

St. Paul's Leadership Team
Wednesday, May 6, 2009

In Attendance: Jim Pratt, Heather Vermeersch, Don Kindopp, Leroy Schlamp, Dan Stade, Julie-Anne Wallewein, Pat Wotton

1. Jim called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.
2. Heather opened the meeting with a prayer.
3. The agenda, as presented, was approved. Moved by Julie-Anne, seconded by Dan
4. Jim made some opening remarks regarding the work of the Leadership Team regarding our opportunity to look to the future, to be innovative in our approach and to consider our motto: Get grace, get God, get going!
5. Jim presented a list of possible discussion items.
6. First order of business was to receive requests from two new Interest Groups. We need to develop a process for dealing with these. A suggestion was made to create a binder that would be kept in the office. It is the role of this team to approve the activities. We need to consider budget implications and whether the activities are appropriate/acceptable. We may need to create a pending file for some requests if further information is required from the applicants. There needs to be a way to acknowledge receipt of the requests and ensure the information is added to a calendar of events. It was noted that there should be a place for a phone number or email address on the form. We realize that we cannot let these forms pile up but rather need to deal with them as expediently as possible. Jim will consider further what the process will entail for dealing with these requests and will talk with Vicki about her role regarding these.
7. We discussed the role of the Treasurer and determined it would be appropriate for Don to provide a financial summary at each meeting so we are aware of what bills have been paid and what income has been received.
8. Pat clarified that our title is "Leadership Team".
9. We agreed that confidentiality of discussions was important and that if there were conflicts of interest we needed to deal with those appropriately.
10. We determined that the first Wednesday of each month would be a good time to meet. We also decided we may need to meet on a more frequent basis at times and we need to be flexible in order to facilitate the transition to a new model of "doing church business".
11. Jim indicated he had sent a letter to Lynn Kindopp to thank her for her work as Chair over the past year.
12. The handbook indicates that the Personnel Committee cannot include immediate family members and we need to have a discussion with these folks because of the fact that Lawrence Burnard was elected to serve on the Personnel Committee and his daughter, Lauren Burnard is a staff member (at least until the end of June). It was determined that we should contact this committee and ask them to meet with us on June 3 (if not interim meeting is held in the meantime) to talk further about this situation. It would be an opportunity to determine their role in this new structure and talk about how the Leadership Team might support them.

13. We need to find another Presbytery Representative – it could be someone from the other points in the Pastoral Charge - Pat will raise this at their next board meeting.
14. We talked about bill-paying procedures and budgeting for Interest and House Groups. There is a process for submitting reports of expenses and providing evaluations 4 times per year for accountability purposes. Don will continue to align requests for money with current budget line categories and then we may need to reconsider how we prepare a budget in the future. He will keep a record of bills that are paid monthly and present that information to the Leadership Team.
15. Pat presented information about the work of the Transition Team. They were created to give direction for the Interim Ministry. We have worked together as a congregation to create a vision for ourselves. It is now the role of the Leadership Team to provide leadership to live into our vision. Pat reviewed the goals and what has been accomplished to date by the Transition Team. She talked about being reborn and needing to “stir the energy” and build excitement for this new model. It is the hope of the Transition Team that by November the energy is high and we can ask for a search for a new minister to begin, collect some information, start the search in February and by July have a new minister(s) in place. Pat explained that we are in an experimentation phase and we should be willing to try anything new. A handout was provided outlining in detail the issues described here.
16. We discussed needing a communication strategy. We all agreed that it is important for the congregation to understand the role of the Leadership Team. We need to communicate a ‘Covenant of Leadership’ and set the tone for the future. We need time to review the handout information Pat shared about this model and how other churches have responded to it.
17. Don provided a brief update of our financial situation. Income is \$50,500 and expenses are \$68,000 so we have a deficit of \$17,500. Two bequests have come in, one from Cliff Hawkes and one from Darrell Brock.
18. Each week, information is put in the bulletin about income and expenses and Pat suggested we watch how many negative messages we send out. Don indicated that when we didn’t tell members where things were at financially they got upset. We need to consider our financial stability. In the past we have needed a motion to pay bills using money in the Bequest Fund to fund any deficits but may need to consider a different or new process.
19. It was moved by Don, seconded by Dan, that signing authority be any 2 of 4 of: Don Kindopp, Treasurer; Doreen Avery, Trustee; Vicki Winters, Office Administration; Jim Pratt, Chair. Carried.
20. Message from the Minister – Pat said that she lit a candle to remind us about the spirited work we were doing. She said the spirit of God was with us and that we were not alone. She said she felt a sense of adventure coming here and that there was a strong feeling on the part of the Transition Team of being amazed. She said the spirit had led us all here and like the flame from the candle we would not be put down. This opportunity to work together is an exciting, holy gift and she is pleased that we are all part of the Leadership Team.

21. Don closed the meeting with a prayer.

Next Scheduled meeting:

May 20, 7:00 pm – interim meeting to discuss reading material provided by Pat Wotton's report.