

Leadership Council Meeting Minutes

February 6, 2018

In Attendance:

Pastor Lauren Miller, Sue Mueller, John Voight, Crystal Pariseau, Shannon Hofer, Peggy Bizjak, Melissa Woepfel, Chris St. Germain, Tim Wessel, Chris Engel

The meeting began in the sanctuary with a devotion by Crystal Pariseau

Review and approval of minutes

The minutes from January 16, 2018 were reviewed and approved. Minutes shall be posted on the Leadership board in the narthex.

Treasurer's Report

The monthly treasurer's report was reviewed. Highlights include:

- Monthly income data is not available at this time.
- The current checking account balance is approximately \$16,000.
- There was a comment at the town hall that designated funds help fund the budget. This is not a true statement. Separate accounts for designated funds would be complicated and not practical as suggested at the town hall.

Pastor's Report

Pastor Lauren reported the following:

1. Today was a training day for the new financial software. The pastor, the bookkeeper and the financial secretaries all attended. Testing will begin in March.
2. 20+ new members will be received at weekend services this week.
3. Fiona Eckerman will be baptized on February 25.
4. VBS will be July 9-13 which is a Monday – Friday this year.
5. There was a lent planning session held in January for missions and those active during the lent season.
6. A belated staff Christmas dinner was held in January.
7. The youth online auction is being posted this evening by Jennie. The online auction will help fund the youth trip to Houston this summer.
8. The Albemarle County Police will host a house of worship safety program on March 1st from 9am – 3pm at First Baptist Church.

Vicar's Report

Vicar Melissa reported the following:

1. On February 18 we will dedicate the peace pole created during the MLK day celebration.

The pole shall also be displayed at the art auction.

2. Melissa was nominated for the Synod Worship Planning Committee at the Synod Assembly.

Old Business

1. **Internship Continuation**

There is a possibility of extending Vicar Melissa's time with us through May of 2019. Exact funding needs are still being assessed. Some members have expressed interest in supporting this effort financially if this option is pursued. Leadership Council will continue the discussion in the coming months about what a potential extension and goals may look like if pursued.

2. **Budget and Town Hall insights**

Council discussed questions that were posed at the town hall meeting this past Sunday. Some changes will be made to the presentation in order to address comments and questions. AIM is not funded in the budget this year because there was some information that AIM had shut down. This is not the case. AIM continues and Peace is a member of that organization. Consideration of funding this outreach is anticipated at the congregational meeting.

New Business

3. **Internship Committee Update**

The chair of the Internship Committee, Bill Brannock, attended to give Leadership Council an update on committee activities:

- The Internship Committee is comprised of Bill Brannock, Tom Czelusta, Elizabeth Stevens, Sandy Wisco, Eric Williams and Pam Tomko.
- The committee is intended to be a sounding board and support network for the vicar. The committee provides feedback on sermons, receives feedback from the congregation and is active in setting and tracking of intern goals.
- Some goals of the intern are develop pastoral style, faith formation, stewardship leadership, lay ministry development and spiritual practices.
- The committee meets monthly and follows internship handbook outlines and goals.
- The committee does not monitor day to day activities of the vicar. The pastor supervises the vicar on a day to day basis.
- The internship committee is finalizing evaluations for the vicar which are required by handbook guidelines.

Bill noted some feedback and insights on the internship that have been offered:

- There is an appreciation for a different perspective/dynamic on issues.
- There is an appreciation for having additional pastoral support.
- The growth of Vicar Melissa has been observed and noted since she arrived.

- There is an energy to help Melissa learn. Members are coming forward to participate.
- Acknowledgment that the internship began in a contentious manner but has turned out well.
- Support for the internship has been positive.
- Peace should plan for the next internship since the experience with this vicar and the last vicar were positive exercises.
- The next internship should be part of the operating budget.

Council asked the Internship Committee to consider:

- Is there a forum for sharing information about the internship with the congregation? Can the process be more transparent by sharing updates of some sort via the ezine or other communication methods?
- How do we continue the successes that the internship has begun? Engaging people has been valuable. How do we continue that?
- Highlight how the vicar and Peace both benefit from an internship.

4. Endowment Committee Update

Dan Kvetko attended and presented efforts by the Peace Mission Endowment Committee to develop a bylaw that would initiate a Mission Endowment Fund at Peace. The goal of the fund would be to provide funding for the missions of Peace beyond the normal operating fund of the church. Giving to the fund is anticipated as legacy giving which will continue in perpetuity. Handouts that Dan prepared for Council are appended to the end of these meeting minutes. Leadership Council approved of the efforts and will add consideration of a Mission Endowment Fund bylaw by the congregation to the May congregational meeting.

5. Forwarding Faith

John Voight and Peggy Bizjak attended the Forwarding Faith Congregation Leader Training held at St Marks recently. The goal of the seminar was to share capital campaign strategies that would support the Forwarding Faith Endowment of the Virginia Synod. Peace may participate in a campaign to support this endowment later this year. Further discussion with Leadership Council on the matter will be held at a future meeting.

Follow up for March Council Meeting

- PACEM Dinner

The meeting was closed in prayer and adjourned.
End of Minutes