

## NT UMC LEADERSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES - April 21, 2015

In attendance:

LB members: Tom Hassler (Chair), Terry Bossieux, Pam Klepec, (Secretary pro tem), Pam Dumont, Carl Timmer, Tiffany Dormire, John Lohr, Pastor Mike Derflinger.

Staff: Jeff Koob, Stephanie Turner, and Karen Goins.

The Chair called the meeting to order; Guests (Patty and Mike Freiling with the Gideons) were introduced and welcomed, Carl Timmer gave the devotional (John 15), and Tiffany Dormire shared her story of faith.

### **Missions and Ministry**

**1. Gideons.** Patty and Mike Freiling were introduced and talked about their ministry with the Gideons. There are 48 Gideons in the Williamsburg area, and they visit every motel room, hotel room, and medical facility room annually so that the Bibles can be checked to be whole and in place. Bibles that have been marked in or otherwise abused are replaced, and if any of us find a Gideon Bible that has been abused, we are to remove it. Gideon ladies take care of Bibles in medical facilities and nursing homes, and the men are responsible for motels and hotels. Gideons are working in about 200 of 208 countries. Pam Dumont asked if Gideons place Bibles in vet clinics, and Patty said no but she would check on it. Gideons do not place Bibles in any facility without the owner's permission, and they finance Bibles at their own expense.

**2. Facility Usage.** Pastor Mike reported that two congregations in the area have offered proposals for us to consider for shared/compensated usage of our church facilities. The Pastors of these two churches are in the process of sharing with their own congregations about this possible agreement.

- A. The Spanish-speaking congregation is seeking every Sunday all afternoon for service, Sunday school, etc. This church is a spinoff of the Ministry of Danny Eschcavar (sp?) Senior Pastor from a church in Vienna, VA. There is a website you can go to learn more about them. They are requesting Sunday afternoons from 3 – 7 and a week day evening meeting from 7:30 to 9:30 with kitchen privileges. They generally have a 3:00 pm (starts at 3:30 pm) service on Sunday and can go as long as 7 pm. Their members are involved in local food service, translation services, and housekeeping earlier during the day on Sunday. The later service time allows them to attend church. This Church is 7 months old. Currently they meet in a building off Rt. 143, and this building is for sale. The church must find a new place to meet rather quickly should it sell. An additional need for them is storage, and they are willing to share with us. The Pastor is qualified to do weddings and funerals. To draw people in they hold conferences and provide meals. They hold a bank account at Wells Fargo and are willing to pay about \$800/month. They like our facility and particularly the bus stop out front of the church. They have a vision to grow and have their own facility one day.
- B. City Life Church would like to hold weekly Saturday evening worship in our building. Church has multiple campuses with live worship and meets at the YMCA since about a year ago. Not asking for any other time. They rent space at another local church for office use only. They have occasional meetings during this worship time as well. Worship rehearsal is before worship. Sometimes they have congregational meetings from 2pm – 10 pm. They conduct all funerals and weddings off site. NO service on thanksgiving or other holidays. Always meet on

Saturdays. Could be out earlier than 10 pm if needed. This church has a budget of \$1500/mo for churches to house them. Pastor Mike discussed potential conflicts with them such as Night at the Museum held on Saturday evening. In response, they said they would attend and show support and be in ministry with us that night. Pastor Mike looked at the calendar ahead, and on Dec 2016, Christmas is on a Sunday. They indicated that they would be open to having a joint Christmas Eve services or work out other arrangements. This church sees an affinity with our ministries and missions. Need an answer by June 1<sup>st</sup> as they would like to begin in September. They would like a one year contract and would even consider a 6 month contract.

- C. LB members in attendance were generally in agreement that Pastor Mike and MLT should further explore both requests. Some were concerned about day and time usage and how it will limit us. The details will need to be worked out. Pastor Mike will proceed to discuss with the DS and bring a report back in May. Once we get feedback from the DS and know what guidelines she provides, Pastor Mike will request a second meeting with both Pastors and Ministry leads. Gretchen has a concern about usage and if things will be left so she can begin Sunday services with the children's area left in good condition and without her having to come by on Saturday evenings to check. This will all be negotiated. For us, we should consider discussing with our congregation. We could have a brief question and answer session. Pastor Mike asked if this fits with our vision and core values. Is there enough support to continue with these discussions? ALL LB MEMBERS present voted to proceed.

