

CARLISLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
LEADERSHIP COUNCIL
June 15, 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 6:21pm following Executive Session. Minutes of the May 18, 2020 Executive Session and Open Session were approved online by the Leadership Council.

II. Devotions and opening prayer were led by Pastor Jim during Executive Session. This being Pastor Jim’s last devotions with the Leadership Council before his retirement, he reminded us how CUMC was first started—of the Transition Team and the prayers that were prayed along the way. Pastor Jim also remembered the Leadership Council and what has been accomplished to this point. He reminded us that just like the Pueblo Indians of Canyonlands in Utah, we, the people, are CUMC’s artists and the storytellers of CUMC.

III. Moments with the Pastors:

A. Pastor Mira:

1. Last week there was an incident at LLLC where a child was left alone in Thornwald Park for approximately 5 to 10 minutes. Natasha Yearsley has been dealing with the police, the department of Human Services and Children & Youth on this matter. The LLLC Board was informed of this matter. The teachers have been terminated and walking trips at this time have been discontinued. The Center’s license has been lowered to provisional status, and there will be a number of inspections, trainings and reports to regain full status. Some funding will be withdrawn, too. The child will be returning to Little Lights tomorrow.
2. Re-opening of LLLC has been very successful at 75% of capacity. It is waiting to receive further orders from the government regarding day care centers in the “green” phase.
3. The Leadership Council is having a Retirement Dinner for Pastor Jim next week. Card tables are needed before Tuesday night.
4. On behalf of the congregation, cards have been collected from congregants.

B. Pastor Jim:

1. Thanks to everyone who is willing to help coordinate Drive-In Church on June 21.

IV. Announcements, Kerm Leitner reporting:

- A. Kerm expressed thanks during these times to all who come to drive-in worship. We need to be very careful with the vulnerable of our congregation. We want to acknowledge

during these times that it is perfectly OK for them to stay away until they feel comfortable attending live events at the church.

- B. Several members attended a Black Lives Solidarity event in Carlisle. Kerm noted it was very well planned and was a very interesting experience.
- C. Pastor Mira and the Leitners gave gifts from the church to the Waybrights on June 9. They love Carlisle, their parsonage so close to the campus of Dickinson College, and Leo's Ice Cream.
- D. Kerm thanked Chip, Roger and Wayne for attending the Drive-In Worship Service practice on Sunday.
- E. On June 24 we will have access to some of Chris Gregory's video equipment from his office. We will be using the chapel as the recording studio.

V. Financial Report, Wayne Henderson reporting:

- A. Wayne pointed out that the Monthly Finance Report shows revenue of over \$84,000 for May while we budgeted \$71,000. This represents the highest May revenue received in 5 years. We have \$274,000 in the carrying budget. He noted many contributions are coming from RMD's.

VI. Old Business, Kerm Leitner reporting:

- A. Capital Campaign 2 plans have been finalized.
 - 1. Depending upon the resumption of services, there may be increased costs for mailings as the use of mailboxes will be limited.
 - 2. Floor signing at SGC is being planned for July 19.
 - 3. The Kick-off is scheduled for August 23 – the same day as the Sneak Peek.
 - 4. Following a motion by John Seaton and a second by Roger Woods, the Leadership Council unanimously approved the extended Second Capital Campaign's timeline.
- B. Building Committee recognition – Debbi reported that the event will be planned after we have moved.
- C. Reopening Team Report:
 - 1. In the future when worship services have been resumed, there will be a video to walk people through new procedures prior to the services.
 - 2. For the drive-in worship, those attending will remain in their cars. If they leave their cars, they must wear masks and keep a social distance.
 - 3. No restroom facilities will be available.
 - 4. No one will be able to enter the building.
 - 5. Starting June 21, the Sanctuary in our present facility will be available for funerals on Saturdays or Sunday afternoons. Anyone attending must wear masks. Seating will be limited and mapped at 45-90 people. After each use, the church will be cleaned.
 - 6. New protocols for LLC have gone well.
 - 7. The church office has now fully reopened with hours 9-4.
 - 8. Van Usage Protocols:
 - (a) 50% of capacity.
 - (b) All occupants must be masked.
 - (c) The vans will be sanitized after each trip.
- D. CARES Shelter in July:
 - 1. This had been tabled in May.
 - 2. Little Lights protocols have gone well, and they are agreeable to not using the MPR during July.
 - 3. Our facility will only accommodate 35 people for CARES.

