

LUMC Leadership Team Meeting

July 13, 2009

Those present:

Matt Hoffman	Tim Crowe	Greg Albright
Pastor Val	Neil Hayes	Charlene Elam
Mike Handley	Lonnie Risner	Sue McPeek
Mike Hyland	Nancy Risner	Freeman James
Bruce Dickerson	Sis Rimer	Dawn Trapp
Ray Kissinger	Linda Stephens	Frank Montgomery

1. Opening remarks and welcome by Mike Hyland
2. Pastor Val led our Team in an opening prayer
3. Review of last month's minutes--no changes or corrections noted. Tim made a motion to accept, with Matt as a second followed by a unanimous YEA vote.

Review of last month's special LT meeting minutes--no changes or correction noted. Greg made a motion to accept with Sis as a second followed by a unanimous YEA vote

4. TREASURER: Sue reports that our expenses are still out running our income. We did catch up on our District apportionments by making a payment, and we hope to be able to make a Conference apportionment payment soon as well.

5. FINANCE: Frank presented a PowerPoint presentation of our year-to-date financial situation. A hard copy is attached to the original minutes. While the staff has done an excellent job of holding down costs, and our pledges remain steady, they are still not enough to offset our current expenses, and we are running about \$6,000 behind. He has also added a chart to keep track of our Miracle Sunday income vs. spending progress. He asked for a group discussion about the management of Miracle Sunday programming funds, and what process should be in place to release those funds as needed for Bruce's future needs. After a group discussion involving how much notice can be given etc. before money would be spent, Greg made a motion with Sis as a second, to have the DTM and Senior Pastor do the planning on new programs funded by the Miracle Sunday money, and report to the Leadership Team to seek the team's approval for those programs, at least thru the second half of 2009. This was followed by a unanimous YEA vote.

6. BUILDING MODIFICATION & VISION TEAM: Tim reports the Miracle Sunday campaign pledge total is now approximately \$175,000. We have begun to clean the portable walls and are in the process of buying the paint for Fellowship Hall. In addition, we have met with the architect to begin the chancel area remodeling. We expect to have permit requests ready for submission to the City of Hamilton by 7/31/09 and hope

to have the permits necessary to begin the construction process by 8/19/09. We are confident we can complete all aspects of the remodeling project except the lighting and sound packages with the monies currently available from the CD (\$50,000) and miracle fund campaign (\$25,000) proceeds.

With the approval of the Leadership Team last month, representatives from the Vision Team met with members of the District Building and Relocation committee to discuss options for turning non-liquid church assets (rental properties) into liquid assets. This money would be used to make up the shortfall in the Miracle Sunday campaign from our original goal of \$250,000. We updated them on our Vision process, the Miracle Sunday campaign, and our need for additional funds to achieve the \$250,000 in funds needed to appropriately fund the Vision. The district committee members were very impressed with our progress and supported our plan to take out a loan for the funds needed including the amounts necessary to make loan payments for the first 12 to 18 months of the loan term. They suggested we use the Church building as collateral rather than one of the rental properties and obtain our loan from the District UMC Credit Union. The UMC Credit Union gives very favorable loan interest rates to member churches and is looking for ways to assist congregations like LUMC to grow in the future. We met with a representative from the UMC credit union tonight prior to this meeting to discuss this option. We will also meet with local banks to get loan comparisons.

After talking to the Credit Union representative, we are proposing to take out a \$90,000 loan against the church building with approval to sell one or both of the rental properties to repay the loan quickly if need be.

As a result of these activities, we have scheduled a Church conference for Sunday, July 26 at 3:00 pm to seek the approval of the congregation for this proposed loan.

A group discussion followed Tim's report. Following discussion, Tim made a motion, with Matt as a second, seeking the Leadership Team's approval/recommendation of our Church to engage with a financial institution in seeking a loan not to exceed \$100,000 (with \$75,00 for cash-in-hand use, and the remainder to cover loan fees and 18 months of loan payments). This was followed by a unanimous YEA vote.

Greg gave us a brief update on progress in re-doing Fellowship Hall and a trip to the music store to look at instruments for use in the front of the sanctuary once we get the choir moved down front.

7. TRUSTEES: Matt reports that we began repairs at the Freeman Ave. property siding. These repairs were covered by insurance money from storm damage. The purchase and installation of a handicapped power door on the Arlington side parking lot has been approved by the Memorial Fund Committee. Gwen Butsch donated a lawn tractor for church use, and the EXIT light batteries have all been replaced.

8. SPRC: no report

9. NOMINATIONS: will start working in August

10. STAFF: Pastor Val reports the upcoming Church conference on July 26 is approaching. She continued that the membership care committee has been meeting regularly and is trying to keep track of members who miss more than a month of church services in a row. She wants to do another church pictorial directory as the last one was done in 2005. She had a great time riding on the July 4 parade float, and we are helping out a young family here at the church for the next couple of weeks.

Youth: Brian called the church to report that they had arrived safely in Lynchburg, VA to begin their mission project. The "Beach Party" church service is scheduled for July 19.

Children's: Dawn reports a very nice article was in the Hamilton-Journal News yesterday on our Summer Shine program. The program started on July 6 and has been averaging about 65 kids each day. So many that we are having to borrow a van from Grace UMC in Middletown. We have some high school students from Fairfield HS helping us as well as Adam and Eva from our own church youth. We still need help with van driver, subs for group leaders and kitchen help on Fridays. She is in the process of writing up a grant request with the Ohio River Valley District for NEXT year's Summer Shine already! From the kids attending Summer Shine, about 20 families do not have a church home and we are hoping some of those families might give our church a try. She adds that one new family visited us this past Sunday from having contact thru the Summer Shine program. She wanted to point out that Lisa Gebhart has been doing an outstanding job in helping her with Summer Shine.

VBS had an average of 68 kids each session. The last day, we had no power due to a storm, but we held our outdoors cookout anyway, with a great staff of volunteers! The float in the Hamilton 4th of July parade solicited a good response from the crowd. Thanks to Ray Kissinger and Lisa Gebhart for their work on the float, or we would not have been in the parade. Ray did everything on the float and drove it as well!

We have been upgraded to Level 4 by the Health Department without any extra permit fees for the remainder of this year.

Music: Charlene reports the special summer music at church services has been going very well---especially yesterday's group of singers. She will resume choir practice on September 2. The Praise Band will be used this Sunday at the Beach Party Service.

DTM: Bruce reports that Linda has been working on the new web page and has finished it. It is much easier to navigate than the previous web page and there are now links to both our Facebook and Twitter pages, as well. The Prayer drive thru was held on July 3rd. Park Ave. UMC and Zion Lutheran have both expressed interest in starting their own prayer drive thrus based on our model. He is still planning on starting an evening Immersion service this next January. He has been in contact with some of our

young adults who are not currently attending and seeking input on which night of the week they would feel would be best for a night service. Bruce showed the Team an example of UMC computer marketing and spoke of how our small groups can utilize this advertising tool.

11. MISSIONS: Sis reports her committee met last week and discussed Treat Street which will be held on October 24. They also have a project planned to fill recently donated school back-packs with school supplies for needy children at the Applecreek apartments in Fairfield for this next school year in August.

12. EVANGELISM: Nancy reports her committee has met and has examined what other churches have been doing in the way of Evangelism projects. The neighborhood door-knocker program sounds interesting as well as a neighborhood ice cream social to be held on Sunday, August 23, with hopefully our Praise Band being able to perform. Her team has also started to make follow up phone calls to any worship visitors that we have on Sunday mornings.

13. UMM: Ray reiterated the previous report that the Men are going to donate 50% of their profits at year's end to the Miracle Sunday campaign.

14. UMW: no report

15. STEPHENS MINISTERS: Neil and Julia Hayes are now the two coordinator-leaders for our Church's Stephen Ministers and they are planning to contact/recruit some new ministers to begin training in late September that runs thru late March. He adds that they have had a rash of referrals lately as the need for ministers grows.

16. VISION TEAM: Greg reports the Vision Team will continue to meet after our building modifications are complete. The physical changes were just a place to get us started. Their Team is already investigating new programs etc. that we might be able to get started after our physical modifications are complete.

17. IT TEAM: Mike reports their Team met recently and got training on the new Media Shout program available on church computers. A complete switch to this new software program should be done by early September.

18. Pastor Val led us in the Lord's Prayer to close the meeting.

19. NEXT meeting on Monday, August 10, at 7:00 pm.