

CARLISLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
LEADERSHIP COUNCIL
May 18, 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 Open Session was called to order by Kerm Leitner at 6:03pm. Minutes of the April 20, 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 Mira:

1. Audra and Pastor Mira installed both Clearances and Safe Sanctuary documents online. Updating deadline of these documents has been extended through December 2020 because of Covid-19. We will put this project on hold until the State has a new schedule. Marnie Anderson’s notary application is backlogged.
2. Erin Fleet made the decision to cancel the senior youth trip to the Bahamas. Erin plans to schedule something locally to replace the trip.
3. United Way has been doing some interesting things. They have \$105,000 which will be distributed among nonprofits. Throughout this pandemic, they have been very transparent about what they need and are checking how they can raise money in other ways.

B. Pastor Jim:

1. Concerns have been about worship services and how to make worship very meaningful. Our present technology has been working. He appreciates what Chapin Grim and Zach Reynolds are doing. We will be looking into other ways of worshipping. Worshipping online has brought our church to the attention of people far and wide—from other states and foreign countries – Canada and Spain. We have thought about livestreaming, but we are unable to do that presently. Some churches have other methods—such as house churches. Presently, we are looking into the drive-in theater idea at SGC. Chris Gregory will be looking at this using AM or FM band. We plan to give it a try at SGC.
2. Strange things have happened this month—the house next door to our Mooreland Avenue parsonage is for sale.
3. Thanks to Jacquie and Bill Bunt for sending out invitations for the June 23 dinner.
4. Since the closing due to Covid-19, we have had 8-9 deaths—none Covid-19 related. We find having only gravesite services is not satisfying to the families and to pastors. Memorial services are being planned, but we don’t know when that can begin. Keep these families in your prayers as they grieve in unfamiliar ways.

- IV. Announcements, Kerm Leitner reporting:
 - A. Kerm texted both pastors that they are in our prayers, now more than ever. We are undergirding all they are doing in prayers.
 - B. We are hearing good things about the present worship services being offered online. Many people are loving those services.
 - C. Kerm thanked Charles Reynolds for maintaining the Blog post on our website. He is restricted in taking pictures due to limited access to SGC because of Covid-19.
 - D. The new construction timeline will be posted in Mid-Week Minutes.

- V. Financial Report, Wayne Henderson reporting:
 - A. Wayne pointed out that the Monthly Finance Sheet now includes two Capital Campaign columns—one for Capital Campaign I and one for Capital Campaign II.
 - B. General Funds now show we are ahead by about \$30,000. However, this is because we are still holding payment of Shares of Ministry. We are waiting for further word regarding CARES Act assistance to the General Conference. Kerm felt we should hold off paying Shares of Ministry until further word whether PPP must be repaid with a 1% interest penalty—we are waiting until the end of the third quarter. We know we have an obligation to the Conference, but we will wait until we have all the information needed.
 - C. Wayne feels we should continue to have an online presence for worship services. He noted giving is behind previous months, but only by a small amount.
 - D. After requesting bids from three movers, we received only one bid—from Ziegler's Storage and Transfer, Inc. Following a motion by Wayne Henderson and a second by Ron Chipriano, the Leadership Council unanimously approved the bid proposed by Ziegler's Storage and Transfer, Inc. for the cost of \$22,710.60, plus the cost of moving materials. This motion approved an increase of \$3,000.00 in the 2020 Budget, from \$27,000 to \$30,000 if needed for the cost of the move that includes pianos, computer systems, materials, and items in Allen's Distribution Storage.

- VI. Old Business, Kerm Leitner reporting:
 - A. Capital Campaign 2 committee met on May 5, along with Pastor Jake, Paul Nixon, our consultant, Debbie and Rick Washinger, Kerm Leitner, Pastor Jim and Pastor Mira. The consensus is that it is too early to decide when to start Capital Campaign 2. The next meeting is June 2.
 - B. Sneak Peak may still happen. Paul Nixon felt it was a good idea to hold this event.
 - C. Building Committee Recognition dinner is still being planned. Debbi Goeltsch and Bill Bunt are planning fun games.

- VII. New Business, Kerm Leitner reporting:
 - A. Following a motion by Kerm Leitner and a second by Roger Woods, the Leadership Council unanimously approved the formation of the Reopening Team comprised of Bill Bunt, Kathy Charette, Ron Chipriano, Pastor Jim VanZandt, Pastor Mira Hewlett and Kerm Leitner with Dr. Robert Goeltsch serving as the team's medical consultant. We will stress that as we open, we will crawl, then walk, and then run.
 - B. Following a motion by Kerm Leitner and a second by Bill Bunt, the Leadership Council unanimously approved a phased-in reopening of the church starting with the church office on June 1. Initially, the office will be open from 9am to noon Monday-Friday. The scope of the work will be to identify what activities will be allowed during both the Yellow and Green categories of the Covid-19 reopening within PA. We will look at a

number of things related to the gradual opening of the office and church. By June 15, the church will be opened both morning and afternoon. Everyone will be asked to wear a mask. The re-opening team will identify requirements in all these phases. Daily cleaning of the church will have to be completed.

