

FUMC Church Council Mini-Retreat

Minutes

Monday, Sep 9 5:30

The church council is the primary group responsible for the overall ministry of the local church. By establishing the vision of the congregation, the council can then help to order and implement the various ministry opportunities.

We welcomed Janeen, Rev Lee, Keith, Betty, John K, John M, Kathryn, Joy, Judy, Marlene, Matthew, Rev Leslie as well as guests Pete Shaw, Dale Thurman, Kathy Dufur and Kay Neckel

Unable to attend: Nicole, Pam, Mary, Susan, Richard, Karen, Andrea, Ellen, Rick, Barry, Mike

Devotion ~ Our dream for our church is to be a community that offers radical welcome, that doesn't require anyone to be what they are not and that ultimately cares for one another in a spirit of joy. The story of Ruth is that of outsiders being welcomed in and the creation of a new kind of community.

Prayer concerns ~ Ted Nutting, fell and injured his hip; Brian Wood, surgery

Additions to the agenda ~ none

Approval of July minutes ~ approved unanimously

Pastor/Staff

Pastors	Rev Leslie & Rev Lee
Financial Secretary	Ellen Shepherd
Church Treasurer	Karen Lumpkin
Music Coordinator	Kathryn Peiffer
Choir Director	Nicole Cecilian
Youth Ministries Coordinator	Matthew Utley
Children's Ministries Coordinator	Shannon Heusinkveld
Bell Choir Director	Susan Harding

Committees

Lay Leader	Janeen Anderson
Staff Parish	John Morgan
Finance	Rick Tessean

The church is in the midst of upgrading PCs. PCs don't qualify for Loveland Methodist Foundation money as they are not building related. They do qualify as a capital expense by definition. We can utilize 57th Street funds to support this purchase. We would like approval from the Church Council for \$6000 to purchase three tower computers and two laptops, along with cables, monitors and docking stations for the laptops.

This was a motion from a committee and didn't require a second. Discussion included the efficacy of 'towers,' and it was explained that they are more easily repairable than PCs. The breakdown of costs was requested and Judy received that information from Karen Lumpkin. The motion was amended to "...up to \$6000," and passed unanimously. Karen will purchase the computers on behalf of the church.

\$2,705.13	3 Dell desktops - Karen, Patty, Ellen
\$1,604.73	2 HP Laptops - Leslie and Lee
\$ 290.76	Accessories - 1 connector, 2 USB docks
=====	
\$4,600.62	TOTAL

Trustees Richard Kittel

Keith gave the Trustees report. Trustees approved Pulse for internet; approached the Foundation for funding for the drainage project and proposed flooring. They approved a contract to repair a tree (without funding) and have concerns about other trees on church property.

Abiding Memorials	Betty Hill
Stewardship	John Kindred
Missions and Social Concerns	Barry Wehrle
Marketing & Outreach	Andrea Ortega
Membership	Janeen Anderson
Safety and Security	Keith Flaming
UM Foundation	Mike Westbrook
Church Financial Secretary	Ellen Shepherd
Lay Members to AC	Mary Hannon

At Large Marlene Thurman, Joy Shaw, Pam Erickson

Discussion regarding the opportunity to rent space to Loveland Preschool.

Judy reported on a meeting she had with Rev Leslie after the last Council meeting. She expressed frustration that although Council approved the motion to investigate renting space in the building, CC members did not come forward to ask to be involved in the process. Judy asked Rev Leslie if it would be OK to form a small ad hoc committee to get

things moving. The committee would consist of two CC members, two Trustees and two church members at large. Rev Leslie agreed, and the following people agreed to participate: Joy Shaw and John Kindred from CC; Joanne Scheihing and Deb Tikka (Deb replaced Richard) from Trustees; Charlie Bouchard (who started the whole process) and Ann Kessler (who knows the building and has come forward with ideas). The pastors and Judy will join the committee as able/needed. In the midst of discussions, on Aug 23, Jen Kuzmich, Loveland Preschool Director (housed at Mountain View Presbyterian) posted on the Lovelanders FB website that they were losing their lease and needed to find a space to house their program. Charlie got in touch with Jen, and several different groups (various preschool people, ad hoc committee people, the pastors and others) have walked through the building. The space looked good to Jen and others, but we know that there is a lot to be done to make this happen.

