

Warwick Memorial United Methodist Church  
38 Hoopes Road  
Newport News, VA 23602

Minutes of Leadership Team Meeting held on September 15, 2016

Members present:

Carlos Liceaga, Team Leader  
Jim Cole, Evangelize  
Linda McLawhorn, Worship  
Linda Carrithers, Worship  
John Evans, Connect  
Josie Mitchell, Serve (Internal)  
Nolan Reid, Finance  
Blair Gloss, SPRC  
Frank Blake, Trustees  
Fred Townsend, Lay Leader (Admin)  
Steve Elder, Serve (External)  
Pastor Bert Cloud  
Pastor Gina Anderson-Cloud  
Linda Brooks, Secretary

**Welcome** - Carlos called the meeting to order at 7:01.

**Opening Prayer** - Blair

**Devotion** - Pastor Bert showed video on prayer. New prayer guide seeks us to be attentive to the presence of God. Figure out what God wants, seek God.

**Discussion Agenda**

1. Approval of agenda. Approved.
2. 2017 Operating Budget - Nolan. Need budget input by Oct 10<sup>th</sup>. Pledge Sunday is Nov 20<sup>th</sup>. Email reports to Nolan. Finance Committee will approve and Carlos will post for approval by LT. Charge Conference will be held to approve in Jan-Feb.
3. Stewardship Campaign. Jim Corliss doing a lot of work on timeline. Stewardship wants pledging from church leaders first then report on what's coming from leaders to the congregation. Question as to who are leaders. Suggestion that only LT be considered leaders and a report that 100 percent of LT pledged should satisfy Stewardship request. Big donors ask if board members are contributors. Must instill trust and confidence. Wording is crucial but should not include figures. Limiting to just the LT ensures that others who consider themselves leaders do not feel slighted.

#### 4. Trustees – Frank.

a. AC is working fine; the temps have been too high this summer. Could put shades on windows where sun shines. Schedule weddings and funerals before noon in summer. Current unit is ample for the room. An additional unit would be too much capacity for square footage and would require more duct work. Will pilot shade idea before purchasing.

b. No offers on bus. One buyer wanted seat belts, another restores and resells, and another needs a loan. Current price too high. Pastor Bert will email list of Methodist Churches so bus can be advertised.

c. A 15-passenger van is not as safe. Conference has recommendations for purchasing a van. Insurance Co will insure, price about the same \$600-1000/year. Looked on line for vans; price is \$40K, \$800-1000/month for loan. Loan option not currently viable, don't want to go further in debt. Any loan has to go through Old Point. Van rental cost is \$110/day. Increasing budget next year, losing contributors. Trustees want to sell bus and build K account. Probably won't have surplus in budget this year. Next year's budget has \$33.5K increase from SPRC (Associate Pastor). Missional church must do Upward and Hands Across the City. K account has been started for van. Van would be used on weekly basis. Could be put in as a line item in the budget. Drivers would be needed. We are missing a mission opportunity, have vision of getting kids from Courthouse Green. Tanzanian family is being transported by volunteers. Other ideas include purchasing an old school bus or getting a grant from somewhere like the Moose Club. CDL drivers an issue with bus. A district grant could be requested, but we would have to match funds. Carlos will discuss with DS first. Need to let congregation know we have a K account and need contributions.

d. New kitchen coordinator is working with those who use kitchen to ensure rules are followed. Fan motor on hood has been replaced. Parlor has new ceiling tiles, paint and updated furniture. Painting in some SS rooms. New cabinetry purchased and installed in one of the nurseries. Tree removed from parsonage yard.

e. Jim King borrowed furniture from his church for the gathering area outside the Celebration Center. Let Jim know what you think of the furniture. Jim and aesthetics committee have \$1000 for furniture. Furniture will be moved on Saturdays during Upward. Need suggestions for renaming the parlor. Care and aesthetics must be thoughtful in renaming. Half of floor in Celebration Center has been cleaned.

5. Calling 21. Endowment doesn't have the money plus it's an additional load on the pastors. Will not pursue at this time. Can't add to funding in 2016. Appears to be adding another pastor. Associate Pastor allows pastors to be involved in Stephens Ministry. Will consider in the future.

6. LT Training in Budget. Endowment only funds training one time. Must be a new project. Endowment written to fund those who can't afford it. Wouldn't be restricted if it were in the budget. Question as to which part of the budget to include requirement. Connect would find it difficult to fund training if they couldn't rent a van to send kids to an event. No dollars for

training in budget. Higher priorities. Make need known to benevolent people. Establish K account as needed. District sponsored training is free.

