Leadership Council Meeting

10/23/23

Members Present: Mike Alexa, Rick Allison, Denny Blessing, Valerie Blessing, Phil Brewer, Jeff Buck, Kathy Heistand, Audrey Miller, Kim Peters, John Thompson, Melissa Truelove, Mark Weatherman, Mike Womack, Jeff Wright

1. Mike Womack opened the meeting with prayer.
2. Pastor’s Report
* Pastor Jeff expressed thanks for Pastor Appreciation Month and for the great staff that support the ministries.
* The Celebration of Life for Miss Marie (daycare staff) was a blessing to the family, and they showed much gratitude for how they were cared for by Mount Auburn.
* The consultation process is moving forward. The communication plan is in place, internet updates and the new sound board are complete, and the first phase of staff changes have been implemented.
* The Convening Conference is this weekend and Pastor Jeff, Mike Womack, Kathy Heistand and John Thompson will be attending. The conference will be live streamed.
1. Review of Attendance Trends
* Pastor Jeff shared the attendance trend document and explained that no church is the same following Covid.
* We are growing and seeing more young families attending services.
1. Trafalgar Update
* The next TLC meeting will be on Wednesday, October 23 and Jack and Sharon McMahon will be attending.
* The Trafalgar congregation is seeing a few new visitors and we continue to pray for stability.
1. Adding Handicap Access to Door 9
* Door 9, one of our main entrances, has several handicap parking spots but no handicap door. A motion was made by Mike Alexa to approve the handicap door at door #9 up to $5,500. Valerie Blessing seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
1. Plan to Update Trinity Hall
* Pastor Jeff explained the plan to update Trinity Hall, which has not been updated since 2009, continuing the plan from the interior designer which began in 2019. The plan involves new paint colors, some furniture updates, and some rearranging to improve visibility for guests and have better traffic flow.
* A motion was made by Pastor Jeff to approve spending up to $11,000 to refresh Trinity Hall with the plan presented to the Leadership Council. Valerie Blessing seconded the motion which passed with a majority vote.
1. Review of Financial Policy 2016-1
* The policy was reviewed for consideration of raising the expenditure amount for Leadership Council approval.
* Mike Womack made a motion to amend Policy 2016-1 to change the expenditure limits from $5,000 to $7,500 for the Stones Crossing Campus and from $2,000 to $3,500 for the Stones Crossing Campus and to strike bullet point #8 from the policy. Kathy Heistand seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
1. 2023 Financial Review
* The Stones Crossing Campus had a deficit of $(6,800) for September and a net profit of $13,700 year-to-date. (Note the sewer expenditure has not been paid yet). The bank account balance is below the minimum by $20,000.
* The Trafalgar Campus had a net profit of $2,700 for September and a net profit of $4,300 year-to-date. The bank account balance is $10,000 above the minimum.
* The Daycare had a net profit of $2,600 for September and a net profit of $40,319 year-to-date. The bank account balance is $192,000 above the minimum, of which $102,000 is grant money.
1. First Look at 2024 Budget
* Jeff Wright used the pledge multiplier (actual pledges vs actual offerings) that we have been using for several years to figure the budget.
* Currently the budget has a deficit of $(100,453).
* We need to consider that September and October were not good months.
* We need to reconsider the daycare’s monthly contribution that was set at $12,500 several years ago as costs have increased.
* The staff will be asked to review their budget areas again for possible cuts, and the Leadership Council will review at the November meeting.
1. Pastor Jeff closed the meeting in prayer and explained the 523 Prayer (5 minutes of prayer at 5:23am and pm)that he would like to begin in November, praying for the church and for people to invite others to come to church for the holiday season.