November Servant Leadership

Meeting 11/14/2022

Minutes taken and submitted by Randi Watterson

In attendance: Dave Hanson, Anita Tulp, Bill Bertram, Phil Mueller, Bev Enger, Derek Woehl, Mike Watterson, Mary Lee Nielson, Pastor Duane Coates, and Jan McCarthy (guest)

Approve Agenda – note done

Devotions and Prayer – Pastor Duane Coates gave a devotion regarding thankfulness.

Approval of Minutes – Minutes were approved by a motion from Mike Watterson and a 2nd by Derek Woehl, Motion was carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Nominating Workgroup – Update on the filing of open positions on the SLT

Treasurer – Rhonda Marshall would like to visit with the current treasurer, Mary Lee Nielson, to further discuss the requirements of the position.

Pastor Duane will invite the new 2023 SLT Members to attend the December 12th SLT meeting. The meeting will begin at 5:00 pm to accommodate Pastor Duane leaving early.

Worship Technology Discussion – put on the agenda for next month

Dave Hanson will request that Matt Nielson and Lance Drevecky meet with the SLT to discuss the best and least-expensive options. Colin Hoff is preparing a proposal for the SLT regarding a new laptop computer. The need for the 2nd monitor and camera at the front of the church would be negated.

SLT Recorder Resignation – It was noted at the 11/14/2022 SLT meeting that Jackie Owen resigned from her position as Recorder.

NEW BUSINESS

Piano Task Force – How many pianos do we need, and how often should they be tuned? Dave Hanson will ask Lance Drevecky to make this decision and let the SLT know what he decides, so the necessary expense can be planned for.

Memorial Task Force Committee – Mike Watterson requested that a Memorial Committee /Task Force be formed to plan for ALL SAINTS SUNDAY and to update the parameters for the use of Memorial Money.

Mike will work up a job description for this Task Force/Committee. He will talk to Darlene Mueller about the past duties of the Memorial Committee.

Altar Expenses – Randi Watterson requested that her expenses for flowers (real and artificial) and other altar décor be reimbursed, going forward. This was accepted by the SLT, and Dave Hanson stated that the funds would come from the Worship Fund.

WORKGROUPS TRUSTEES

Snow Removal (Church East Doors) – Mike Watterson talked to the VCSU Facility Services Director about clearing snow close to the doors of the East Entrance, as well as the emergency Sunday School exits. They agreed to do this when they cleared snow from sidewalks on the East side of the church. Any remaining snow will be cleared by members of the church.

AED Batteries – the old battery and chest pads were replaced and tested by Mike Watterson.

Automatic Door Openers for church restrooms – Mike Watterson requested a quote from Valley Glass of Valley City. They quoted $3,500 per door, which would include the electrical structure. A second quote from Northland Glass & Glazing of Fargo, ND was $6,800 for both doors. This did not include the electrical work.

There was discussion about making this a Capital Campaign Item. It was suggested that a Gift Opportunity List be created to include in upcoming bulletins and the December Newsletter. Mary Lee Nielson and Mike Watterson will meet to create this list.

WORKGROUPS PASTOR PARISH

Epworth Staff Evaluations –

Evaluations were shared with the SLT prior to the November meeting. No action is needed. Dave Hanson shared his appreciation for all that the Epworth Staff do to help promote the ministry of our church! Professional development opportunities were discussed with the staff.

Staff 2023 Compensation Recommendation – a document presented to SLT committee members reflected a 5% raise for all paid staff

positions. A motion to accept this recommendation was made by Mike Watterson, with a 2nd by Bev Enger. Motion Carried.

Pastor Stay-Move Report – The template used to complete the Stay-Move Report to the Conference office was shared with the SLT prior to this meeting. The group shared their feedback regarding the performance of Pastor Coates. The SLT unanimously wants Pastor Coates to stay and continue what he has begun during the past four months of his ministry. Mary Lee Nielson expressed her appreciation for Pastor Coates's visitation to her mother, Carol Peterson. The increase in church attendance was mentioned. Appreciation for Pastor Coates's impassioned sermons was expressed.

Pastor Coates shared that he, too, wants to stay. The main reasons are the brevity of service and the need to build stability in church staff positions. Dave Hanson and Pastor Coates will file their respective forms with the Conference by the Dec. 1 deadline.

Christmas Staff Love/Gift Promotion – The congregation will be offered an opportunity to give a Christmas Love Gift to the Pastor and to the other church staff, including Dawn Thomsen.

WORKGROUP FINANCIAL

Financial Report – Mary Lee Nielson presented the printed copy of the financial report. The question was asked regarding if the apportionments had been paid-to-date. Mary Lee stated that the last quarterly apportionments had been paid. A motion to accept the financial reports was made by Derek Woehl, with a 2nd by Mike Watterson. Motion Carried.

Audit Report – Name Auditors for February Audit – After the January bank statement is received, auditors will be contacted. Those who have conducted an audit in the past, before COVID, were Kelly Pederson, Rhonda Marshall, and Curt VanDyke.

PASTOR’S REPORT

Church Website (Pastor Coates) - Update on progress made to update the Epworth Website and train staff. Pastor Coates has been working with Tyler Tufte, a VCSU staff member, to update the website.

Membership Audit – the updating of the Epworth United Methodist membership list is an ongoing task.

Charge Conference Review – Pastor Duane stated that the Annual Conference changed the apportionments formula so that the rate for 2023 apportionments is 14% of the Operating Revenue.

Church Conference – a brief discussion of Charge/Church Conference

Additional Praise & Worship Hymnals – discussion regarding the purchase of several of these hymnals that contain contemporary pieces.

Respectfully submitted by,

Randi Watterson

Recorder