

**CARLISLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**LEADERSHIP COUNCIL**  
**April 23, 2017**  
**MINUTES**

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

Present: Jeff Barnes, Christina Benson, Jeff Boyle, Ron Chipriano, Mira Hewitt, Kerm Leitner, Jack Maddox, Stephanie Pepper, Jim VanZandt and Bill Yufer. Absent: Tracy Sands. Guest: Marian Gibble (Recording Secretary).

- I. The meeting was called to order at 5:43pm by Kerm Leitner, chair, following an Executive Session.
- II. Opening prayer was led by Pastor Jim.
- III. Moments with the Pastor
  - A. Pastor Jim:
    1. Easter Week’s attendance we had only 6 less than 2016. Easter Sunrise Service was held for the first time at Spring Garden Campus with 90 in attendance. This year we had Holy Week services every morning, Maundy Thursday service, four Easter services, and the Capital Campaign all going on at one time.
    2. Annual Conference is scheduled for May 4, 5 and 6. CUMC delegates are Joanne Reynolds, Sue Baxter and John Seaton. Pastor Jim and Pastor Mira will also be attending and out of the office on May 4 and 5.
  - B. Pastor Mira:
    1. The staff is going through quarterly budget reviews. There will be a few revisions that will require LC approval in the future. Kathy Charette is leading these budget reviews with the staff.
    2. We are planning to update the church directory with members verifying information. It will be timed with the anniversary celebration in July with a big push on Mother’s Day to verify information.
    3. There will be a Carlisle for Kids event held at the Expo Center on August 9. This is being sponsored by United Way and Project Share with 21 community partners involved. CUMC is one of the few churches of Carlisle involved in this event.
    4. Erin Fleet is in regular contact with the youth leaders at the Meeting House, Evangelical Free Church and Tree of Life and noted we are the only youth group in downtown Carlisle. Most downtown churches do not have many kids. Erin is excited about having Carlisle kids come to our new facility. Jeff Barnes is impressed with Erin’s work with the youth of our church.
    5. The youth (Middle School and High School) had a Youth Progressive Dinner on April 23 from 5:00-8:00 meeting with adults from the church leaders in four homes. Sue Barnes, Mira Hewlett, Connie Leitner and Amy VanZandt prepared the food. The youth were divided into four groups, and each group visited three of the homes. The purpose was (1) to introduce the youth to the leaders, (2) eat food, (3) play games, and (4) have

interaction between the leaders and youth. The youth were excellent and enjoyed the event. This was a pilot program, and it went very well.

#### IV. Announcements

- A. Kerm expressed his thanks to Pastor Jim, Pastor Mira, Connie Leitner and Jody Monoski for all that they did during the many services (there were 13 services between Palm Sunday and Easter). He gave notes of thanks to Pastors Jim and Mira and announced that Connie and Jody would be receiving notes, too. Kerm also thanked the many volunteers who participated in these services—food preparers and servers, soloists, guest speakers, greeters, choir members, ushers and unnamed individuals who made everything work so well.
- B. *Emergency Response Guides* are now available in virtually every room of the church. Thanks were expressed to the Safety and Security Committee, Rich Charette and Rhonda Dyson for their contributions to completing this guide.
- C. The next Congregational Information Session for updates to our preliminary floor plan and budget, including the results of Capital Campaign #1, will be held on April 30 at 9:45am in the Sanctuary or at 11:00am in the MPR.

#### V. Financial Report, Jack Maddox reporting:

- A. End of First Quarter 2017 totals:
  - 1. We are \$5,098 to the good.
  - 2. We received 25% of the yearly budget in the first quarter.
  - 3. The cash balance was \$19,066 above budgeted amount.
  - 4. Tithes and Offerings were \$229,864.68.

#### VI. Old Business

- A. Leadership Council will be conducting worship services on May 7 after the pastors attended Annual Conference. Pastor Jim will prepare order of worship for the Sanctuary services. A draft of service participation was distributed to LC members. Pastor Mira will inform Kerm of any additional prayer requests or announcements to be announced on May 7.
- B. Day Away for LC is being planned for Saturday, June 24. Pastor Mira will schedule a service project for half a day. The afternoon will focus on team building activities.
- C. Ron gave an update on Fresh Expressions, a new endeavor to include spiritual growth of participants at My Brothers Table—a CUMC group that feeds the hungry at the Salvation Army facility twice a month. Fresh Expressions developed after Ron began receiving prayer requests from My Brothers Table participants, and he now will be meeting and praying with those who request prayer along with John who has been eating at the Salvation Army for several years. He thinks of this as spreading the love of Jesus in the community. Kerm thanked Ron for starting this endeavor.
- D. The Building Committee will present the preliminary design and preliminary budget for the new church facility at a combined service at 10:00am on September 17. This will be an informational meeting. On September 24 at the end of each of the three worship services, members will vote to approve the preliminary design and preliminary budget. On the day of the vote, invited retired clergy who worship at CUMC will count the ballots. After the

ballots have been counted and the preliminary design and budget have been approved, the design and budget will go to the conference for approval.

