

HTUMC Core Team Meeting Minutes

10-14-24

Present: Paula Green, Tanya Alemu, Carol Ottoson, Pastor Leigh Brown, Lynnette Dobberpuhl

The meeting was opened with a blessing, and with a prayer for the group's work.

Recap from Leadership Institute: there was a note of healing in the atmosphere and in the content presented. Some sessions attended included identifying your church culture, suicide intervention, online church, the movement Do Unto Others as well as others. We will get some DUO stickers/pins for people to have to wear before the election.

Finance: with Tanya Alemu as the new Finance chair, the team (Kelly Loose, treasurer; Pastor Leigh, Tanya and Paula Green, Core Chair) met today after a few months off. The team agreed that the way the current accounts are set up creates a confusing picture, primarily because of mission giving, but also due to some accounts that were closed and the balance moved into the church's general fund, which appears as income though it is not. The team will be opening a new Old National Bank account to separate mission giving and payouts from the general fund for clarity. Once the mission money is separated, and the apportionments are paid off (important for opportunities for grants and other annual conference support), the general fund will be at \$60K by the end of this year, the minimum set in 2020 for reserves on hand. We cannot spend more than we take in at this point.

Holy Trinity's proposed 2025 budget is due to Annual Conference Oct 28.

A new **printer/copier** deal has been signed, which will bring savings. Trustees and Finance are still working on finding the title for the **van** in preparation for sale.

Land Sale Update: On Oct 2 the group previously seeking to purchase HT land reached out again. We let them know that we will be working on resource management and how we envision functioning and being in ministry in our community in the year or two ahead and we are not prepared to sell at this time, but said they can contact us again in six months.

There will be a **congregational meeting after worship on Sunday, January 12, 2025** to establish our hopes for ministry, and delineate what we are willing to sacrifice, and what we require to hold onto in terms of expenses and resources in order to continue as a congregation.

Representatives from the **Shakopee Community Assistance and Toy Closet** will be visiting on Thursday, Oct 17 to see if the lower level of the Parsonage would be appropriate to house their programs. It is anticipated that the ceiling in the main room would need to be

repaired or replaced, and other considerations would be the amount of parking they would need for clients during their open hours, and how to supply reliable WiFi to that building. They are willing to pay some amount of rent, which is yet to be determined. If an agreement is reached they would move in January or February. *(Edited to add: Following the tour, SCA and Toy Corner agreed to rent the space for \$1200 per month, with additional payment for garbage pickup and WiFi, beginning Jan 1st. The only update to the building requested was a new ceiling in the main room, which was badly damaged by a leak from the kitchen sink above several years ago, and an upgrade to internet access.)*

CYF: plans are well under way, but a lot of work remains to be ready for the haunted house (10/26), family fall fest (10/27), and Candy Crawl (10/31). The Youth Group continues to meet after church at 11am, but the consistency of attendance is an obstacle to building connections. The 3pm Christmas Eve service, which has in recent years been an interactive Christmas program for all ages, is likely to change. The leading idea is to move the event to the morning service on Dec 22nd, and resume a more traditional Children's Christmas program. Pastor Leigh has a connection with some resources to try.

Fresh Expressions: the garden effort is done for 2024. The feeling is that the renaming went well, and now leaders can examine what the goals will be for 2025. Some very good work and ministry occurred with CAP Food Shelf and with delivering produce and fellowship to local low-income families.

I-Team: Last Sunday's presentation on our immigrant stories by Cindy Bahmer went well. The goal of this and future presentations is to get people thinking about their own histories and promote the One Table event during Fellowship Hour on Dec 15, when people can share food from their cultures, and, if inclined, their own immigrant stories.

Local **scrapbookers** are looking for a space to use for a regular gathering one weekend per month. They would like to use the upper level of parsonage on that weekend from 9-11am Friday and Saturday, and Sunday 9am-5pm. The Core Team thought this would be quite appropriate, but we need to locate and possibly update the Building Use Agreement.

Next Core Team Meetings: 6:30pm Mondays, Nov 18, Dec 16.