

Minutes from **Leadership Board (LB)** meeting on Thursday October 26, 2023

Present: Pastor Jenny Arneson, Pastor Claire Douglass, Pastor Brad Mathers, Jack Malone, Sarah Bolen, Patricia Harrington, Judy Krebs, Paul Esser, Christy Tubbs, Terry Twedell, Pat Flaherty, Cheri Hiller

Absent: Dee Heller, Lisa Wink

1. **Welcome** -Jack
2. **Consensus to** accept September 2023 minutes as submitted
3. **Devotions** – Patricia – Creating a community of compassion. In the healing stories of the gospels, Jesus feeds people’s immediate needs. Immediate needs are not just feeding and healing, but also caring. See Richard Rohr for free daily message.
4. **Spiritual Formation-** Jenny – We took a Methodist quiz and reviewed Methodist history. General Conference (from 2020) is rescheduled for Charlotte 4/23-5/4/2024. About 20% of churches have disaffiliated; about 10% in Wisconsin. There will be thousands and thousands of petitions to make changes to the books of discipline and social principles. The big three topics this year are regionalization, harmful/discriminatory language to the LGBTQ+ community, and changes to the book of social principles. Regionalization would allow regions of the world to make their own adaptations to the book of discipline. Wisconsin and northern Illinois will most likely share a bishop. This will be voted on at jurisdictional conference in July 2024.
5. **Finance/Stewardship:** Sarah, Jenny
 - Finances still about the same (down for the year)
 - Foundation accounts are down
 - Mortgage will be under 600K soon! We continue to pay additional 3K to principle each month.
 - We are current on mortgage and apportionments.
 - There is \$60k in prepaid building fund
 - Lisa Heinle and Paul Hale will complete 2021 and 2022 audits on November 5, 2023.
 - October stewardship focus is: Keep our United Methodist Story Growing, during four Sundays in October. Pledge cards will be returned on All Saints Sunday – October 29.
 - **MOTION: Pay down principle on mortgage with \$25k using \$15K given as a recent gift for the building plus \$10K more. MOTION PASSED**
6. **Trustees:** Judy
 - Leak in the nursery closet part of the roof. Malley keeps coming out to fix.
 - Drainage ditch – Drainage is working after the clean out.
 - Rick and Corey now have apps for the solar panels, to let us know sooner if a panel is out.
7. **SPRC:** Pat
 - The lay staff was given a bonus and they decided to share it equally and they are very thankful (Deb, Amanda, Lisa)
 - Budget: Pat presented the staffing budget, which gives 3% increase for all staff except Abby (since she was just hired) and Amanda (instead given a raise to bring her up to Abby’s salary). Lisa’s hours will decrease.
 - Leadership Board approved the \$473,857 2024 staff budget proposed by SPRC.

8. Other:

- Church office hours – OFFICE is closed on Fridays but the church IS OPEN. Amanda and Claire are in the building on Fridays.
- Table at Fellowship Time – Jack and Sarah have been attending it. There will be a sign-up genius for this.
- New Leadership Board members were suggested.
- Conference Leadership Board quarterly meeting on October 28 at SPUMC
- Church Conference will be Monday, December 4 at 6:30 pm in fellowship hall.
- January 27, 2024 will be a leadership retreat from 10 am-3 pm

Closing prayer: Patricia

2020-2024 plan of ministry is: G (Gratitude)
R (Relationships)
O (Our Story)
W (Worship)

Next meeting is – November 16, 6:30 pm

- **Opening devotions** and closing prayer: Sarah
- **Minutes** – Cheri
- **Schedule:** 2023 schedule: December 4 6:30 pm church conference
- **Upcoming 2024 meetings:** January 25, Feb 22, Mar 28, April 25, May 23

Submitted by Cheri Hiller