

Virginia Beach United Methodist Church
Church Leadership Council
November 28, 2018

CLC Chair, Chris Everly, called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. Those present: Amy Arrington, Steve Burich, Chuck Cassidy, Ron Dyer, Chris Everly, Bart Folta, Kaylee Henderson, Terry Jenkins, Michael Key, Beth Lantz, Fred Metz, Mark Miller, Scott Poteet, Matthew Potter, Jack Shephard, Amy Simpson, Brenda Stahl, Heyden Wittmann, Martha Jo Wilson. Also present were Rosalee Jewell and Bill Shephard.

The devotion this evening was given by Scott Poteet, and focused on Mark 10:27. *27 Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God."* He then read a passage from the Upper Room entitled "The Goldfish Bowl." It talks about a man who comes upon a pond filled with large, colorful fish. He is surprised to hear that they are goldfish, because his preconceived notion of them is that they are always small and gold in color. Come to find out, they can exist in many colors, and will grow to the size of their tanks. The lesson in this is that the world can be like the small bowl, keeping us from the limitless possibilities that are available through Christ. The man's hope is that he can see his own potential for growth, and give others the same. Together with Christ, all things are possible! Scott then closed with a prayer.

Chris then took the opportunity to announce that this would be the last CLC for the outgoing members: Bart Folta, Michael Key, and herself. She thanked those persons for their service!

New/On-going Projects:

18.44 Pastor's Report- Pastor Mark Miller gave a report on behalf of the pastors. He started by informing CLC that the Combined Conference held on November 18th approved the new leadership nominations for the New Year. While already approved, CLC was given the chance to accept them, and they were done so unanimously.

Pastor Mark then talked about Next Level Innovations, which is a process of discernment and planning for our church. We are in the first year of a 3-year process. Until now, the work has been behind the scenes preparation. He has been meeting with other large church pastors, and the NLI team is going to be made up of laity and staff members. There is a Leader Liftoff session to be held on December 5th, which will be a breakthrough prayer workshop where we will be learning how to build a strong foundation of prayer to undergird the Strategic Plan. There was an initial kickoff meeting held several weeks ago, and 9 laity and staff members attended. There will be a ministry focus event to be held in the spring, so be on the lookout for information concerning that.

Members of the NLI team will perform a SWOT analysis, where they will be closely examining our church from an outside perspective. They will be sending a "secret shopper" to our church on a Sunday, pretending to be a guest. They will then produce a report on their experience. The team will also be gathering statistical data- trends in attendance, small groups, etc.

There will be an Innovations weekend to be held on September 27-29, 2019. The team will be conducting interviews with a good variety of members- youth, young adult, newer members, etc. On

Saturday, everyone will be invited to take part in the exercises, and on Sunday one of the consultants will present the report to the congregation as part of his/her sermon. They will be giving us 3-5 strategic initiatives, or things that they would like to see us act upon. Two Town Hall meetings will follow, and there will be a called Church Conference to vote on whether or not we want to proceed with the initiatives. If they pass, we will get a coach to help us through the process.

Administrative Reports and Other Business:

18.45 Finance- Ron Dyer gave a report on behalf of the Finance Committee. In referring to the attached financial report, he is pleased to say that the actual giving is a little better than anticipated. We have received \$497K through the first four months of this fiscal year, and that is compared to \$459K through the same period last year. Expenses thus far have been \$593K, resulting in a deficit of \$95K. Last year the deficit was \$70K, and the previous year was \$101K at this same point. We are right on track, and are anticipating a big lift in December to put us into a surplus.

The biggest issue up to this point is operations costs, because there have been some larger than anticipated expenses. A leak has cost us approximately \$15K, and other expenses such as roof repair, HVAC repair, and other issues in the south wing have been costly. In looking at other areas, ministry and missions are right on track. Terry and Amy have spent a lot of time digging deeper into the budget, and they have prepared a Q2 revised budget based on current information.

The Capital Campaign has a balance of \$3.53M, and that includes the \$540K for the soon-to-be acquired property on the south lot. Seaside is showing a balance of \$55K in reserve, but it has been designated by the Seaside board to provide new equipment in the south playground that will cost \$43K- they have put down a 50% deposit. The Seaside board also agreed to pay for the re-surfacing of the north playground in the amount of \$28K. Lastly, the parking lot lost approximately \$15K in revenue because of very rainy summer months. We will also have to be mindful in the future of lost parking spaces for construction equipment that will have to sit on the property for the North Wing rebuilding.

18.46 Stewardship- Beth Lantz gave a report on behalf of the Stewardship Committee. She said that they haven't met yet, so there are no hard numbers at this point. She did say that we received 220 pledge cards. During the month of November, there was a team designated to help those wishing to set up an account to give online. Unfortunately, it didn't go very well because of low visibility. Currently 30% of the church gives online.

18.47 Trustees-In Oral's absence, Chris gave the report on behalf of the Trustees. They are currently in the middle of negotiations with Domino's on the south lot. They are working to get a 3-year lease, with two one-year renewals, but there is nothing firm yet. There is no report on the Venture project, and the corner of 17th and Pacific will begin getting cleared tomorrow. Title transfer of the corner lot will be held in the near future. A short discussion was held about what the future plans might be for the South lot. Fred Metz urged the Trustees to be prepared for the future, taking on an anticipatory attitude versus a reactionary one. He will share his specific thoughts about how such a process might work.

18.48 Second Century-Terry Jenkins gave a report on behalf of the SCC. As of today, they are anticipating that the youth space will begin renovation on December 10th- she will keep us posted. Ken Morris of ET Gresham is currently working with subcontractors to receive bids for the job. The job is expected to take 12-14 weeks, and that could lead right into the timeframe where the north wing will begin the demolition process.

18.49 SPR-Heyden Wittmann gave a report on behalf of SPR. She is excited to report that a Director of Children's Ministry has been hired- her name is Jody Fox. Jody will stay with her current church through the holidays, and will start after the first of the year. She was looking to relocate, so this was perfect timing! She is also pleased to announce that Terry Jenkins will remain in place as the Executive Director through June 2020 on a volunteer basis- thanks Terry!!! We are currently looking to fill the communications position, and it has been posted as a part time position. Jacob L. resigned earlier this month, so we will be looking to fill the Audio Visual position soon- interviews will begin next week. Four members of SPR will be rotating off- Donna Watson, Pamela Poteet, Bart Folta, and Rich Smith- thanks for serving!

Lastly, CLC members are all encouraged by Martha Jo Wilson to attend the Shedd Family Orchestra- December 9th at 7:00.

There being no more business, Pastor Mark closed the meeting in prayer at 8:27.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Key, Secretary