

Minutes from **Leadership Board (LB)** meeting on Thursday January 25, 2024

Present: Pastor Jenny Arneson, Pastor Claire Douglass, Pastor Brad Mathers, Amanda Hinthorn, Jack Malone, Sarah Bolen, Patricia Harrington, Dee Heller, Lisa Wink, Christy Tubbs, Terry Twedell, Pat Flaherty, Marcia Flaherty, Mike Bandli, Cheri Hiller

Absent: Frank Flynn

1. **Welcome** -Jack
2. **Consensus** to accept October 2023 minutes as submitted
3. **Devotions** – Sarah – Be courageous, keep on trying
4. **Spiritual Formation**- Jenny – Acts 2 – they devoted themselves to ... and to prayers. We shared our prayers with a partner and whole group. Jenny reviewed the Accountable Leadership Model. We started using ALB model at SPUMC in 2016. This model puts the chairs of various teams, along with some members at large, together as a board. Teams DO ministry and may not meet regularly. Teams are formed as needed, people come and go depending on skills needs for ministry projects. The LB model gives decision making and trust to Pastor and staff. LB and individual teams are self-nominating and are accountable to both the church and the denomination. The goal is to expand and spread out leadership. Around 40 churches in our conference use the ALB model. North Central Jurisdictional Conference update: Jenny is on a committee that assigns bishops. There was a vote to have some bishops share two conferences and this went through.
5. **Staff Sharing:** Amanda Hinthorn, Director of Technology and Online Communication. Amanda reported that there has been a 20-25% increase in online worship since September. 15-25 people watch livestream, 95-170 views by Wednesday each week. There are more stories of people watching from a distance – like Missouri. What can we do to assist Amanda? Be supportive when we hear complaints. Amanda does such a great job!
6. **Finance/Stewardship:** Sarah, Lisa
 - A learning lesson for all of us: How do Lisa and Sarah divide the finance tasks? Lisa does more of the day to day such as payroll, bills, etc. Sarah works with member related giving, pledges, etc.
 - We finished 2023 basically even
 - Insurance costs went up 25-30%
 - Foundation accounts were up in December
 - Mortgage is down to 545.8K. We continue to pay additional 3K to principle each month.
 - We paid 32k in interest in 2023.
 - \$88,176 apportionments paid in full in 2023
 - 2024 apportionments will be \$95,940. 2/3 is based on staffing and expenses, 1/3 based on membership
 - Cash flow – plenty on hand, Lisa will be moving money to the Money Market account.
 - 2024 Budget: We are passing a budget that estimates non-pledged giving and will yield a 47.5K deficit.
 - **MOTION: Accept the 2024 budget as proposed. Motion Passed unanimously by hand vote.**

7. **Trustees:** Mike, Brad

- Trustees looking into light fixture replacements through Faith Technology
- A plumbing part ordered for women's bathroom.
- Wesley House washer repair scheduled
- Seeking bids for finishing the pantry flooring repair.
- Monitoring roof leaks – down to 2-3

7. **SPRC:** Pat

- Abby is leaving her office position for a more family focus. Four good candidates were interviewed, one offered the position after our meeting.
- Amanda's position is currently 30 hours. SPRC is going to propose full time for her and wants to provide 8K pretax for insurance because this will now be a fulltime position. The change will be by 2025.
- Claire has requested to move back to ½ time. She'd keep the youth and young adult portion of her position. We will search for a new hire to take over children's ministry. Looking for this change by June or sooner.

8. **Other:**

- Table at Fellowship Time – Attend when you can!
- January 27, 2024 will be a Beyond Our Doors leadership retreat from 10-3

- **Closing prayer:** Jenny

2024 Plan of Ministry Theme: Beyond Our Doors

Next meeting is – Feb 22, 2024 6:30 pm

- **Opening devotions** and closing prayer: Marcia
- **Minutes** – Cheri
- **Upcoming 2024 meetings:** Feb 22, Mar 28, April 25, May 23

Submitted by Cheri Hiller