7. Vine Worship Service. 60 people attended, exceeded expectations. Jay having meeting next week to discuss lessons learned. \$463 from donations for dinner. Funds available for food. Some groups using as fund raiser, food donated. No restrictions on endowment funding of \$500. It was to ensure fund raising group didn't lose money; idea is to make money. John didn't view as fund raiser but as youth participating in a church event. Survey from Jay may be missing questions. Need list of who will attend the first part of the week in order to purchase food.

8. Charge Conference. Scheduled for Oct 24<sup>th</sup> at Christ UMC. Working with Paul and have started filming the video.

9. District Lay Leaders and Directors of Lay Servant Ministries Training - Carlos. We make disciples of Jesus Christ by providing Hospitality and Offering Christ, Purpose, and Engagement (HOPE). Hospitality is reaching out and receiving new people. Offering Christ by offering opportunities to a commitment to Christ. Purpose is growing in faith through participation in the means of grace. Engagement by helping transform the surrounding community. Discipleship Ministries offers training for those who serve. Their seven-week course called "A Disciple's Path" is a really good assimilation program. Should be considered for training next year. Peggy is teaching a disciple Bible study on Sunday mornings. Will include scriptures on living a life of discipleship. Class inspiring for new members/Christians. There are windows to plug into calendar for teaching. Looking for seasoned Christians to teach. When approaching someone explain how they will be mentored and trained for the position. Visit website for HOPE ([www.UMCdiscipleship.org](http://www.UMCdiscipleship.org)) to see what's being done in other churches. Would like one lay leader per service, divide responsibility.

10. Nominations. Turnover in LT. Blair no longer on SPRC. Linda C will give up Worship but will work with the creative team for the Lampstand Service. Fred is moving to Gloucester. Nolan giving up Finance but will continue to assist, will continue until a replacement is found. Trustees ok. Also need lay leader for Kay Fries. Looking at who are the emerging leaders. Discerning on some folks, fuller list than in the past. No ministry lay leader; Carlos stepped in but need replacement. Seasoned leaders are moving, have health issues, are tired, etc. Need younger members (ages 40-50). Cultivate emerging leaders, mentor rather than co-lead. Need to define role especially as lay leader. Possibility of having three lay leaders, one for each service. Want to slot the right person in the right position. Kay and Fred worked as team—need two who would do this and work well with pastors.

11. Laity Sunday. Pastors were asked not to have Laity Sunday. Already had plans for sermons this year and there's the Stewardship Campaign. Pastor Bert noted it's good to have a liturgist. Don't have to participate in all designated Sundays. Purpose of Laity Sunday was to celebrate and thank lay leaders. Laity could preach during Red Bird mission.

12. Chat and Chew with Bishop Lewis. Will be held March 5<sup>th</sup>. Need to promote and get congregational participation. Discussed offering our church for location, but check of calendar showed it's a PORT night.

13. Communicate Chat and Chew. Communicate event with your team.

14. Care Team Report. Pastor Bert gave a presentation. Purpose is to bear the light of Christ into people's challenges and joys. Good infrastructure but some gaps. Increasing need for care as people age, have life transitions, mental and physical health difficulties, and confront contemporary challenges. Have existing care resources, e.g., prayer ministry, pastoral care, respite, HearT, Faith Community Nursing, senior fellowship, etc. Development plan to address needs.

a. Congregational Community Care Ministries (C3).

- (1) Volunteer servants (trained by pastors and Care).
- (2) Assigned to target areas, e.g., visitation, lay communion, care management, etc.
- (3) Supported through supervision and training.
- (4) Stephen's Ministry – principle rooted but expanded.

b. Classes – Support Groups (Live Well): Grief/loss, depression, anxiety, forgiveness, aging/end of life, relationships (marriage/divorce), Financial Peace University.

c. Educational Support: Make emotional and spiritual health resources available.

d. Congregational Prayer – Ministry rebooted, refine recordkeeping and communication.

e. Next Steps: Brief Care team and leaders, refine funeral care, revisit wedding care protocols, continue ongoing ministries and strengthen collaboration/education.

f. C3 Next Step: Recruit/screen, train by Jan. (initial group of C3), Sat. training academy, C3 assignments by pastors, commission and give permanent name tag, ongoing supervision and quarterly meetings.

g. Reboot prayer ministry in Jan., build on fall emphasis.

5. Transformation or Evidence of God's Work.

a. Peggy wrote an impressive summary of Hands Across the City which will be available in SS rooms and the Warwick Weekly.

b. Josie – Community Day. Kids had great relationship with Peggy and Deb McLain.

**Closing Prayer - Jim**

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm.