

CARLISLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
LEADERSHIP COUNCIL
April 20, 2020
OPEN SESSION MINUTES

Our Mission: “Inviting all to become disciples of Jesus Christ serving Carlisle and beyond.”

Our Vision: Living like Jesus improves our lives, our families, the Carlisle community and beyond. At Carlisle United Methodist Church, we strive to LIVE LIKE JESUS.

Present (via Zoom): Bill Bunt, Ron Chipriano, Debbi Goeltsch, Wayne Henderson, Mira Hewlett, Kerm Leitner, John Seaton, Darlene Sheaffer, Jim VanZandt, Michelle Williams, Roger Woods, and Marian Gibble, Recording Secretary. Absent: None.

- I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Kerm Leitner at 5:45pm. Minutes of the March 16, 2020 Executive Session and Open Session were approved online by the Leadership Council.
- II. Devotions and opening prayer were held during Executive Session.
- III. Moments with the Pastors:
 - A. Pastor Jim:
 1. We need to replace the mower and snow blower at the parsonage before Pastor Jake and his family move in the parsonage in July.
 2. We have had positive feedback about our online services.
 3. Our new administrative assistant, Audra Clements, is working out well. She has had a soft landing because no bulletins and other normal paperwork are being created due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
 4. The office, while officially closed, continues to be staffed from 8am to 4pm daily. However, public traffic is at a minimum.
 5. Pastor Jim thanks the video team for creating the videos for Sunday services since the pandemic.
 6. Our musicians are doing a great job.
 7. We have had four graveside services since March 1. We will have three memorial services planned when we open our doors again. However, we do not know when or where these services will be held.
 8. Pastor Jim appreciates all that the staff has been doing despite the pandemic.
 9. Pastor Jake will be at the next staff meeting on Thursday on Zoom.
 10. The Roseanne Miller Estate bequest will go towards SGC, leaving only one outstanding estate.
 - B. Pastor Mira:
 1. Marnie Anderson has done everything on her end for notary certification and is waiting for testing from the state.
 2. Safe Sanctuary Clearances – everything is in place to begin this process. We will be uploading about 500 people into the new clearance system, and we will start to contact everyone.
 3. The church website has been updated.

4. Little Lights Learning Center's loan from CARES Act has been approved. This money will be used to pay their staff.
5. The Scholarship Team is receiving applications for scholarships, but we will have less money to award scholarships this year due to a decrease in trust account income for scholarship purposes.
6. We have seen an increase of 25 families in online giving since worship services began online.
7. After a conversation with Fed Ex, donated benches were delivered to Pastor Mira's porch.
8. Pastor Mira and Pastor Jake have been negotiating with a prospective mentor regarding the timing and cost of his services.

IV. Announcements, Kerm Leitner reporting:

- A. Kerm Leitner, chair, expressed thanks and gratitude of the Leadership Council and congregation of CUMC for the superb leadership of Pastor Jim and Pastor Mira through this health crises in our country. Their positive attitudes, calm demeanors and creative energies have been inspiring to a great many of us. We could not be more blessed to have the two of them leading us at this time.
- B. The pastoral moves within the Susquehanna Conference are being made as previously announced. Pastor Jake, Susan and their daughter, Naomi, will be arriving sometime in June ahead of his official appointment date of July 1. A congregational letter will be sent in the near future indicating ways that individuals, families, small groups or Sunday School classes can help welcome the Waybrights to Carlisle.
- C. Some concerns have been expressed that CUMC may be without a building before the new building has been completed. The sales agreement of our present building lists a sell by date of December 2020. Construction is now slated to resume on May 1; therefore, we anticipate a late summer/fall move to SGC.
- D. All of the trees purchased by members and friends of CUMC have been planted. Our landscaper, Matt Drawbaugh, and CUMC's custodial staff have worked to plant all 113 trees. All health precautions were taken and observed by the planters. The trees needed to be planted for viability.
- E. CUMC applied for a PPP Loan under the federal CARES Act. The loan has been approved through M & T Bank in the amount of \$136,689 and will ensure that all of the church's staff's salaries will be paid for eight weeks. Little Lights Learning Center also applied for an SBA Loan under the federal CARES Act. The LLC loan has been approved through Member's First Federal Credit Union in the amount of \$111,736 and will ensure that all of the center's staff will be paid for eight weeks.
- F. Kerm expressed thanks to Chapin Grim for the quality of his videos for the weekly worship services.

V. Financial Report, Wayne Henderson reporting:

- A. Page 1 of our March 2020 financial summary shows that March offerings were \$79,000 with a budget of \$80,000. Year to Date we are only behind by \$5,000 for Offerings while expenses were down. This means we are \$20,000 ahead of budget, which is amazing during this pandemic.
- B. Total spent on SGC to date is \$12 million, with a budget of \$14 million.
- C. Shares of Ministry payments are being withheld while worship services have been suspended during the pandemic.

VI. Old Business, Kerm Leitner reporting:

- A. Following a motion by Kerm Leitner and a second by Bill Bunt, the Leadership Council unanimously approved the Visioning Executive Summary, which had been compiled by Kathy Charette, a member of the Visioning Steering Committee.
- B. Next month Leadership Council will receive a draft of the Key Fob policy.
- C. Capital Campaign 2 has been extended since its slated start on March 15. Pastor Jim; Pastor Mira; Paul Nixon, the consultant; Capital Campaign co-chairs, Debbie and Rick Washinger; and Kerm Leitner have met twice on Zoom since March 16. Since there are so many uncertainties at this time, we will wait until we are in the new building before we resume the new campaign. We still plan to have the Sneak Peek event. Since Capital Campaign 2 will begin after Pastor Jake has arrived, he will be participating in the next Zoom meeting on May 5.
- D. Building Committee Recognition dinner is being extended. No date has been set at this time.

VII. New Business, Kerm Leitner reporting:

- A. We still have many unknowns in planning for future events due to pandemic limitations. The governor announced, "Limitations on mass gatherings will remain in place for the duration of the reopening process according to planning documents." The governor has also indicated that there may be more information at the end of this week.
- B. While not taking any action, the Leadership Council and pastors have begun to work on contingency plans once we will be able to worship together again. These plans will include a continuing online presence to provide meaningful worship experiences for everyone within our CUMC family. The plans will also incorporate measures that can be put into place to insure the highest degree of safety for those who return to worshipping inside our church.

VIII. Around the Table:

- A. Ron Chipriano is in touch with the Salvation Army regarding Wednesday night dinners. Our participation is on hold at this time.
- B. Debbi Goeltsch asked for prayers for her father.
- C. Wayne Henderson noted some Sunday School classes are meeting via Zoom.
- D. Roger Woods noted it is hard to plan something for the future, not knowing when we go into the new building. For the fall, we may want to have an online presence for future classes.
- E. John Seaton reported the GIVE Team is awaiting future services.
- F. Darlene Sheaffer reported Lia had a virtual meeting, with summer Sunday School and VBS possibly combining programs.
- G. Michelle Williams reported CONNECT and Kathy Charette have been keeping in touch with 156 people who do not have computer connections.
- H. Kerm Leitner reported that Connie has been calling choir members to see how they are doing.

IX. The meeting closed at 7:05pm with prayer by Pastor Jim.

Next Meeting: Monday, May 18, 2020 at 5pm Location TBA

Respectfully submitted,
Marian Gible, Recording Secretary