

Virginia Beach United Methodist Church
Church Leadership Council
April 18, 2018

CLC Chair, Chris Everly, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Those present: Steve Burich, Janice Cagle, Chuck Cassidy, Ron Dyer, Chris Everly, Bart Folta, Kaylee Henderson, Michael Key, Oral Lambert, Beth Lantz, Heather McEntee, Fred Metz, Ken Miller, Mark Miller, Scott Poteet, Kristen Sheely, Jack Shephard, Michael Snow, Brenda Stahl, Heyden Wittmann, Martha Jo Wilson. Also present were: Thomas Rickenbaker, Harriet Doub, Kevin Arrington, Amy Arrington, Laura Beth Lawver, Carolyn Freid, Sarah Rogonski, Beverly Boyer, Rosalee Jewell, Betty Moore, Dave Moore, Sr., Tonya Brown, Judy Parker, Annette Chase, Shirley Owen, Bettie Marx, Denny Metz, Carole Herbert, Sally Logan, Frank Logan, BJ Buchert, Bob Buchert, Jean Dyer, Lorena Peterson, Sue Shephard, Bill Shephard, Trish Wilbourne, Tom Broyles, Phil Cockrill, Laura Ezell, Chris Lane.

Chris welcomed all of those in attendance this evening, and welcomed all of the visitors. Due to the number of visitors, Chris encouraged everyone (CLC members & visitors) to introduce themselves.

This evening's devotion was given by Scott Poteet. He is appreciative of the current sermon series on the book of James, and this past Sunday was a reminder for a much needed "kick in the pants" for him. Scott's scripture reference this evening is from James 1:19-27. In this passage, James is giving us instructions on how to bridge the gap between knowing and doing, building a culture of action. The Bible provides a roadmap on how to do this, but we have to do what it says. When we do so, our lives change. By taking action, we live in freedom and our life has purpose, and we can encourage others to follow Jesus. He closed the devotion in prayer.

New/On-going Projects:

18.12 Bylaws of the Endowment Committee- Phil Cockrill gave a proposal on behalf of the Endowment Committee. Phil passed out a handout outlining the proposed bylaws, and is asking for CLC approval. The handout described the purpose of the committee, the management of funds, the investment of funds, distribution percentages, and the manner in which the committee will report to CLC on the portfolio performance and activity of the committee annually. Different versions of the bylaws have been presented to the CLC Executive Committee, Trustees, Finance and the final version reflects input from all those groups. The Finance Committee reviewed the version being presented tonight and approved recommending it to CLC for approval. Outside legal counsel assisted in the drafting of the proposed bylaws.

*****Phil proposes the following motion: To rename The Foundation Committee as the Permanent Endowment and Planned Giving Ministry Committee and to approve the proposed bylaws (as written or modified) and forward them to a charge conference for final approval and adoption. The motion receives a second, and passes unopposed.**

18.13 Strategic Planning Process- Pastor Mark Miller gave a report on the strategic planning process that he would like to pursue. He has been here 9 months, and now that he has a good lay of the land, he would like to work toward developing a strategic plan. He had received a phone call from the District Superintendent inviting VBUMC to be one of the churches involved in a strategic planning initiative called Next Level Innovations. This is a 3 year process that begins with a diagnostic look at our church, reviewing all of the numbers. "Secret shoppers," both church and unchurched, will also be sent in

unannounced to give a fresh perspective on our church. There will be a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis and in-depth interviews with staff. The typical cost of these types of studies is \$20-50K, but this would only cost us \$3K since it will be done through the district. The downside is that it is a 3 year process.

*****Pastor Mark asks CLC to approve the plan to use Next Level Innovations. The motion receives a second, and passes unopposed.**

- 18.14 REACH Report- Brenda S. gave the quarterly REACH report. This is to get a sense of how attendance numbers compare to previous years. The REACH report also differentiates between usher counts and Shelby counts. In order to get a good sense of how many different people we are actually ministering to consistently, the REACH numbers are presented on a 6 week basis. The report is broken down by services, reporting the attendance and the number of services attended by active members and prospects in that time period. It is noted that the new Shelby system is unable to break down the numbers based on age, even though the old system could do so.

We are about to have the 3rd On Ramp Experience. 14 people have expressed interest, and 9 are attending- these include 3 families with young children. It is encouraging to see our REACH numbers continuing to rise! Many thanks to Gail Gordon (volunteer) who works tirelessly on these reports!

Administrative Reports and Other Business:

- 18.15 Finance- Ron Dyer gave a report on behalf of Finance. The General Fund is in good condition at the moment! Through nine months of the fiscal year, \$1.243M has been collected in pledged and unpledged giving. Adding in other giving, a total of \$1.264M has been collected. When comparing that number to the total number of expenses of \$1.216M, the General Fund is \$47,980 in the black for the fiscal year. Approximately \$1.077M exists in the Parking Lot Fund at this point. However, the South Wing is in need of some major repairs. New A/C units, costing between \$250 and \$300K, as well as a new roof, estimated at \$100K, will be paid from this Fund, reducing the amount made available for the capital campaign by about \$400K. Seaside School continues to be a great success! The Capital Campaign fund has a balance of \$2.5M, which amount excludes the 10% tithe of \$281K.
- 18.16 Stewardship- Beth Lantz gave a report on behalf of Stewardship. She asked the group how many people give online. She reminded those who do so that it is still an act of worship, and greatly encourages us to do so!
- 18.17 SPR- Heyden Wittman gave a report on behalf of SPR. She reported that SPR has been actively looking for a Director of Student Ministries to fill Chuck's position, and they have some strong candidates. Since the organ will be available during construction, they will begin the search for an organist.
- 18.18 SCC-In Terry's Absence, Oral Lambert read a report on behalf of SCC written by John Fowler. HBA, the church's architect, has continued to develop the preliminary design plans for the new North Wing. The elevation renderings were shown to the congregation at the Easter Services. The plans are far enough along to develop an estimate of probable construction costs. When these costs are received, SCC will finalize the scope of recommended improvements. Two to three open houses (tentatively set for May) will be held to inform the congregation of everything that has been done to this point, and a church conference will follow to gain approval to proceed to construction.
- 18.19 Trustees- Oral Lambert gave a report on behalf of Trustees. The Trustees were given a proposal from Venture Realty regarding a potential joint venture for developing the North Parking Lot. Oral distributed a handout that outlined the proposal that was submitted. Venture is proposing building an 8 story parking garage containing 715 parking spaces, topped with a 5 story office/condominium building-

13 stories total. 300 spaces would be devoted to the church's use, and a minimum annual payment of \$250K would be shared with the church each year. Venture is seeking a letter of intent, should VBUMC be interested in talking about the project further, no later than May 7, 2018.

Following the presentation by Oral, a discussion of positive and negative aspects about the proposal takes place. It is suggested that the final decision be made by holding a church conference to allow the congregation to decide. It is also proposed that the CLC hold a special meeting next Wednesday, April 25, to determine whether or not the CLC will endorse the proposal.

*****A motion is made to hold the special meeting to vote on the endorsement of the proposal submitted by Venture. The motion receives a second, and passes unopposed.**

The church conference is tentatively scheduled for Sunday evening, May 20th. In the meantime, CLC members are urged to contact Oral via email at oral.lambert@baycreek.net with any questions or concerns.

There being no more business, Pastor Mark closed the meeting in prayer at 9:50.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Key, Secretary