

## **Aldersgate United Methodist Leadership Team Meeting January 16, 2018**

Leah Matthews welcomed everyone and began the meeting at 7:05 p.m. with a prayer.

### **Leadership Team and Staff Members Present:**

Leah Matthews, Teresa Phillips, Steve Larkin, Frank Kyle, Cheryl Bratten, Travis Gianchetta, Paul Amos, Cory Culver, Carrie Henderson, Dennis Perry, Charlotte Rexroad, Richard Bass, and Mark Husband.

Harry Evans, Joanna Sims, Debbie Husband, Jason Micheli, Karla Kincannon, Becky Connell, Nate Truitt, Michelle Matthews, and Christian Burnette were absent. Lew Ashley and Michelle Anderson observed the meeting.

### **I. Leadership and Faith Development**

The team began the meeting discussing a section of the book *Canoeing the Mountains* by Todd Bolsinger. Cheryl Bratten led the group in a discussion of leadership in “uncharted territory”.

### **II. December Meeting Minutes**

Leah reminded the team that the December 19, 2017 meeting minutes were available on Realm and the Aldersgate web site. No comments or edits were noted.

### **III. Updates**

Cory Culver updated those attending on the success of Service Sunday:

- Sunday Suppers provided
  - o 40 toiletry kits
  - o 60 bagged lunches and water
  - o Gloves, hats, and hand warmers – many more are needed!
  - o That evening, the coffee and hot cocoa were gratefully received by attendees, the new portable tables enhanced the ability to organize and serve the attendees. More male volunteers are needed to support this mission work.
- Green Bag Meals
  - o 45 large boxes of food were distributed to Stratford Landing, Washington Mill and Ft. Hunt Elementary Schools to stock their food pantries for students and families in need. Aldersgate’s donations to Ft. Hunt was most timely as their pantry had dwindled to just a few cans of soup.
- Rise Against Hunger: Aldersgate members packed over 20,000 meals at the Service Sunday and were awarded a gift (its very own tiny gong) for packing 181,288 meals over all!

Richard Bass provided an update on moving forward with a new website for AUMC

- The goal is to have the website in operation by Palm Sunday
- Richard is working with an organization out of Alabama to create and film video clips for use on the web site.

Richard also asked the Leadership Team about offering a printed directory this year. The team discussed options and asked Richard to conduct some additional research on directory options and bring this information to the next meeting.

Children & Youth: Leah let the team know the education staff is looking at ways to enhance the summer offerings for Children and Youth. More information will be forthcoming in February.

**IV. New Business**

Summer Worship Plans: Paul Amos is working with the staff to assemble a task force to look at worship structures for the summer. This includes:

- Worship Times
- Number of services each week
- Format for the services

After the task force meets, it will distribute a survey sent to the congregation to gather more information. The timeframe for beginning the Summer Worship is expected for Memorial Day weekend.

Saturday Service Review:

Steve Larkin and Cindy Amos will lead a task force to look at the format for the Saturday Evening service. Now that the Saturday service has experimented with changes in format and location, it is time to gather information from those leading and attending the service, as well as the congregation as a whole, with a goal of enhancing the overall worship experience.

**V. Budget and Finance**

New Fiscal Year: Cheryl Bratten led the team through an updated budget for FY 2018 that showed areas proposed for expense reductions. The goal was to reduce expenses by \$70K, and as of the meeting, \$36K had been identified. Cheryl will be working with staff and lay leaders to help identify additional reductions in expenses.

Planned Giving and Donor Base Expansion: Cheryl will be pulling together a task force to look at ways expand congregational giving as well as working on planned giving.

Shepherd Hall Balloon Payment: Cheryl will also be helping pull together a task force that will identify options for meeting the balloon payment on the Shepherd Hall mortgage.

**VI. Trustees**

Terri updated the team on the status of HVAC improvements at the Collingwood campus. These include most of the new control system being in place, removal of the old 40 ton chiller, and the work continuing on improvements to the mechanical yard. Dennis let the team know the HVAC system in his home had been replaced and his house was now warm and very comfortable.

**VII. Staff Parish**

The open meeting concluded and after a short break the leadership team moved into a closed session to discuss personnel issues.

Submitted by,

Terri Phillips  
Administrative Assistant