## VII. New Business

- A. Following a motion by Kerm Leitner and a second by Ron Chipriano, the Leadership Council unanimously approved a policy for the cancellation/postponement of church-wide events.
- B. Following a motion by Ron Chipriano and a second by Stephanie Peffer, the Leadership Council unanimously approved that starting with the next LC meeting on May 15, 2017, the Leadership Council will meet monthly on the third Monday of the month through August 2017. This schedule will be revisited at the August meeting. Executive Sessions will start at 5:00pm and run to approximately 5:45pm at which time the Open Session will commence.
- C. Following a motion by Kerm Leitner and a second by Chris Benson, the Leadership Council unanimously approved the authorization of emergency executive actions in the event that the Building Committee chair needs an immediate decision. In such a case, the action authorizes a decision by the joint agreement of the Building Committee chair, Leadership Council chair and the Lead Pastor. In the absence of the Leadership Council chair, the vice-chair would be involved and, similarly, in the absence of the Lead Pastor it would be the Associate Pastor.
- D. With a change in the timeline of election of LC member being the last Sunday of October, newly-elected LC members will have two LC meetings to observe LC meetings before they start their official term beginning on January 15, 2018.
- E. Kerm, Pastor Jim, Pastor Mira, Chris Benson, Jay Layman and Charles Reynolds will meet to discuss formally closing down Capital Campaign I. After the campaign is officially closed, the LC will take over responsibility of the campaign. Dick Felty has already agreed to identify, train and lead a team to follow up with pledged commitments through the duration of the three-year Campaign I.
- F. Chris Benson had shared an idea with Kerm about working with Sue Barnes to print business cards for LC members to give to visitors to expand our hospitality. By consensus, the Leadership Council approved of this initiative.

## VIII. Around the Table

- A. Jack Maddox brought a recommendation from the Finance Team to LC that CUMC have an independent audit of our 2017 financial records to be conducted in 2018. Kerm asked that the Finance Team put this request into writing to clarify the scope of the audit, the cost by getting estimates, and to identify whether current CUMC members have such skills to lead an audit team.
- B. Chris Benson reported tickets are still available for the Barnes & Miner Comedy Show on May 13, 6-8pm in the CUMC MPR. Refreshments will be served from 6-6:30pm, and childcare is available (must sign up for childcare by May 6). Tickets are \$10/person (available online).
- C. Stephanie Peffer noted the Carlisle Mile will be held on May 18. CUMC now has two teams signed up and would like to have three teams. This is a fun event; all ages are invited. Stephanie is working on something to recognize CUMC members.

- D. Pastor Mira shared that per The UMC Book of Discipline, the vote on Sept 17<sup>th</sup> by all CUMC members must include the project details, budget, and financing plan. Earlier in the meeting Leadership Council was questioning what was required in that vote. She also noted that Owen Bonn is out of the hospital but still having treatment of his eyes.
- E. Bill Yufer reminded everyone of the Philadelphia VIM trip on May 6-7. The South Carolina VIM trip will be the end of June. Right now there is a full roster. Blessed to Serve will now be working with the Todd Blair Lindsey Foundation.
- F. Jeff Barnes reported on several items:
  - 1. The water leak has been resolved. Our water bill this past quarter was \$2,000 less than the previous quarter. We have received no answer on the sewer credit.
  - 2. The schedule for future Congregational Information Sessions is listed in the Midweek Minutes and his blog.
  - 3. Colleen Kulp has made arrangements with Sterling Management to have the parsonage at Moreland Avenue available for rent in September. Pastor Jim will be moving out by June 30.
- G. Kerm noted that Grow Children and LLLC board will be recognizing the teachers and staff of Little Lights Learning Center as part of Teacher Appreciation Week on May 1.

IX. Open session was adjourned at 7:08 with prayer by Pastor Mira.

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 15, 2017 – Executive Session, 5:00pm and Open Session at approximately 5:45pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Marian Gibble  
Recording Secretary