

LB Meeting 9/15/15

Present: Tom Hassler, Pam Klepec, Pam Dumont, John Lohr, Terry Bossieux, Gary Allen, Tiffany Dormire, Carl Timmer

Staff: Jeff Koob, Stephanie Turner

After preliminary comments, the Chair called the meeting to order at 19:08. Terry Bossieux shared a Rick Warren devotional, his personal story of God's getting his attention with a Bible verse, and his and Karen's ministry to Christian marriages thru their West Grace Ministries.

Executive Director Jeff Koob's report: two tenant churches are running well and smoothly; City Life is up and running, two services so far; Faithful Remnant Church is smaller, very easy to work with, and very appreciative of everything we do. Stephanie confirmed storage areas are set up for each church's equipment.

3ER brief by Stephanie: a family is being interviewed after the Pineapple Inn mission outreach turned up some candidate families over the summer; four members are interested in Servant Leader training. Joel & Peggy Reeves will be coordinators of meeting needs, working with Servant Leader Coordinator. 3E is proving to be a great organization; Equipping, Empowering & Encouraging.

John Lohr raised the issue of whether the past skills survey was a little heavy on 3E; Stephanie responded that the first four questions were intentionally 3E oriented, but the rest was not. Discussion points: Jeff did an assessment of the surveys received and staff thought the information was adequate for their purposes. Of the 23 respondents, none said they owned businesses; interest in such a business directory waned among the Trustees. Pam Dumont reported that she also felt it was a bit 3E oriented.

After further survey options were discussed, there was discussion of the opportunities for culling information that are being used and whether various approaches during the stewardship campaign could be fruitful; a

church meal, pledge cards, etc. Stephanie reviewed the ongoing sources that are being used, such as information gathered from the Finding Jesus classes and small group leaders. She noted that her experience suggested that personal appeals by phone or direct conversation were the most effective ways of pulling people into ministry opportunities. Sentiment coalesced that the data at hand, though imperfect, was sufficient for the present and that an additional survey might be counter-productive at this point. John Lohr stated he was satisfied with the discussion of the issue and that the minutes could show the subject closed.

ED's Financial summary: see attachment. **YOY contributions are up, but most of the \$40k paid for mortgage principal reduction has come from the Building Fund, not weekly offerings; at the present rate, that fund will be exhausted in August 2016.** (Koob suggestion: I would reword the yellow to read – *Contributions are up compared to 2014 and all of the 2015 mortgage principal payments have been paid out of the Building Fund. At the current burn rate (without replenishment), the Building Fund will be depleted with the August 2016 mortgage principal payment.*). Our present situation could be termed precarious; we're better than we were, but it's always uncertain. Jeff noted that Marie Allen's joining the staff this week on a volunteer basis was an excellent addition and asked Stephanie to report.

Stephanie noted that Marie would assist her as congregational care coordinator, expanding the church's capabilities for visitation in coordination with Pastor Mike, and would also be assisting with discipleship, small groups and the prayer ministry, as well as teaching two weekly introductory Bible studies. The Board noted its appreciation of her impending service.

The Stewardship report on page 5 was summarized as presented there; Pastor Mike has his message themes planned and is in discussion with a potential leader of the effort.

Approval of the last meeting's minutes as circulated was moved by chair, seconded by the undersigned and unanimously approved.

The Chair gave the Lay Leadership; he, Gary Allen and Pastor Mike had met and in the absence of applications save one, had come up with a list of contacts which Gary and Tom would be making this week to encourage people to apply for the LB and Trustees. Pastor Mike would like the Treasurer and LB Chairs reported by the Charge Conference. The Chair solicited suggestions and calls to Small Group Leaders were suggested, as they're wired in with their members and tasked with pulling them into closer ties with the church.

The Chair and other participants reported on LB contributions to the Preschool teachers/staff breakfast, which were much appreciated as reflected by their thank-you card to the LB. The Chair's letter of appreciation to them was approved by acclamation.

The Chair noted the plethora of opportunities for service as the new church year gets underway, reminding the LB that we need to be seen, heard and counted.

SPR Chair Pam Klepec reported that following last week's SPR meeting, action was needed and made a motion that the staff be given a 2016 Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) to their pay; after discussion, her motion was revised to state that this COLA would take effect beginning with the first full pay period in January 2016, with the percentage to be determined and voted upon as part of the upcoming 2016 budget cycle. It was seconded as amended and unanimously approved.

As an informational item, she formally advised the LB that Pastor Mike's salary would stay at \$70,000 per annum in 2016, with that figure consisting entirely of salary; his professional travel and development will be funded as part of budget process along with similar staff funds.

Round table topics and observations included Simple Church concepts and the need for prayer support for the busy upcoming activity schedule

with wide variation of topics. It was noted that rather than at Thanksgiving, our service as a homeless shelter will be the first week of January. Hope was expressed for synergy of spirit and mission with our two new facility-sharing partners, and it was noted that gentle but continuing emphasis should be placed on gifts of time, talents and treasure as the complete picture of stewardship.

Adjournment motion made and passed at 20:48.

~ Gary Allen