3. Deaf Interpretation. Holly Pullman has informed us she will be retiring from interpreting by the end of June. The other interpreter who recently left was being paid, but Holly has not been a paid interpreter. Holly is ready for a break as she and her husband need to take time for family. She will put together names and agencies that can help us. As far as we know our church is the only church in Williamsburg that offers deaf interpretation. The reason is the cost involved and having interpreters for other times, i.e. bible study, meetings, etc. Holly said if a church wants to minister to the deaf they have to do more than just Sunday morning interpretation. Need a full commitment. Most likely we won't be able to replace her at \$42/hr. That is low pay. Holly will call Melanie Hall and let her know she will be leaving at the end of June. Melanie is our only adult deaf regular attendee. There is a church in Newport News that has a large deaf contingent in their congregation. There is full access for them at all events. We need to decide what we want to do. What would it look like if we closed captioned our services? Tiffany suggested that children who are deaf (third grade and under) can't read closed caption well. More discussion to come.

### **Executive Director's / Treasurer's Reports**

1. Finances. Nothing out of ordinary to report. We had an electric bill over-run of \$1500 which is not unusual, and if we have other churches use our facility this will continue. March was not financially as good as we originally thought it was, but still ok. We remain behind our needs in April. ED recommends we continue to spend on mission-essential items only, and continue to develop and adhere to spending discipline.

2. Apportionment. Our apportionment account payable continues to grow. We now owe \$22,000 for 2015. Our intent is to pay the full apportionment this year by year end.
  - Terry – my concern is one of process when we have X amount in surplus we pay up to X amount of the apportionment. Instead of coming each month to LB and asking about paying, we should set parameters and automatically pay based on those parameters. At some threshold amount we should pay as much as we can of the apportionment. Jeff evaluates our cash flow on a daily basis.
  - Pam D - there should be a formula .
  - John Lohr - I think we should let April fully play out and see where we stand.
  - Terry - in favor of making it based on the amount of cash flow.
  - MOTION – Terry makes the motion that for April, based on current cash availability, that we make a full payment. Second: Pam D.
  - We will see whether we need another motion next month. All are in favor of this.
3. Trustees. We've been able to save \$2,000 on our landscaping costs as we just signed a contract for \$4,000 and budgeted \$6,000. We will exceed our \$5,000 budget on Maintenance and Repairs. We've spent 46% of the yearly budget.
  - Our fire alarms were just inspected for the first time since beneficial occupancy.
  - Our genie lift was recently inspected. Last time it had maintenance and inspection was 2010. Training was also provided to those Trustees who may need to use it.
  - We are having the irrigation sprinkler system inspected. This was due in 2011.
4. Preschool. No concerns at this time. Budgets are on track for spending. We continue to pay salaries with no income in June, July, and August. Gretchen has planned for this with funds to cover.
5. Seminar. Terry reported on a Seminar on Goals and Budgeting from 12:30 – 4 PM on May 3.
6. First Night Usage. Paul Miller, Facilities Program Manager for First Night, met with ED and asked to use our facilities for the event. MLT recommended that we go ahead with it. No cost to our church for this event. There are two possible events. The earlier event would be a children's program. The later one would be over at 11:30 and would be a band entertainment. We can sell food and keep the funds. It will be held on a Thursday night. Further discussions to come. Is anyone opposed to this? NO OPPOSITION.

### **Leadership Board Chair Report**

1. March minutes. Does anyone make a motion to approve March minutes as they stand? Terry approved motion and Tiffany seconded. All APPROVED the motion.

2. District Training on Lay Leadership. Tom attended this training and about 30 people attended. He learned three things. For more details, see attachment.

A. Lay leadership function includes more than nominating people for positions. We're supposed to have a leadership training program. Our denomination has some training programs.

B. Enormous emphasis is placed on spiritual gifts for leadership and nominations. There are two inventories; one on spiritual gifts and one on spiritual fruits. Probably, we can do a better job of matching positions and persons. One way is to find out where they scored high and low.

C. Spiritual gifts will work in the secular world, but skills and talents in the secular world may not be what God wants you to use in the Kingdom.

### 3. Round Table

- Tiffany - deaf children will need help as they won't be able to read the caption (3<sup>rd</sup> Grade and under).
- Terry – We need to trust in God. In Chronicles, God talks about trust.
- Karen – Alpha retreat this weekend for youth. We need your prayers.

### **Pastor Mike –**

1. Annual Conference. We need a lay representative for Annual Conference. **Carl Timmer has volunteered to be lay representative. Annual conference is June 19 – 21<sup>st</sup>. May 16<sup>th</sup> Orientation**

2. Craig and Jenni Marsh. They have not been in ministry due to some health problems for Craig stemming from an auto accident, and Jenni has had surgery. They are in danger of losing their home and cannot pay their bills. Need to find out what is going on before we continue with our donations with them. We will contact them and continue to explore. If MLT decides to do something in meantime, we'll let you know.

Motion to adjourn: Pam K and John L seconded. Motion approved by all.