

Core Leadership Meeting, April 11, 2016

In attendance: Steve Rummel, Janice Zahn, Melinda Lilley, Patty Ferguson, Rich Detering, Rick Wilson, Colleen Olleman, Brad Beeman, Robbin Price

Rick Wilson started the evening with an icebreaker, asking us what exciting plans we had for the summer or, in some cases, sooner. Steve is planning to drive his 61-year-old car down to California and back in the coming couple of weeks, in order to go to spend some time with his son. He specifically asked that I mention in the minutes that if he isn't back by April 27 we should go in search of him, perhaps with a tow truck. I figure any car that has made it 61 years is probably good for one more adventure. Good travels, Steve!

After discussion of trips and graduations, Rick opened the meeting in prayer.

Church Website

Brad sent out Adam Stuenkel's email, along with a link to the new website so that we can look at it. If you didn't receive the link, check with Brad and he'll send it to you. Brad passed his computer around at the meeting and I must say the new site is looking very nice. Colleen says she has looked at it on her iPhone, and it works well in that format, too. Melinda says she thinks it needs a link to the church leadership (Core Leadership, committee heads, etc.), and Brad mentioned that any suggestions about content should be sent to Adam Stuenkel, who will relay them to Daniel. Adam, along with Andy Luedke, will be getting up to speed on the website and working to maintain it.

Action Item: Look at the new website and offer any suggestions about content to Adam Stuenkel.

Confirmation

The first meeting with our 15 confirmands was last Sunday, followed by a dinner and youth group. This organization of activities worked out well. The group includes enthusiastic and spirited kids from 6th to 10th grade. There is still a need for mentors for the confirmands. Mentoring does not require a lot of time or heavy lifting, just a desire to support these cool young folks. If you're interested, please talk to Brad or Jen Hoeber.

Action Item: If you have an interest in mentoring a confirmand, or know someone who does, or if you just want to know more about what is required to mentor, please let Jen or Brad know.

Outreach: May Mission Trip

We have 54 folks who have expressed interest in the Lazy F mission trip in May. We do not have any official registration yet, but it's a safe bet that most of the 54 will commit. (Many of them came last year.) We have the use of the two rustic (log) cabins and 15 of our 16 youth group kids are planning to come. We might also have

a group of young adults coming who have been meeting with Katie Olleman at Crossroads on a regular basis. Darrell and Livonia Lowe are acting as liaisons for the big work projects planned for the trip. We will also be gathering clothing for the Ellensburg Clothing Bank again this year.

Leadership

We discussed the need to cultivate new leadership in the church. There are teams that need more members, and long-time, dedicated leaders who would like to step down or pursue other church activities. We have many activities that are run by passionate individuals, but we need ways to involve more people and develop more relationships within the church.

In the past, we have relied on calls for volunteers on Sunday morning, bulletins in the newsletter, and inviting individuals to help out (this is a key role of the Lay Leadership Team). These methods have met with limited success.

Melinda has had luck using VolunteerSpot.com to get volunteers to help with Crossroads Dinner and mentioned that online tools can be helpful, provided they are easy to use.

Brad shared a new organizational style that many churches are embracing. It involves having one group that provides leadership in many areas, developing ad hoc groups as needed to accomplish special projects. He is continuing to research what this kind of a leadership style would look like and how it has worked at other churches, and he'll share with us via email what he finds out.

Colleen shared ideas she has seen work in the Midwest. Some churches have all their activities established on Wednesday evenings, so that childcare is easier, and people can commit to coming just one night to participate in a variety of ways. It provides both a social focus and a place for church work to get done. She also mentioned churches where everyone was encouraged to provide 2 hours of work for the church per month. (I guess you could call this a time tithe?)

Action Item: Brad will share some information about the new church leadership style via email. Please read it and consider what ideas we might take from it to nurture ongoing leadership at Aldersgate. Core Leadership will need to provide energy and direction as we move forward.

Trustees

Trustees is in need of a secretary, but otherwise, Rich reports that things are going well.

Kitchen

The kitchen is getting very close to done. We will need to manage the Taco Bar for Camp Sunday without it (Patty has a plan to work her usual magic. Thank you, Patty!), and it may not be totally up and running for the UMW Salad Supper, but it is

getting there. We all agreed with Patty that when we plan to move back into the kitchen, we should take the time to do it right and make sure everything is clean and organized. We will celebrate the finished masterpiece at a Common Table event with a special (to quote Brad) "blessing of the kitchen."

Finance

Things are looking good; folks are keeping expenses down, and we're rolling along. After the kitchen gets well and truly blessed, Jack Morrison will work on a follow-up campaign to bridge the funding gap in the kitchen pledges, and the much smaller funding gap in the operating budget.

Sidewalk 2017

Janice Zahn went to a community meeting about the sidewalk project planned for our little corner of Newport Way. She said they had displays of a variety of projects and asked for community input about what elements they wanted to see on Newport. Unfortunately, the funding for the project is \$8 million dollars, which isn't really very much given all the hills and valleys that need to be dealt with, as well as the needs of both pedestrians and bicycles. It's possible that there will only be one sidewalk on the opposite side of the street from the church, because of the terrain. Janice agreed to share with the church any information she gathers at future meetings and communicate any concerns or ideas we have.

Brad closed the meeting with a prayer.

These minutes respectfully submitted by Robbin Price. Any errors and omissions are undoubtedly mine, and corrections are welcome.