

LUMC LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING

September 14, 2009

Those present:

Lonnie Risner	Dorothy Edgerton
Nancy Risner	Neil Hayes
Jim Heyser	Ed Gebhart
Sis Rimer	Dawn Trapp
Bruce Dickerson	Charlene Elam
Mike Hyland	Frank Montgomery
Mike Handley	Tim Crowe
Pastor Val	Matt Hoffman
Linda Stephens	Nancy Albright
Greg Albright	

1. Opening Welcome and thanks by Mike Hyland
2. Pastor Val read a wonderful short story of how a child viewed the Bible in making a book report. She then led us in an opening prayer.
3. Review of last month's minutes: One change in item #3...SHOULD have read that Brian made a motion, with Bruce as a second. With the noted amendment Nancy Albright made a motion to accept the minutes, with Matt as a second, followed by a unanimous YEA vote.
4. TREASURER: Nancy Albright reports that our year-to-date pledges and unpledged monies are running about \$20,000 less than last year, but luckily are expenses are running under last year's expenses at about the same pace. We made a \$7,500 payment to the Conference apportionments, and will be making a District payment shortly.
5. FINANCE: Frank presented a power point update on where we currently stand at the end of August. It will be posted on the church web site for all members to be able to view it. A hard copy is also attached to the original minutes. In short summary: our stewardship and giving are running about 95%; the \$30,000 we took from the matured CD helped to reduce our operations expenses shortfall; staff, Trustees and office administration continue to do an excellent job of holding down costs; our Apportionment payment situation has improved; and the Miracle Sunday Giving is above target so far.
6. Pastor Val opened a group discussion on whether the church should continue to pay \$31.00/ month for an ad in the Cincinnati Bell Yellow pages. After discussion, she was directed to look into possibly reducing the cost by only listing our name, address and phone number.
7. BUILDING MODIFICATION TEAM: Tim reports they continue to be focused on our remodeling plans for the building right now. Through the efforts of Greg Albright and the work crews he organized, we have completed the cleaning of the portable walls in Fellowship Hall. Priming and painting are now under way. This task is not as tedious as the cleaning process but is still very time consuming. If anyone has time to help us paint please let me know. We are working weeknights and weekends to complete this task. We must be done by the first week of October as the carpet is being installed that week. The new organ and keyboard are in the sanctuary and available for use. They are not hooked up to what will be the final sound output equipment but they still sound great. Currently, our meetings are focused on the lighting and sound RFP documents and getting those documents out for bid. The architect has completed the

necessary drawings of the chancel area and has filed for building permits with the City of Hamilton. We expect to have permits any time and plan to begin the construction process by 10/05/09. We are still confident we can complete all aspects of the remodeling project by the December 1st goal. We continue to work with the Treasurers to track capital spending in order to stay within budget.

8. TRUSTEES: Matt reports they met on August 20. They discussed the expiration of the 20 year roof warranty and will check on any roof needs that might exist. The A/C and ductwork on the Freeman Ave. house will eventually need replacement and is estimated to be around \$3,000. Jason will speak to the congregation about our continued need to seek volunteers to help with custodial needs. There was discussion about reviewing the job description for a future custodian, in hopes that we can prioritize the items of necessary attention and pay accordingly if we have funds available. We are also examining the availability of funds for the striping and waxing of the pre-school rooms and the addition of an alarm for the parsonage. There was discussion to allow 4 groups to use the church including Boy Scouts, Daisy Scouts etc. All 4 groups were approved by the Trustees. A short general discussion followed this topic, as the Leadership Team talked about the possibility of having all of these groups and any others in the future donate service time to some of our church missions, etc. in exchange for allowing free meeting space in our church building. All agreed it was an excellent idea.

9. SPRC: no report

10. NOMINATIONS: Pastor Val reports they met on August 26 with 7 members present. They ID'd various folks for potential committee service and will be contacting them in the coming weeks

11. STAFF: Pastor Val brought to our Team's attention the "Big Red Calendar Book" which is kept in the church office and is crucial for the scheduling of all the church meeting space. Please use this book and check with Linda if you have any need to utilize a church room for a meeting etc. Pledge statements thru August 30, 2009 are available for members in the parlor. Monthly postcards have been sent out to members who have missed several Sundays of worship. LUMC will be manning the community meal on November 1 at the UM Church Mission of Hamilton. They recently changed their Thursday night meal to Sunday nights with a preceding worship service. The Missions and Evangelism Teams have been directed to assist with this opportunity. On November 8, LUMC will host a cluster church conference with about 8 or 9 other UMC churches. Val called us to volunteer for Radical Hospitality. She wants greeters inside the doors, outside in the parking lot, bright red doors with signage to direct attendees. Starting in October we will be starting a church - wide time of study and renewal using the book by Bishop Robert Schnase entitled Cultivating Fruitfulness which focuses on the 5 practices of moving church to become a more vital, fruitful, and growing congregation. While the themes may be familiar, we will covenant together as the faith community to pray daily using a provided devotional. Sermons will then originate from our weekly shared topics and small group studies will also take place following the same themes. This will be a 5 Sunday project ending on November 8 with "Extravagant Generosity" and promise Sunday for our 2010 church budget.