- C. Following a motion by Kerm Leitner and a second by John Seaton, the Leadership Council unanimously approved the reopening of Little Lights Learning Center on June 1. Until further notice and starting on June 1, the entrance by the elevator will be reserved for the exclusive use of Little Lights staff, children and their families. Natasha Yearsley will be setting up guidelines to reopen. Temperatures will be taken and teachers will escort students to the room so that parents will not be in the building. If protocols are not met, the child will not be allowed in the building. Parents will have to sign a form consenting to follow the revised regulations approved by the state and CDC. Ladies of the church will be making masks for the children aged 2 and above. No volunteers will be permitted in Little Lights for a while. The entrance to the church will be the entrance off the street and not off the parking lot.
- D. Our church is scheduled to host CARES mothers and children in July. We will safely limit the guests to 30-35. Natasha Yearsley feels it is possible to host CARES, but we must have separate entrances for the children and a different entrance for CARES guests. Presently, CARES had been hosted at Stewart Community Center until the red phase is over. No decisions were made on this matter. The item was tabled until the June Leadership Council meeting. This will give them an opportunity to see how the opening of Little Lights has gone.
- E. Plans to Honor Pastor Jim:
 - 1. Invitations have gone out for the June 23 dinner at Boiling Springs Tavern. If the BST is not available, the dinner party will be held at Barnitz UMC's pavilion.
 - 2. Jim will now be preaching on his last Sunday as there will be no receptions in the Gathering following services. There will either be a drive-in service at SGC or a live sermon in the Sanctuary with an audience of less than 25.
 - 3. At 2pm on June 28, there will be a car processional at SGC where Jim and his family and members and friends of CUMC will have an opportunity to say their good-byes.
- F. Following a motion by Bill Bunt and a second by Debbi Goeltsch, the Leadership Council unanimously approved the rental reimbursement payment in the amount of \$3,840 to Mr. and Mrs. Michael Ratze, tenants at 112 Mooreland Avenue and the amount of \$768 to Sterling Property Management Company for March and April. No reimbursement was made to the Ratze family for May since they did not pay the rent for May.
- G. Revisions and updates were made in the Safe Sanctuaries Policy. Following a motion by Bill Bunt and a second by John Seaton, the Leadership Council unanimously approved the revised Safe Sanctuaries Policy.

VIII. Around the Table:

- A. Debbi Goeltsch thanked everyone for the lovely flowers after the death of her father. She appreciates the worship services online. Debbi supports continuing CARES at Stewart Center.
- B. John Seaton reported that with worship services online, the GIVE Team is dormant at this time. He noted Theology Café will be sorely missed.
- C. Darlene Sheaffer has been in touch with Lia and Erin. She has been watching Lia's message for the kids online and reports they are very good. She would like to see services continue online.

- D. Pastor Jim:
 1. He is happy to see that the online services will continue. Rhonda stated that we have people globally and locally listening to the services.
 2. Our church is not just a building but is wherever people are. Pastor Jim thanked Leadership Council for thinking about the future and should continue to do that.
 3. We need to share Jesus with the community and the world.
 4. He also asked that we pray for Rick Washinger following his surgery.
- E. Bill Bunt stated the Personnel Committee is still looking for a replacement for Kathy Charette, who agreed to stay until August. Bill believes we need to revisit the issue of having online services.
- F. Wayne Henderson noted gift cards for Pastor Jake and family should be given to Kerm Leitner. He attended a two-day music festival and found he preferred Zoom over live-streaming. He also believes we should offer the congregation the opportunity to view Leadership Council meetings online, even after we are able to attend in person.
- G. Pastor Mira reported:
 1. Pastor Mira and Pastor Jake are working on job descriptions. A coach, Darrell Rolland, was hired.
 2. She also noted Owen Bond's mother reported that Owen has had a resurgence of cancer and requested prayers for him.
 3. Thanks for all the prayers for Grace. Her recovery is hard. She will be using a feeding tube for at least another two weeks. Her recovery is a long road.
- H. Ron Chipriano:
 1. He is busy with the parsonage facility and at SGC.
 2. Trees at SGC will need to be watered more.
 3. He's looking for another mower. He found one for \$3,800 and will see how it performs.
 4. Ron believes the water leak at the parsonage is coming through stone.
 5. Asked for prayers for Pete Posey, who is in extreme pain.
- I. Michelle Williams reported:
 1. Her granddaughter is healing. She has had a tracheotomy and feeding tube, is healing and is being moved to Virginia in the next 10 days. Thanks for all prayers on her behalf.
 2. She sent thank-you notes to the volunteers who are in contact with our shut-ins.
- J. Roger Woods noted:
 1. Zoom meetings are being used more and more. He sees a need for finding a better way where we could have multiple meetings at one time. We should have every class online.
 2. Roger also listed good points of discussion are in a book, "Dialogues on Race." The church needs to look at the images we are portraying to people of color.

IX. The meeting closed at 7:04pm with prayer by Pastor Jim.

Respectfully submitted,
 Marian Gibble, Recording Secretary

Next Meeting: Monday, June 15, 2020 at 5pm Location TBA