

**Leadership Team, Mount Comfort Church**  
**April 6, 2021**

*Champions of Who We Were | Representatives of Who We Are | Leaders of Who We Are Becoming*

**Present, Leadership Team Members:** Sandy Abel, Ron Arthur, John Bundy, Reverend Starla Gooch, Sandi Hudson, Megan Jones, Kathy Lee, Reverend Ethan Maple, Jack McKinney, Rose McKinney, Deric Roberts, Chris Sexton, Kristy Willhelm.

**Also Present:** Shawn Matney

**Absent:** Mary Ann Crisman, Christine Sturgis, Tim Waymire.

The meeting of the Mt. Comfort Church (MCC) Leadership Team was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

**LOVE** – He must become greater . . .John 3:22-36. The Reverend Ethan Maple read this scripture and applied it to how we must function as church leaders. We must become less and less, so that the power and love of Christ becomes more and more. Pastor Ethan Maple then opened the meeting with prayer.

**LEARN** – The team members received a copy of the book *LEAD* by Paul David Tripp, which illustrates twelve gospel principals for leadership in the church. Pastor Ethan then presented the major points of the book's preface and introduction. Assignment: Read the book and be prepared to discuss two principles per meeting. Team members will volunteer to take a chapter and present to the team the highlights of what stands out to them and why.

**LEAD**

**Holy Week Review** – Pastor Ethan asked for feedback on Holy Week and the various activities of Mount Comfort Church. Feedback was extremely positive, with high praise for the Good Friday service, Easter Sunday worship, and the daily video messages.

**March Attendance Numbers** – March 7 = Philly 15 MCC 67 , March 14 = Philly 22 MCC 55 , March 21 = Philly 7 MCC 52 , March 28 = Philly 21 MCC 74.

**March & First Quarter Financials** – Pastor Ethan reviewed the March Financials. Total income = \$38,121.32 and Total Expenses = \$36,525.20 with Net Income = \$1,596.12 General Fund balance: \$41,572.07 after transfers. Designated Funds show the following: Facilities Upkeep & Maintenance = \$38,035.18; Mission & Outreach = \$16,020.27; Rain Day = \$33,415.87. Joyful Days March finances showed Total Income = \$28,969.86 and Total Expenses = \$25,306.05 with a Net Income = \$3,663.81

First Quarter 2021 Financials showed a loss for first quarter, due to a decline in projected income. If this is a trend, then we will need to adjust the budget.

**Update on Trusts** – The Everhardt Trust – First transfer of \$75,000 received. The balance of \$65-75,000 will be paid when the paperwork is final. The Beeson Trust – Paperwork is completed, and we expect a transfer of \$30 - \$35,000.

**Temporary Restricted Accounts Clean-Up** – Fish Fry funds will be transferred to Youth Mission Trip fund. Livestream Upgrade – money is being spent as the project is being completed in phases.

**Philly Transfer Allocation** – The financial transfers from Philadelphia UMC to Mount Comfort Church are completed as follows. Total transfer = \$74,125, allocated as follows. Rainy Day (30%) = \$22,237. Facility – Philly Campus (25%) = \$18,531. Unrestricted General (20%) = \$15,025. Missions (15%) = \$11,118. Discipleship (10%) = \$7,412. The consensus was to approve the transfers as presented.

Facility Restricted Account Restructure – Pastor Ethan recommended a line item for roof replacement for the Mount Comfort Campus, estimated at \$80,000. The team discussed the best way to manage the Facility Fund for the two church campuses. We will spend down the Philly Campus temporary fund for Philly needs, and then we will have one Facility fund to serve the needs of both campuses.

Telecommunications – Pastor Ethan and Chris Sexton reported on the recent changes in the Telecommunications budget line item, which requires an adjustment to the budget. Philly Campus \$150/month for internet service and one phone line, two-year contract. Mount Comfort Campus \$340/month + \$500 upfront charge for the following services: NineStar Connect – internet and one phone line to fire alarm; three-year contract @ \$180/month. WalkerIT – Phone lines with two distinct phone numbers (church office and Joyful Days office) and six phone stations; one-year contract @\$150/month. CircleCity – Fire alarm cellular phone line; \$500 upfront cost and \$10/month. Email vote was in favor, which will increase the Telecommunication line item of the budget an additional \$90/month + the upfront cost. The consensus was to move forward with the changes.

Mount Comfort Campus Pews –Pastor Ethan asked for a recommendation for the MtC pews currently being stored in containers in the parking lot. Should we bring more of the pews in and cut down social distancing; should we sell or donate the pews and make the sanctuary a more flexible space? What should the seating capacity be for the sanctuary? After considerable discussion, the consensus was to pray about this matter and discern what would be the best decision for our church moving forward, and table this matter until the next meeting.

Project List – Be thinking about the priority of projects, which will be discussed next time. Megan Jones suggested we create a three-year plan of needed projects to help us prioritize needs.

Potential Projects – Pastor Ethan asked for funding approval for gym floor replacement, provided MCC receives a Hancock County Community Foundation grant of \$10,000 to help fund the replacement at an estimated cost of \$60,000. Applications are due April 21.

John Bundy moved we commit to moving forward with a gym floor replacement, if Mount Comfort Church receives a grant of \$10,000 from the Hancock County Community Foundation.

Chris Sexton seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Philadelphia Parking Lot Project – Jack McKinney moved, and Chris Sexton seconded approval of a bid of \$6,200 for paving and striping of the Philadelphia Campus parking lot. The motion passed unanimously.

## **MINISTRY CHECK-IN**

Missions – Rose McKinney reported. We need to decide if MCC will commit once again to being a county-wide collection site for Operation Christmas Child, and we will need to find someone to oversee the project, as Rose is stepping down from that role. The consensus was to pass this to New Life Community Church, which has expressed an interest in taking over this responsibility. Rose was thanked for serving in this capacity for many years.

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m. Pastor Starla closed in prayer. The next meeting is set for May 4 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Hudson  
Recorder