After much discussion (notes on a separate page) the following motion by Joy Shaw, seconded by John Morgan passed unanimously:

"I move we authorize the investment of up to \$10,000 for architectural/engineering work to establish the feasibility of a preschool remodel project and estimated costs based upon the information provided by the Ad Hoc Committee."

Jen Kuzmich, LPS Director will join us at 6:30 to answer questions.

These notes are on a separate page.

Mini-Retreat Business

- Updates from commitment areas from the Jan retreat?
- HEART
 - Alternative service ~ **there will be a worship committee meeting later this month and this will be a topic of discussion. There is interest, but logistics will determine if it can happen.**
 - Mission statement update ~ **The committee has not formally met. Matthew is willing to take the lead on the committee to organize meetings.**

Rev Leslie said that while visiting Washington Park UMC in Denver, she, Joy, Charlie and Judy thought their mission statement was excellent. It was painted on the wall near the entry to the church and was posted in other places.

"Washington Park UMC is an inclusive community of faith, accepting people as they are, growing toward fullness of life with God's creation, through living the teachings of Jesus Christ: Love, Justice, Mission and Hope."

- HANDS
- HEAD
 - Great discussions happening during Sunday school hour; could this grow to the community?
- HEALTHY BODY & SOUL
- TOOLS FOR SUCCESS
 - Readiness 360/Mission Insight updates

*I believe we have previously discussed this, but just in case, I would like a few minutes of the mini retreat to discuss the conversations that the mission insight task force has undertaken.

Attached is the Quick Insight form that summarizes the information from mission insight. I will not be going over all of it. I will summarize the summary and point out other important findings from the taskforce

Based on Mission Insight, the largest population group in Loveland is the 'digitally savvy' of which Matthew is a member. Second largest is the 'young parent' group. Neither of these groups are well-represented at our church. It is important to look at these top segments and see how to minister to them. We need to know who is in the building now, and who is in the community around the church (~five-mile radius). We can go back as often as needed to reexamine the information from MI.

Regarding Readiness 360 ~ this determines how ready the congregation is to interact with new ideas and new ministries; are we ready to be the church in new ways?

Keith made a motion seconded by John K: FUMC should support a preschool in our building as part of our ministry. Passed unanimously.

- Autopsy of a Deceased Church—How & when to engage the congregation in an all-church study.
 - o **Maybe the preschool (if it works out) will be the antidote and will revitalize the church.**
 - o **Could the pastors do a sermon series based on the book? For example: What makes a living church?**

New Business ~ Rev Leslie

FUMC will be a tour stop on Historic Larimer County's Seventh Annual Holy Places for the Holidays Tour. HLC is featuring churches with mid-century architecture this year. The tour is scheduled for December 7th at 9:45am (I'm verifying that info), and will take about 45 minutes. We've been asked to provide a "tour guide" who can tell a bit about the history of our church building and answer questions.

We will want to spiff up and decorate the church extra special this Advent. I am taking volunteers to serve on a "Spiffy Advent Team" to plan areas/rooms for the tour, clean up needs and decoration plans...and to coordinate volunteers to help with the tasks.

Joy volunteered to help with this.

Closing thought

Reminder from Rev Lee that the purpose of church is to bless and serve the community!

Joy called this opportunity a 'God-wink.' God is leading us in the direction of sharing our resources for the good of the church and the community. She shared four Bible verses that celebrated our movement this evening:

- **Heb 13:16 Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.**
- **I Tim 6:18 Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.**
- **I John 3:17 If anyone with earthly possessions sees his brother in need, but withholds his compassion from him, how can the love of God abide in him?**
- **1 Peter 4:10 Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.**

Next meetings:

There may be additional meetings to discuss Loveland Preschool issues. Zoom will be an option.

Oct 28 @ 6:30

Nov 18 or Dec 1 to approve budget

Church Conference date TBD

"Though we cannot think alike, may we not love alike?
May we not be of one heart though we are not of one opinion?
Without all doubt, we may. Herein all the children of God may unite,
notwithstanding their smaller differences." John Wesley