

Holy Trinity United Methodist Church

Love God, uplift people, inspire hope, and grow disciples of Jesus Christ, here and everywhere we go.

Core Team
March 9, 2020

Core team members present: Pastor Chad, Lynnette Dobberpuhl, Troy Banitt, Collan Zehnder, Darla Bauchle, Carol Ottoson, Jeff Erlandson, Mike Huss (Chair), Randy Taatjes (Trustees), Ashley Elsner, Deanna Hawkins

1) **Opening Prayer**

2) **Welcome to Ashley Elsner and Jeff Erlandson:** Jeff has been present for many Core Team meetings representing Finance, and we are glad to welcome him as a regular Core Team member. We are welcoming Ashley Elsner back to Core Team after a break of a few years. Thank you for being part of the team!

3) **Agenda Items**

- Trustee Update: (Randy Taatjes) Trustees have been uncomfortable with the way that House of Grace members are not supervising their kids when in the building and concerned about a recent occasion when they hosted a large event on a Saturday without informing us. The House of Grace was very apologetic about the disarray in classrooms, etc. but their solution was to offer to purchase and install locks on the classrooms, which in the Trustees' opinion is not optimal. This would only secure the closets and classrooms, not the sanctuary or other common areas. The Trustees would like to end the rental relationship ASAP. There is no signed rental agreement. House of Grace paid their quarterly rental late in February, so the informal agreement will expire in May. Deciding it would not be in good faith to abruptly sever ties, the consensus was that we would inform them we are ending the partnership at the end of May, but with a warning that if there is damage or a lack of consideration (messes made and left, people getting into the instruments or closets). Pastor Chad, Lynnette and Randy will work together on this document. A written rental agreement needs to be used for future arrangements.
- Review Monthly Budget: Collections were slightly higher than expected for the first couple of months. It appears that the giving units are consistent between 2019 and 2020, however the pledging units are lower than in 2019, so it is believed that there are people giving who have not pledged. Deanna had some suggestions for reporting that would increase clarity and offered to sketch out a report that Jeff and Kelly can look at. Jeff said priority is on tracking revenue. There is a gap between what reporting Tina has, and what Kelly has and it would be helpful to have the two tied together consistently.
- Feedback from February Core + Leadership Meeting: both Core Team and ministry leaders gave positive feedback. The next meeting would be scheduled for May 11 (during General Conference.) Subsequently will meet in September.
- Annual/General Conference Updates: Bishop Ough sent out a message today about the possible ramifications of coronavirus (CoVid19) on General Conference. The situation is being closely monitored. Be in prayer for the work and the delegates of the General Conference so that the event will take place with full attendance. There will be a special MN Annual Conference session August 24 to properly respond to any surprising outcomes that may emerge from General Conference.
- FISH Update: Helped a young man with disabilities do some major dental work to keep teeth. Still have money and more requests coming in.
- Liaison Assignments and Reports
 - Missions: (Deanna liaison)

- CYF: (Lynnette liaison) Many activities coming up, including VBS June 8-11.
- SPRT: (Carol liaison) Carol has reached out to Don Oram (Chair), but hasn't heard that there is anything new to report.
- BOM: (Ashley liaison)
- Garden: (Ashley liaison)
- Care Team: (Deanna liaison)
- Music/Worship: (Chad liaison)
- Marketing: (Ashley liaison)
- Operations & Hospitality: (Darla liaison)
- Finance: (Jeff liaison)
- One Service Options: A coach advised Pastor Chad to be very intentional to include as many people as possible in decisions about making a change to worship. Needs to be grounded in what worship experience we are seeking to provide, and how to get to that experience. Can't rely only on a numbers driven aspect, but also worship style. Number of services and times of services is only a small aspect of that decision. There are some things we could be doing differently. A special meeting after worship or multiple discussions in small groups would be good ways to get input. Many people are already discussing worship and vision for worship experiences, so it is likely that several people will want to give input. The question arose about whether to use 9:00 or 9:30 for summer service? The group was directed to ask friends (trying to bring in people who attend both services) and report back at the next meeting.
- Coronavirus: In the past weeks, we have made efforts to reduce hand to hand contact at our church. At this meeting Pastor Chad passed out a "Best Practices" sheet on how to reduce the feelings of vulnerability and the transmission of viruses (including flu and other). Moving forward we will begin using individual cups for communion. Gloves for distributing bread are also likely in our future. Text to Give is being considered as a future giving option to avoid passing the plate. Vanco giving forms will be made available. The nursery needs disinfecting wipes. Rainbow bag alternatives are needed.
- **Old business items tabled:**
 - MN Methodist statement as a model of how Holy Trinity shares its stand on inclusivity-no update
 - Families moving forward: no update
 - Live Streaming
 - Recruitment for Open Positions in Leadership: (Personally invite people or refer them to Chad)

Next Meeting: April 13, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.