Ministry last year and recommended we do so in light of benefits we receive from the Conference and because of the many blessings we have received from God.
- C. Sue Baxter was thankful for attending Annual Conference as a delegate for the first time. Sue noted prayer was introduced often during meetings.
- D. CUMC was the recipient of the Missions Excellence Award.

## VI. Old Business

- A. Kerm thanked Tracy for videotaping the Informational Meeting on June 11. He stated that the videotape was available on Tuesday, and it can be viewed online. The Leadership Council plans to videotape the last two Informational Meetings.
- B. The Leadership Council’s Day Away has been postponed until October—to be announced at a later date.
- C. January 21, 2018 – Combined worship service at 9:15 am followed by Building Committee presentation of final design, guaranteed maximum price and financial plan.
  1. January 28, 2018 – VOTE by balloting during all three worship services.
  2. Snow Dates – if necessary, shift January 21 to January 28 and January 28 to February 4.

## VII. New Business

- A. 4<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary Sunday is July 9. Details are:
  1. Schedule for July 9:
    - 8:30am or 9:30am Breakfast, MPR (tickets are \$5/adults; \$3/kids 3-12 years).
    - 10:30am Combined worship service, Sanctuary. Bring 5-pk. mechanical pencils or 5-pk. of pens for Carlisle 4 Kids.

- 2:00-4:00pm Anniversary celebration, Spring Garden Campus (prayer walk, hayride, entertainment, ice cream floats and kids' games).
  - 2. LC is singing; practices are June 29 and July 6 at 6:30pm.
  - 3. Kerm will be asking Erin if some of the high school students could assist Chip, Jeff Boley and him in parking cars at SPC.
- B. Charles Reynolds presented a proposal that CUMC purchase, own and operate a state-of-the-art video drone. An anonymous donor has offered to pay for the cost and any subsequent expenditures. Discussion followed presentation of the proposal. Following a motion by Ron Chipriano and a second by Jeff Boley, the Leadership Council unanimously approved Charles Reynolds' proposal to purchase, own and operate a state-of-the-art DJI Phantom 4 Pro video drone and accept an offer by Chris Gregory, the Contemporary Worship Leader, to temporarily use a video processing suite to which he has full access to document the construction of the Spring Garden Campus and to record CUMC outdoor events for sharing with various audiences. This is with the understanding that all costs for this purchase and any subsequent expenditures will be reimbursed to CUMC by an anonymous donor.
  - C. Jay Layman, Legacy Team chair, presented a plan to LC to schedule a workshop in October on Gifts and Estate Planning. Jay would approach members of our congregation who are attorneys, CPAs and finance planners to participate in the workshop. Following a motion by Ron Chipriano and a second by Chris Benson, the Leadership Council unanimously approved the Legacy Team's Gifts and Estate Planning Workshop in October 2017.
  - D. The Legacy Team has had several resignations. Jay Layman asked Leadership Council to recommend some people to serve on this team. Kerm asked LC members to forward suggested names to him.
  - E. Following a motion by Bill Yufer and a second by Jeff Boley, the Leadership Council unanimously approved Bridgitte Wickard and Michelle Kearns to serve three-year terms on the Little Lights Learning Center's Board starting July 1, 2017. They will be replacing Rebecca Howell Foote and Eric Sands, whose terms will expire on June 30.
  - F. The Finance Team is recommending the purchase of a \$2,200 credit card automation system that will enable CUMC's bookkeeper to streamline and automate the current credit card validation process. Following a motion by Ron Chipriano and a second by Chris Benson, the Leadership Council unanimously approved the total project cost of \$2,200 for the Credit Card Validation Application from McGovern Consulting Group, LLC, which will be funded from the general fund.
  - G. This year's required Annual Charge Conference is being done by all churches independently. CUMC will be conducting ours on Tuesday, November 14, starting at 6:30pm. All are invited to attend.
  - H. Erin Fleet, the Youth Director, had requested approval of additional church van drivers. Pastor Mira presented names of people who have gone through training to be van drivers. Following a motion by Tracy Sands and a second by Ron Chipriano, the Leadership Council unanimously approved the certification of the following church van drivers: Danielle Graham, Brandon Kerschner, Pamela J. Reynolds, Kevin D. Stafford, Bradford L. Weiser and Roger Woods.
  - I. Kerm asked that the subcommittees he appointed at the May meeting have their reports available for the next meeting, July 17.

## VIII. Around the Table

- A. Pastor Mira presented a new opportunity to involve youth and young adults: This opportunity is called “Follow God; Do Good.” Anyone who has an idea of doing good or sharing in ministry with outsiders would receive between \$100-\$500 to follow through with their ideas. “Follow God; Do Good” would be scheduled between October and December and would consist of groups between 2-12 people. The group would complete an application, and funding would come from \$500 from SERVE and \$500 from the pastors’ discretionary fund. The idea is to encourage groups to focus on others who do not have the funds to follow through on Follow God; Do Good projects. The pastors intend to move forward with this program and requested the support of the Leadership Council which was provided.
- B. Chris noted SEEK is coming soon. The GROW component will involve a video series on Paul.
- C. Pastor Jim thanked Kerm for his leadership and for having the Annual Conference report presented to the Leadership Council.
- D. Bill reported that next week 12 people will be going to South Carolina to help in relief of hurricane damage.
- E. Tracy noted stewardship tithes are down.
- F. Jeff Boley was challenged by Pastor Jim’s sermon last Sunday to learn to recite the Ten Commandments by heart.

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

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 17, 2017 – Executive Session, 5:00pm and Open Session at approximately 5:45pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Marian Gibble  
Recording Secretary