Youth: Dorothy reports that the WED night youth meetings have started back up with several new young people in attendance. They are meeting next week at Grace UMC for a combo meeting with their youth and hope to rotate a similar plan with the other Hamilton/Fairfield UMCs. The youth will be doing the same book study just mentioned by Pastor Val during the month of October. 18 full backpacks of school supplies were distributed to Linden Elementary School with a few going to our food pantry for future distribution. The youth plan next year to help with our next Summer Shine program along with hopefully youth from other churches coming here to fulfill their own mission trips by working at Summer Shine.

Children's: Dawn reports our WED night Pathways started back up on September 9 with 42 kids in attendance, and we provided transportation for 25 of them. That program continues to grow as we have added 3 - 5 year olds and she can use some additional help with the free meals on WED nights as well. On Sunday mornings we have changed the order of programming to: 930 - 1030 = Sunday School ages 3 thru 6th grade; 1045 - 1130 = Children's Worship Service, and 1145 - 1230 = Kids Bible Adventure Team. She needs help on Sundays as well, as she only has Karen Farmer and herself. At the open house in August for the new Linden Elementary School, she and 3 other LUMC members handed out

information about our church to over 700 parents and students. For Summer Shine, 2010, she has submitted grants to the District and she hopes to expand it to offer Youth Mission opportunities to other churches in the East and West Ohio Conferences. Marirose Abney is now the Food Pantry Director. We have additional shelves in the pantry for more food, and Marirose hopes to be able to open it up on Friday afternoons to the community. Our Body and Soul attendance continues to grown on our 3rd SAT of the month community meal.

Music: Charlene reports choir practice resumed on September 2, with 1 new member and they will be performing soon in Sunday worship.

DTM: Bruce reports on October 1, he is starting a men's ministry with a meal entitled: "Matthew 4:19" and will continue on the first Thursday of each month. Also starting this next WED night a new media-driven Bible study will begin in the parlor and meet each week. He showed the group a brief media presentation of the UMCs new media advertisements based on Open Minds, hearts and doors. They can be seen at 10thousanddoors.org.

12. MISSIONS: Sis reports volunteers are need for Treat Street which will be held on October 24 from 3 - 6pm

13. EVANGALISM: Nancy reports the ice cream social was very successful. She was a part of the open house at the Linden School and got to talk to about 150 families. They will soon be doing prayer walks thru our neighborhood and will be a part of the Treat Street program.

14. UMW: a pot luck luncheon will be held at noon in Fellowship Hall (but I failed to record the date)

15. UMM: Held their monthly breakfast this past Saturday at Ohio Lunch where Chuck Bartels was the speaker about his experiences in the 1991 Desert Storm campaign.

16. STEPHENS MINISTERS: Neil reports LUMC now has 10 active ministers, including leaders. Eight of our ministers are currently providing care to 7 women and 1 man, none of whom are members of LUMC. One person from LUMC took ministry training last year, and though we had no one come forth from our church for this year's training, we do have two other trainees scheduled from other churches. The need for more ministers has risen substantially in the past few months. We are getting most of our referrals from people outside our church to assist people outside of our church. With this trend, our ministers are graduating more toward a community ministry and less of one just for our own church. This is still good, but we do not want to lose sight of helping our members if the need arises. We are a certified Stephen Ministry Church, with a mission of care giving to all those hurting, and recruiting/training new care givers. We adhere to our church's mission statement of "Win, Equip, Send". The ministers are in conversation and prayer over the future course of this ministry within our church. To strengthen and maintain this ministry in LUMC, we want our members and staff to keep an eye out for those in our own congregation who are hurting and please make referrals as needed. He asked our Team to please give prayerful consideration to the Stephens Ministers and their mission.

Greg asked the group how we at LUMC can better utilize our Stephens ministers to help our own members, pointing out that we rarely ask for help and prayers for ourselves publicly.

17. IT TEAM: Mike reports there was no meeting this past month. We had a brief discussion on the use of the video camera in the sanctuary to view singers and other performers.

18. NEW BUSINESS: We held a brief discussion of improving our janitorial situation. Mike directed the Trustees to talk about the subject at their next meeting and to make some recommendations to present back to the Leadership Team.

19. Pastor Val closed the meeting with a prayer.

20. NEXT MEETING: Monday, October 12 at 7pm