

Virginia Beach United Methodist Church
Church Leadership Council
October 17, 2018

CLC Chair, Chris Everly, called the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m. Those present: Amy Arrington, Steve Burich, Chuck Cassidy, Ron Dyer, Chris Everly, Bart Folta, Kaylee Henderson, Terry Jenkins, Michael Key, Oral Lambert, Beth Lantz, Mark Miller, Scott Poteet, Jack Shephard, Brenda Stahl, Heyden Wittmann, Martha Jo Wilson. Also present were Laura Ezell, Sue Shephard, Rosalee Jewell, Jean Dyer, John Haynes, Harriet Doub, and Mark Holbrook.

It is announced that there will be no Charge Conference this evening. After speaking with the District Superintendent, it was decided that the documents needed some adjustments before finalization and a vote.

The devotion this evening was given by Scott Poteet, and focused on 1 Peter 4:8-11. ⁸ *Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.* ⁹ *Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling.* ¹⁰ *Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.* ¹¹ *If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.* This story reminded him of his mother in law, who is a great cook. While his own mother had the gift of teaching, she wasn't blessed with great cooking skills. His devotion stressed about how each of us have different gifts that we can contribute in our walk with Jesus.

New/On-going Projects:

18.36 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 based on age and the number of services attended by active members and prospects in that time period. It is encouraging to see numbers beginning to rise- by approximately 40-50 people per Sunday! All services are up except the 11:00 service. Brenda noted that Randy Schaefer is currently working with Arena to generate better reports.

18.37 Security Implementation Committee Update- Chris E. read an email submitted to CLC from Jeff Andrews on behalf of the committee. Jeff has stopped having regular meetings, because the committee has reached all of the goals that it set out to achieve. As the new procedures are put into place, there will need to be ongoing refinements. CLC members are encouraged to offer feedback to Jeff as needed. The security system is still undergoing installation, and the safety ministry has been put into place. The police officer on duty has also been a positive addition on Sunday mornings. Jeff would like to disband the current committee and look to staff and ministry end-users to move us through the fine-tuning steps ahead.

*****There is a motion presented to disband the current Security Implementation Committee as recommended by Jeff Andrews. The motion receives a second, and passes unopposed.**

Administrative Reports and Other Business:

- 18.38 SPR- Heyden Wittman gave a report on behalf of SPR. She says that SPR is still actively looking for a Director of Children's Ministry. They are looking at the position to be a 20 hour per week position, as opposed to 30 hours per week as it has been in the past.
- 18.39 Trustees- Oral Lambert gave a report on behalf of the Trustees. He is happy to report that the roof replacement over the south wing is complete, just in time for the periods of rain that we have been experiencing over the last few months. There is still some water coming in, predominantly around the HVAC systems, but this will be alleviated when the HVAC units are replaced. They are in the process of looking at several units. He noted that it takes 12 weeks to build the units, and then the installation can be scheduled. So we are 2-3 months away from that coming to completion. He also noted that there is a leak around the steeple.

Oral also brought up the fact that Tom Broyles and his partner came to the church and offered to sell a piece of property adjacent to the church owned parcel between 17th and 18th street. This property contains a nightclub that has been abandoned for quite some time. The cost for the land is \$500K, and it will be an additional \$40K for demolition of the existing building. Two contributors came forward for the purchase of the land, and the money is already in the bank. There will be a special called Charge Conference on November 14th for the CLC to vote on the acquisition.

- 18.40 Finance- Ron Dyer gave a report on behalf of the Finance Committee. They just received a report from the church's independent accountant regarding VBUMC's financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018. Ron was pleased to announce that no adjustments were needed. He expressed that there is a real value, both internally and externally, in having the review. In fact, these independently prepared statements provided the needed information for the banks to justify a letter of intent in support of a loan for the North Wing construction

In looking at the financial reports as of September 30, 2018, in comparison to budget, pledged giving is in line with budget and there is an excess of \$22K in unpledged giving. Some of this excess is attributed to giving from new people in the church. Some is due to the trend over the past two years of donors switching from pledges to unpledged giving. Ron then gave a report on giving patterns over the previous five years, noting that each year has shown a modest increase over the prior year.

It is noted from Amy Arrington that the water and electricity bills have doubled when compared to last year. The electrical increase could be due to the inefficiency of the HVAC system, and the increased water could be because of a leak. It is suggested that a leak detection study be done.

Ron pointed out that expenses have been less than anticipated. We were budgeted to spend \$88K, but only \$70K has been spent. Given that July and August were extremely rainy this year, there was a shortfall of about \$15K in parking lot collections. Seaside School continues to be a success. The school's board has recently approved a \$43K upgrade to the playground to be paid from the school's reserve funds. Seaside was pointed out as a real positive in the independent accountant's review, especially given the fact that most pre-schools don't do as well as ours.

- 18.41 Stewardship-Beth Lantz gave a report on behalf of the Stewardship Committee. She pointed out that Mark and Matt will be preaching a series of sermons culminating on the Sundays of November 4th and the 11th. Josh Seager's life group has volunteered to help those who haven't been able to give online. They are offering personal assistance on Sundays to help those people get their online accounts set up. It's a great way to give!
- 18.42 Second Century-Terry Jenkins gave a report on behalf of the SCC. She pointed out that we are actively in the bidding phase for the youth space renovation, and that there has been a lot of moving things around lately. Randy Schaeffer has been volunteering 2 days a week to help with the planning for the new north wing. Terry said that they will be taking him with them to the next meeting with the architect.
- 18.43 Pastor's Report-Pastor Mark gave a report on behalf of the Pastors. He pointed out that Leslie Schaeffer has been doing a great job with the Potter's House, and that Charlie Greiner's Missions team has been filled and will start work in January.

There has been an 11% growth in worship attendance since May 2017, and he also noted that giving has increased by 18% in that same time period. Lastly, there has been a 250% increase in children's Sunday school. We should be celebrating these great numbers! Lastly, he mentioned that Next Level Innovations, a strategic initiative, will begin next month, and we will begin to hear about that soon.

There being no more business, Pastor Mark closed the meeting in prayer at 8:33.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Key, Secretary