4. Following a motion by Kerm Leitner and a second by Bill Bunt, the Leadership Council unanimously approved CARES using our facility in July.
- E. Kerm thanked Wayne Henderson for his leadership in the Fob and Key Policy. Eight others contributed to completing this policy. Following a motion by Wayne Henderson and a second by John Seaton, the Leadership Council unanimously approved accepting the FOB and Key Policy.
- F. Pastor Mira completed the revised Van Policy which addressed some previous questions from Leadership Council members. Certain items have been grandfathered in as we go forward. Following a motion by Michelle Williams and a second by Wayne Henderson, the Leadership Council unanimously approved the Revised Van Policy.
- G. Pastor Jim's Retirement Party:
 1. Card tables will be set up. Their locations could be changed for distancing.
 2. No beverages will be ordered except for water and coffee.
 3. Silverware and plates will be in a bag to remain sanitized.
 4. There will be an outdoor port-a-john.
 5. Chip and Bill will pick up ordered dinners.
 6. Three speakers will be available.
- H. Pastor Jim's Car Processional:
 1. Time to thank Jim and Amy for all their contributions to CUMC.
 2. Staff is required and Leadership Council is encouraged to help in keeping the traffic moving.
 3. No one should get out of their cars during the processional.
 4. Kerm would like everybody to consider decorating their cars for Pastor Jim, our consummate car aficionado.

VII. New Business, Kerm Leitner reporting:

- A. Following a motion by Darlene Sheaffer and a second by John Seaton, the Leadership Council unanimously approved Jen Graybill as a van driver.
- B. Roger Woods gave a report on Adult Grow Initiatives relating to the LGBTQ issue and racism.
 1. LGBTQ Life Group: This group has been forming over the last 3 months subsequent to and in conjunction with the formation of Susquehanna UMC Next. These groups formed after a disappointment in the outcome of the Special General Conference of 2019. Roger read the group's mission statement as it currently exists and advised that the group is still in the formative stages and will be inviting others to join the group soon.
 2. An Anti-Racism Life Group has developed in light of the murder of George Floyd and others, with an eye towards supporting our community and taking action to eliminate the vestiges of racism wherever they remain. This group is also in its formative stages and will be inviting others to join soon, seeking to assist the congregation in support of the United Methodist Plan to eliminate racism. Roger read this group's mission statement and communicated the group's request for support from the Leadership Council by taking on a leadership role for responsibility and accountability for Diversity and Inclusion within CUMC.

This Life Group is:

- (a) In communication with the 50+ people who responded to Pastor Jim's call for a study/action on Racism.
- (b) Several studies are in the works, including additional sessions of Dialogues on Race and more to come in the middle of July with Pastor Jake. There are currently two ongoing sessions of Dialogues on Race:
 - (i) Michelle Williams is leading the study every Thursday evening from 6:00-7:00pm.
 - (ii) Yancy and Sharon Edwards are leading the New Beginnings Sunday School Class in this study.
- (c) Pastor Mira has offered a study of the book, "White Fragility, Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism."
- (d) Wayne challenged the Leadership Council to lead by example in the stand against racism, including participation in the Dialogues on Race study.
- (e) Kerm proposed that we should have a vibrant Adult GROW ministry offering a diverse array of discussion groups and book studies. He encouraged the Leadership Council to get involved as much as possible.

VIII. Around the Table:

- A. John Seaton noted the Legacy Team sent a document regarding an amendment to an agreement. This item was approved at the Charge Conference.
- B. Pastor Mira noted Carlisle for Kids will be done differently this year, not knowing whether the kids will be going back to school in the fall. This year each church will be asked to donate funds to buy either backpacks or other items, and Project Share will purchase those items needed with the funds collected. CUMC will raise money for backpacks in July.
- C. Pastor Jim said he regrets he will have to stay away from CUMC. He would be willing to come back for free. He has been on a spiritual journey while here at CUMC. He noted how much his Christian life has been opened to new possibilities, and he became convinced that it is important how much you do and not what you know. He has been motivated to do something more.

IX. The meeting closed at 7:15pm with prayer by Pastor Mira.

Respectfully submitted,
Marian Gibble, Recording Secretary

Next Meeting: Monday, July 20, 2020 at 5pm Location TBA