

## **LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING**

December 10, 2009

Conference call during a major snowstorm

Present: Harry Johnson, Dave Milbourn, Jeff O'Neill, Chris Prokos, Larry Slager, Burrel Stults, Andy Thorburn, Anne Weirich, Seth Weeldreyer, Zoe Wilcox. Staff: Rich Lichti, Janet Magennis.

Excused: Rob Carlson, John Best

Class of 2012 Present: Linda Knieriemen, John Cox

### **MEETING**

Devotions: Andy Thorburn – Season of Advent, watching, waiting. Opened with prayer. *Watchman Tell us of the Night, Isaiah 21, Matthew 1:18-25*. Closed with the Lord's prayer.

### **VISIONING**

Review and discussion of small group work carried forward from meetings this fall.

#### **IDEAS:**

- At January 2010 retreat, use small groups again to follow up and assign responsibilities
- Important to report back and show commissioners that their input is helping to move us forward
- Undercurrent felt for desire of spiritual development that should be used in the future
- Offer the ideas in a priority list in a one- page summary that brings main concepts out
- Role of Task Force – facilitation of process and concept ; Role of expanded Leadership Team – operationalizing the concepts
  - How will the presbytery look or work differently
  - Growing the depth of the church, without separating mission from spirituality
- Purpose of January 2010 retreat: work from Phyllis Tickle book, work with summary to invite in leadership from other teams and committees
  - Work around main concepts in small groups
- We need to insure that further dialogue continues; move into a mode of planning testing back against the process we have defined; identify specific action items; have something on the February 2010 stated meeting; prepare to move away from practices whose time has passed; bring guidance to budgeting process in 2011; agreement on two major foci; strategies need further definition, encouraging this via committees and teams
- Preparation process for LT Retreat in January 2010 should include moderator team and Task Force so the invitation is clear to all invitees
- Rich Lichti will follow up with who needs a copy of the Tickle book
- Dave Milbourn, Linda Knieriemen and Larry Slager will focus on the Task Force ideas
- Date for retreat meeting of January 21<sup>st</sup> – location still to be determined
- LT meetings on 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays appears to work for most

### **REPORTS**

- Final Draft of the Presbyterian Village Covenant Agreement: This has been approved by Presbyterian Villages with our suggested changes. They will be present at the February

stated meeting. **A motion prevailed to support this covenant and bring it to the presbytery.**

- Proposed changes to the Operating Policies from the Administration Team:
  - **A motion prevailed to approve Bylaws amendments for first reading at the February stated meeting**
  - **A motion prevailed to approve a new policy on unexcused absences from committee and team assignments by LT**
  - Mission Trip agreement for insurance/liability coverage, requires application for each trip. **A motion prevailed to refer this concept to AMT and B&F for details regarding potential costs.** Burrel Stults and Jeff O'Neill will provide more information.
- Presbyter's report – Rich Lichti
  - Cherry Valley will disband as a NCF by 12/31/09. Dirk Wierenga and Rick Campbell worked with RL and CV Team. Assets of the congregation will be available upon application, with the process to be announced. There is some house church interest at this time, and pastoral support is available. Release of names on Presbytery rolls and baptismal records will be handled by the presbytery.
  - Cooperative Parish of Lansing North and Lansing Westminster, served by a committee of Rich Lichti, Jeff O'Neill, Curt Carver, Dirk Wierenga and John Sterner brought news that North, in a straw vote of 23-5, will move to sell the building, so an Administrative Commission will need to be appointed by the presbytery. The idea is to move to one Session for both parishes, with details to be continued in discussion.
  - John Best continues to work during his convalescence with Benton Harbor Fairplain and Jonesville situations. John feels extremely supported by all of us.
  - Nancy Maleitske is back at the front desk and her presence is most welcomed by all.
- Per Capita – 90% of per capita to Synod and GA has been paid, any received during December will also be forwarded, but shortfall is anticipated to be \$8-12,000. We will not be making up the difference as we move forward. This is a distinct change of past practice.
- B & F – percentage allocation for shared mission giving - dialogue and guidance is still needed. Options are to cut the budget or change the allocations; or any surplus generated from current FY could be designated to help balance the figure. Treasurer will be asked to forward preliminary figures on per capita and shared mission giving to LT as soon as they are ready.
- BF: actual language from November stated meeting, Janet Magennis will arrange this information be emailed to those working on the issue.

### **Leadership Team BUSINESS**

- The outgoing Moderator Zoe Wilcox thanked Burrel Stults and Dave Milbourn for their extraordinary service on the Leadership Team as their terms retire. She welcomed new members John Cox, Rick Campbell and Linda Knieriemen. She also shared holiday greetings to all.
- Seth Weeldreyer closed with prayer.

Recorded by Janet Magennis, Stated Clerk